Powerlink Queensland

# Annual Report and Financial Statements 2024/25



### Contents

Our profile	2
2024/25 highlights	3
Financial overview	5
Summary of Statement of Corporate Intent 2024/25	6
Chair and Chief Executive message	7
Board of Directors	8
Executive Team	10
Non-financial performance	12
People and environment	25
Corporate performance	31
Appendices	39
Financial Statements	44

#### Acknowledgement of Country

Powerlink acknowledges the Traditional Owners and their custodianship of the lands and waters of Queensland and in particular, the lands on which we operate. We pay our respect to their Ancestors, Elders and knowledge holders and recognise their deep history and ongoing connection to Country.

#### Reporting

This Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the *Government Owned Corporations Act 1993* (Qld), incorporating aspects of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* (Qld) and the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth), and is presented to the Legislative Assembly of Queensland. It contains Powerlink's Financial Report for 2024/25. Powerlink is the trading name of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited ABN 82 078 849 233.

## Our profile

#### **Purpose**

Connecting Queenslanders to a world-class energy future.

#### Values and behaviours

- · Accountability · Customer
- TeamworkSafety

#### Powerlink profile

Powerlink Queensland (Powerlink) is a leading Australian provider of high voltage electricity transmission network services, combining innovation with insight to deliver safe, cost-effective and reliable solutions.

We are a Government Owned Corporation (GOC) that owns, develops, operates and maintains the high voltage electricity transmission network in Queensland. Our network extends 1,700 kilometres (km) from Cairns to the New South Wales (NSW) border and comprises 15,559 circuit km of transmission lines and 154 substations. Our purpose is to connect Queenslanders to a world-class energy future, providing electricity to more than five million Queenslanders and 241,000 businesses.

Through our unique central position in the power system, Powerlink is guiding the market to help influence the energy system of the future – one that balances customer needs while transforming to a future comprising a diverse array of generation and storage technologies.

Powerlink's network serves as the platform for the provision of these and many other energy services while maintaining a sharp focus on safety, affordability and reliability of supply for our customers.

As well as connecting large generators to end-use customers through the distribution networks owned by Energex and Ergon Energy (part of the Energy Queensland Group), and Essential Energy (in northern NSW), we also provide electricity directly to large industrial customers such as rail companies, mines and mineral processing facilities.

As a Transmission Network Service Provider (TNSP), we link to the National Electricity Market (NEM) via the Queensland/NSW Interconnector (QNI) transmission line. Powerlink's shared network is regulated by the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) under the National Electricity Law and the National Electricity Rules (NER).



## 2024/25 highlights

## Committed to delivering reliable and affordable energy for Queenslanders

8 completed major transmission developments with a further

14 <sub>underway.</sub>

Progressed planning future network investment to ensure ongoing reliability and security of supply to meet the future needs of the Gladstone area and the Central Queensland community.

connection applications
progressed from generation
and energy storage proponents.

Demonstrated network resilience during extreme weather and consistently met reliability standards, despite cyclone, flood, bushfires, storms and a scorching summer.

people attended our
Transmission Network Forum,
flagging it as the premier energy
event in Queensland.

7 network connections completed for 2,622 megawatts (MW) of new generation and energy storage projects.

97.9%
of planned maintenance
completed, impacted by
substation site access
restrictions due to current
transformer issues.

\* For any work delayed, risks were appropriately managed.

Recognised for innovation at the 2024 Australian Financial Review Energy Awards for using drones for transmission line stringing.

Began preparing our 2027–32 Revenue Proposal and co-designed the engagement process with customers, resulting in set up of a dedicated Revenue Proposal Reference Group (RPRG).

Realised efficiencies and artificial intelligence (AI) integration through RISE with SAP.

Invested in North and North West Queensland by progressing CopperString, and building relationships with community, Traditional Owners and local businesses.

Managed a record maximum (grid supplied) electricity demand of

11,144MW on 22 January 2025, *and* 

a record minimum electricity demand of

**3,019MW** on 5 October 2024.

Provided modelling, analysis, technical advice and other inputs to underpin the development of **Queensland's energy roadmap**, reflecting the recent changes in the market and policy environment.

## 2024/25 highlights

### Engaging with community and customers

Strengthened connection with the agricultural sector by funding an Energy Engagement and Education Advisor role at the Queensland Farmers' Federation. Affirmed our commitment to communities by uplifting our approach to landholder and community engagement, social performance and community investment.

Formalised a First Nations Leadership Group to facilitate relationships, advise on agreement making and help build our cultural capability.

2 fully funded scholarships launched at Queensland University of Technology (QUT) – one for women engineers and one for First Nations engineers.

Agreed to advance opportunities for James Cook University students, including participation by First Nations people.

\$320,000 allocated as **grants** to

78 community projects in communities impacted by new and existing energy infrastructure.

**Reinvigorated community electrical safety messages** with community groups, agricultural stakeholders and emergency responders.

#### Working as one team

## 13th

in LinkedIn's Top Companies list in Australia for Midsize Companies. Recognised as a top workplace, employer of women and graduates, and for our workplace wellbeing. Improved the diversity of our early career programs with record women and First Nations appointees.

1,500+
employees engaged in
SpeakSafe workshops
to build an environment
of trust and collaboration.

Welcomed apprentices in Gladstone and Townsville, joining our regionally-based teams of field workers, engagement specialists and project delivery employees.

### Financial overview

Powerlink reported a Net Profit After Tax (NPAT) of \$103.0 million which was \$41.3 million above the Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) target of \$61.7 million.

Powerlink's financial results reflect strong business performance, progress towards sustainable energy, a reliable network and a focus on productivity.

Key SCI performance metrics are reported on <u>page 6</u> (Summary of Statement of Corporate Intent 2024/25 table).

#### Powerlink business performance

The total revenue for the financial year was \$1,275.2 million, driven by favourable outcomes from early project energisation and higher-than-budgeted Inter- and Intra-Regional Settlement Residues. Other revenue streams amounted to \$94.3 million, including interest revenue and customer works services related to connection enquiries, applications and early works, line relocation, and oil testing and laboratory services.

The controllable operating expenses for the financial year were \$359.7 million, which is two percent below budget.

Cost inflation across the global transmission industry has been a persistent challenge, impacting both operating and capital expenditure throughout the financial year. Powerlink has sustained its commitment to delivering value for customers, communities and shareholders. This year, particular emphasis has been placed on mitigating inflationary impacts through further gains in workforce productivity, enhanced supply chain resilience and the deployment of innovative cost-reduction techniques in maintenance and construction.

#### Capital investment

Powerlink's capital expenditure in the financial year totalled \$1,132.1 million, \$378.5 million below the \$1,510.6 million SCI target. This spending included \$257.8 million for the CopperString project.

#### **Borrowings**

During the financial year, Powerlink increased its debt financing to \$6.4 billion, up from \$5.7 billion in the previous financial year. This increase in debt was utilised to fund growth in regulated and non-regulated businesses.

#### **Dividends**

Powerlink has made provision for a final dividend for the financial year at \$103.0 million, equating to 100 percent NPAT.

## Summary of Statement of Corporate Intent 2024/25

Powerlink's Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) for 2024/25, as agreed with shareholding Ministers, details Powerlink's performance targets, priorities and strategies. The following table sets out the key financial and non-financial indicators in the SCI and Powerlink's performance against them. Further details on performance outcomes are provided throughout the report. Powerlink shares the Government's commitment to drive value for the people of Queensland in line with shareholding Minister expectations.

Objectives	2024/25 Performance targets	2024/25 Performance outcomes	2024/25 Performance favourability
Meet financial targets			
Achieve specified financial performance			
Earnings Before Interest and Tax (EBIT) <sup>1</sup>	\$325.6 million	\$386.4 million	•
Net Profit After Tax (NPAT)	\$61.7 million	\$103.0 million	•
Deliver shareholder value			
Deliver targeted dividends and returns to shareholders			
Return on Assets	2.9%	3.4%	•
Dividend (Paid and Provided)	\$61.7 million	\$103.0 million	•
Deliver our capital works program			
Develop the Queensland transmission grid to maintain reliability and	d meet customer requi	rements	
Capital Expenditure	\$1,510.6 million	\$1,132.1 million	N/A
Meet non-financial targets			
Achieve specified safety performance			
Health and Safety Assurance and Learning - Delivery against plan	85.0%	127%	•
Maintain compliance with relevant environmental legislation		'	'
Number of major, extreme or catastrophic environmental incidents	0	0	•
Achieve network performance targets			
System reliability parameters			
Events in excess of 0.05 system minutes	Not more than 3	0	•
Events in excess of 0.40 system minutes	Not more than 1	0	•
Increase Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd (QCN Fibre) contract	ted capacity		
Increase in total contracted capacity	>12.0%	26.0%	•

 $\textbf{Legend:} \bullet \text{ Favourable to target } \bullet \text{ Within range (e.g. 5\%) of target } \bullet \text{ Unfavourable (e.g. outside 5\% of target)}$ 

<sup>1.</sup> The SCI EBIT includes an adjustment for finance charges, interest revenue and the AASB15 upfront payment revenue.

## Chair and Chief Executive message

Powerlink's purpose is to connect Queenslanders to a world-class energy future through provision of transmission services throughout the State. This means ensuring a safe, reliable and affordable supply of electricity to Energy Queensland's distribution network and to our directly-connected customers. We are committed to supporting Queensland's economy and delivering benefits to customers, communities and industry. An important part of our role as a leading provider of transmission services is to provide technical advice and input to inform the development of the Queensland Government's new energy roadmap.

In delivering our transmission services, Powerlink aims to balance reliability, affordability and community as we consider the 'energy quadlemma' of energy security, environmental sustainability, energy equity and economic growth.

The reliability of Powerlink's network is fundamental to businesses, homes and essential services, which impacts all Queenslanders. This requires significant ongoing investment in maintaining and upgrading the transmission network across the State. Our work is underpinned by safety and environmental obligations, promotes regional development, drives economic confidence and supports sustainable community development.

Powerlink takes a long-term view of electricity demand across the State and plans the transmission investment to meet Queensland's needs with a lowest whole of system cost of electricity focus. While managing the connection of new generation and storage we are dealing with increasing challenges to the maintainability, operability and reliability of the network as the nature, technological characteristics and location of connected generation change.

As we progress these important network investments, we are engaging with communities impacted by our business activities and operations, to understand their perspectives and expectations. Building trust is more important than ever and this is the foundation for all engagement with communities, First Nations people and stakeholders.

Reinforcing our transmission network in the Gladstone area has been a key focus over the past year. We recognise the importance of this region to Queensland's economy and have made significant progress in planning future network investment to ensure ongoing reliability and security of supply. Applying the Priority Transmission Investment (PTI) framework as the investment pathway, Powerlink widely consulted stakeholders and the wider energy market to determine the most cost-effective option for this proposed development. We will be seeking to materially progress this suite of investments in the coming financial year.

We have achieved significant milestones in the delivery of the CopperString project. Work is complete on Powerlink's workforce accommodation facility at Hughenden and we have progressed detailed designs and easement approvals. In line with recent Government announcements, we have re-focused our development efforts on the Eastern Link and continue to assist Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) with their review of the project. We announced our Community Legacy Framework to provide lasting community benefits to impacted communities and we remain committed to maximising local economic benefits through our supplier capability development program which supports local business readiness to be engaged on the project.

The 2024/25 year tested Queenslanders and Powerlink's network resilience with South East Queensland's first cyclone in 50 years, as well as floods, storms, bushfires and a long, not summer. Despite these challenges, our network operated reliably and met performance targets. Powerlink continued to uplift tools, processes and systems that contribute to network resilience, including our network operations and incident management.

Over the past year our workforce grew as we increased our capability to deliver the expansion of the network, as well as the connection of new generation and energy storage. At the same time, we added capability to support the ongoing maintenance and operation of an increasingly expanding and more complex power system. We greatly appreciate the ongoing contributions and support of our people in delivering safe and reliable transmission outcomes.

We began our revenue determination process for the five-year period from 1 July 2027 to 30 June 2032. Under our co-designed engagement approach, we commenced engagement with customers and the Australian Energy Regulator (AER), with the intent to prepare a 2027–32 Revenue Proposal that is capable of acceptance by our customers, the AER and Powerlink. We value the insights of our Revenue Proposal Reference Group, a subset of our Customer Panel, which provided detailed customer perspectives and feedback.

Powerlink reported a Net Profit After Tax (NPAT) of \$103.0 million for 2024/25, exceeding the Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) target of \$61.7 million. Powerlink's dividend policy is to distribute 100 percent of NPAT.

We thank the Board and Executive Team for their leadership and contribution to guiding Powerlink as we deliver Queensland's energy system of the future.

We also thank all of Powerlink's people for consistently demonstrating their expertise and commitment to delivering for Queenslanders.

Kathy Hirschfeld AM

Mathy M HARSCHELOI

Professor Paul Simshauser AM Chief Executive

### **Board of Directors**

#### Kathy Hirschfeld AM

BE (Chem), Hon.DEng UQ, HonFIEAust, FTSE, FIChemE, FAICD Chair (Appointed 2018)

Kathy has extensive experience on ASX, NYSE, private company and government boards and brings to her board roles corporate and commercial experience as a CEO of a complex manufacturing business. In addition, Kathy has expertise in operational risk management, safety and corporate governance.

Kathy is a chemical engineer with 20 years' experience with BP in oil refining, logistics and exploration in Australia, the UK and Turkey. Kathy was also a Logistics Officer in the Australian Army Reserve. She is currently a director of Central Petroleum Ltd and Sims Limited.

Kathy was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2019 for her significant contribution to engineering, women and business.

Kathy is passionate about improving the representation of women in leadership and engineering and in 2015 was named one of Australia's AFR/Westpac 100 Women of Influence. In 2014, she was the ninth woman recognised by Engineers Australia as an Honorary Fellow. In 2023, she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in Engineering by the University of Queensland.

Kathy is a member of the Powerlink Board's Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee and the CopperString 2032 Project Committee

#### Alan Millis

BE (Hons), MEngSc, BEcon, DipCompSc, GAICD

Director (Appointed 2015)

Alan has more than 50 years' experience in the energy sector and has held management roles covering corporatisation of the Queensland Energy Government Owned Corporations, general energy policy, development of the national energy markets, energy market trading and risk management.

He has held a number of senior executive roles in the electricity industry and in government including as Deputy Director-General within the Queensland Government departments responsible for energy, and as the Queensland Energy Regulator.

Alan has a detailed knowledge of the operational and regulatory environment of the Queensland and national electricity sectors and the issues they face going forward.

Alan is Chair of the Powerlink Board's Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee and a member of the People, Safety and Environment Committee.

#### Joanna Brand

BA, JD, MBA (Executive), GAICD

Director (Appointed 2022)

Joanna has more than 25 years' of governance, legal and executive experience, with a record of delivering growth through developing and executing strategy, capital raisings, commercial negotiations, M&A and project management, predominantly in the infrastructure and energy and resources industries.

Joanna is currently a Team Lead and Commercial Lawyer with Law Squared, and has previously held roles including Acting General Counsel for Senex Energy and General Counsel and Company Secretary for Iris Energy, Epic Energy, ME Bank and Billabong International. She has also worked for Qantas as the Chief Legal Counsel of Jetstar Airways and on projects including QCLNG and PNG LNG.

Joanna was previously on the Board of Powerlink from 2015 to 2016 and is also on the Board of the Melbourne Writers Festival.

Joanna is Chair of the Powerlink Board's People, Safety and Environment Committee and a member of the CopperString 2032 Project Committee.

#### Wayne Collins

BE (Elect), BBus, MIEAust, GAICD

Director (Appointed 2020)

Wayne has more than 44 years' experience in the power generation and mining sectors. Prior to his retirement in June 2020, Wayne led TransAlta Corporation's global power generation operations across all fuel types (renewables and thermal) as well as its mining operations. TransAlta is a publicly traded international power business based in Calgary, Canada.

In his previous role as Chief Operating Officer for Stanwell Corporation Ltd (Queensland), he was responsible for a fleet comprising coal, gas and hydro power generation and the operation of a large open cut coal mine.

His career also included a period leading the development and construction of new utility scale renewable power plants.

He has spent more than 20 years working in associated energy commodity markets (power, coal, gas, liquid fuel).

Wayne is Chair of the Powerlink Board's CopperString 2032 Project Committee and a member of the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee.

## **Board of Directors**

#### Diana Lollato

Grad Dip (Applied Finance & Investment), GAICD Director (Appointed 2025)

Diana is a senior executive with over 30 years' leadership experience spanning banking, financial services, and public sector advisory. She has a proven track record of delivering complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives across Queensland's State and Local Government sectors, with deep expertise in public financing, infrastructure advisory, and strategic transformation.

Diana is currently the Managing Director, Queensland, at Create Advisory. Her career includes a decade in senior executive roles at Queensland Treasury Corporation, where she led financial strategy and stakeholder engagement across Local Government, Water, and Government-Owned Corporation portfolios. Prior to this, she spent 20 years in financial markets with leading international banks including Lloyds Bank and Citibank, working across Australia and Asia

Diana brings a strong understanding of governance, funding frameworks, and public value delivery, along with commercial acumen and a collaborative leadership style that supports strategic decision-making and long-term outcomes.

#### Peta Tilse

BBus (Banking & Finance), Grad Dip (Applied Finance), M App Fin, SF FINSIA

Director (Appointed 2025)

Peta Tilse is an experienced executive and non-executive director with over 25 years in capital markets, funds management and commercial property. She brings commercial experience and expertise in risk management, strategy and capital management to her board roles.

Peta is an executive with Australian property fund manager Natgen and has held executive leadership roles with ASX200-listed Cromwell Property Group, as well as senior leadership positions with Suncorp, and investment banks UBS and Goldman Sachs JBWere. Her experience includes managing multi-billion-dollar fixed income portfolios with investments in infrastructure and regulated assets, leading funds management businesses, and advising Queensland statutory authorities on capital planning and funding strategies.

A regular ABC Radio finance commentator, Peta has contributed to education and community initiatives through board and advisory roles with Griffith University's Honours College and the Somerville House Foundation. She has also served on state and national councils for FINSIA and as Deputy Chair of the Queensland Futures Institute's Accessing Capital Committee. Peta is currently a Member of the Tafe Queensland Board and the Tafe Queensland Audit, Finance, and Risk Committee.

Peta holds a Master of Applied Finance, has completed the AICD Governance Foundations for Not-for-Profit Directors program, and is a Senior Fellow of FINSIA.

The Powerlink Board acknowledges and thanks past directors for their service to Powerlink. A full list of directors in FY25 is contained in the Corporate Governance section of this report.

### **Executive Team**

#### Paul Simshauser AM

BEcon, BCom, MCom, PhD, FTSE, FAICD, FCPA

Chief Executive

Prof. Paul Simshauser AM brings to Powerlink more than 25 years' experience in the energy industry across the public and private sectors with extensive experience in generation, retail, energy policy and public administration.

Paul's previous roles include Director-General of the Queensland Department of Energy and Water Supply, Chief Economist at AGL Energy Ltd and EGM Energy Markets at Infigen Energy.

Paul holds a PhD in Economics and a Masters Degree in Finance. He is also Professor of Economics at Griffith University's Centre for Applied Energy Economics and Policy Research.

Paul was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia in 2019 for significant contribution to the energy industry through executive roles and applied economics and policy research.

#### Darryl Rowell

FCPA, MBA, BCA

Chief Financial Officer

Darryl is an experienced executive in both Australia and New Zealand with a background in both private and public sectors, including the energy industry.

Prior to joining Powerlink, Darryl was the Chief Financial Officer at Queensland Urban Utilities.

At Powerlink, Darryl manages all finance, tax, treasury, investment analysis, contract management, internal audit, insurance, network regulation, and legal, business and risk services.

#### Jacqui Bridge

BEng (Hons), GAICD, FIEAust, CPeng, EngExec

Executive General Manager Energy Futures

Jacqui has more than 25 years' experience in the energy sector working with electricity, gas and water utilities throughout the Australia Pacific region. She brings a detailed understanding of the electricity supply chain, network planning and investment, network regulation and energy markets.

As Powerlink's Executive General Manager Energy Futures Jacqui engages with a range of stakeholders to understand customer needs and influence the development of policy and regulatory frameworks for the future power system.

Jacqui is a non-executive director of CIGRE Australia (International Council on Large Electric Systems) and a member of the Scouts Queensland Branch Executive Committee.

#### **Gary Edwards**

BBus, AssocDipElecEng

Chief Operating Officer

Gary is an experienced senior leader with more than 45 years' experience in technical, asset management and leadership roles within the energy industry.

Gary is responsible for delivering Powerlink's state-wide operations including 24/7 real time operations, all field maintenance, telecommunication services, operational technology and laboratory services.

#### Leigh Pickering

BEcon, GAICD

Executive General Manager People and Corporate Services

Leigh is an experienced senior executive who has held a range of roles at the federal and state level including in the finance, education and transport sectors.

She has extensive experience in delivering on transformational activities and innovation.

At Powerlink, Leigh leads the people and culture, business information technology, communications and customer engagement, and health, safety and environment functions.

#### Stewart Bell

BEng (Hons), PhD (electrical), MBA, CEng, FIET, RPEQ, GAICD

Executive General Manager Network and Business Development

Stewart is an experienced executive with more than 30 years in the electricity industry. He has held senior management roles across Powerlink including operations, procurement, network regulation, project design and delivery, asset management and network planning.

Stewart is currently responsible for leading Powerlink's business development, network portfolio and network planning functions. His team has enabled the connection of over 9,000MW of renewable generation and storage projects which are operational or under construction in Queensland.

Stewart is also a Member of the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) Reliability Panel.

### **Executive Team**

#### Ian Lowry

BE(Elec) (Hons), GDipBus, GAICD

Executive General Manager Major Projects

lan is an experienced senior leader and power systems engineer with an extensive background in the electricity transmission industry, spanning over two decades.

lan has diverse experience across the many facets of the sector, including asset management and investment planning, customer account management, project development, stakeholder engagement, field operations, and capital program delivery and management.

At Powerlink, he leads the Major Projects division which is responsible for developing and building major transmission network infrastructure across Queensland.

#### Sarah Huang

BE(Elec), MEng(Elec), CPEng, RPEQ, GAICD

Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Services

Sarah Huang is an electrical engineer and experienced leader in the electricity transmission industry, with more than 25 years' professional experience in Australia and overseas. She has gained diverse electrical engineering design knowledge across the private and public sectors, and developed her leadership while progressing from frontline to senior leadership positions.

Sarah is currently Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Services where she is responsible for leading Powerlink's design, infrastructure delivery and digital asset information management functions for regulated and non-regulated lines of business.

Sarah also represents Powerlink as a Board Director for Australian Power Institute (API).

## Non-financial performance

Delivering affordable and reliable energy	
for Queensland	13
Driving investment in regional Queensland	14
Value for customers	15
A world-class network	16
Customer network connections	21
Our communities	22

## Delivering affordable and reliable energy for Queensland

#### Supporting Queenslanders

Powerlink's efforts to strengthen and increase the capacity of the transmission network deliver benefits to customers, communities and industry. Timely investments in energy infrastructure ensure a resilient supply of electricity to meet expanding industrial needs, attract new businesses to Queensland, promote regional development and cultivate confidence for long-term planning and growth.

## Reinforcing the Central Queensland network

The Gladstone region accounts for 20 percent of Queensland's total energy load!, with longer-term forecasts indicating a further increase in demand of between one and two gigawatts. Powerlink is assessing credible transmission investment options to meet the forecast energy supply needs of the Gladstone area.

The Priority Transmission Investment: Gladstone Project (Gladstone PTI) is the first application of the PTI framework in Queensland under the *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024* (Cth).

In July 2024, Powerlink released a Consultation Paper on development of the Gladstone Project through the PTI process, which outlined the identified need for the investment and proposed an approach to assessing options. Thirteen submissions were received, informing the development of our Final Submission to the Queensland Government. Subsequently, the Queensland Government directed Powerlink to assess the project.

Powerlink prepared and sought feedback on the Draft Assessment Report for the Gladstone PTI, with consultation closing on 15 May 2025. A Final Assessment Report was submitted to the Queensland Government in June 2025.

The Gladstone PTI proposes transmission works necessary to ensure ongoing reliability and security of supply, meet the forecast electrical load in anticipation of aging power station closures, and support the decarbonisation of major industries. Additionally, these works would compensate for the loss of essential system services, such as inertia, system strength and voltage control capability associated with any power station closures.

## CopperString project investment in North and North West Queensland

CopperString represents a significant investment in economic infrastructure in North and North West Queensland by Government, supporting future resources activity and allowing new generation to be connected.

In April 2025, the Queensland Government reinforced its commitment to CopperString by announcing a revised prioritisation of the project segments. Powerlink will prioritise work on the Eastern Link (Townsville to Hughenden) and partner with the QIC to ensure value for money for Queenslanders.

The Queensland Government allocated a further \$1.4 billion in the 2025 State budget to continue work on the project across the next four years. This will see Powerlink continue its work on acquiring easements, planning and environmental approvals for the Eastern Link and preparing to mobilise for construction of the Flinders Substation – the Hughenden Hub – in late 2025.

In partnership with QIC, we advanced the project under an approach that will achieve optimal outcomes for Queenslanders. We continued to build relationships with landholders, Traditional Owners, local businesses, suppliers, industry, local governments and communities. We launched a program to assist local suppliers and Indigenous businesses to develop the capability to be involved in the project's delivery. Our Regional Reference Group comprising representatives of industry, community leaders and peak bodies provided strategic advice and guidance to the project.

#### System strength remediation

Queensland's generation portfolio has historically been comprised of large coal-fired, gas-fired and hydroelectric power stations, which provided system strength as a by-product of their energy generation, enabling the power system to operate in a stable manner.

With an increased share of generation from renewable sources, particularly solar and wind generation, system strength must now be planned for and delivered by a combination of resources and a range of technologies.

As the System Strength Service Provider for Queensland, Powerlink is prepared to meet its obligation to plan for, procure and make system strength services available for the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) in real time from December 2025.

The consultation process – System Strength Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) – began in March 2023. Under this process, Powerlink identified a technically and economically feasible portfolio of solutions to address Queensland's system strength requirements. As an outcome of this investigation, Powerlink is seeking to procure system strength services from a range of service providers, including investing in (or contracting with) synchronous condensers to ensure sufficient system strength is available to support the reliable supply of electricity to Queensland customers.

<sup>1 2024</sup> Powerlink Transmission Annual Planning Report - Table 3.18 Annual transmission delivered energy by zone (GWh)

#### Informing the state's future energy system

Powerlink provided modelling, technical advice, analysis and other input to support the development of Queensland's energy roadmap, reflecting the recent changes in the market and policy environment.

As a leading provider of state-wide energy system modelling, Powerlink contributed analysis alongside other industry representatives and expert bodies to inform planning for the State's future energy system. We provided this advice as members of the Queensland Government's market modelling Centre of Excellence.

## Driving investment in regional Queensland

#### Network investment in the regions

Investment in the transmission network is critical to securing Queensland's future energy system. Powerlink's targeted transmission strategy focuses on investing in key foundational transmission assets while retaining optionality to adapt to market dynamics.

In addition to our major projects like the Gladstone Project and CopperString, 10 projects were under construction as at 30 June 2025 across North, Central and Southern Queensland to connect new generators and energy storage systems to Powerlink's network.

With transmission and connection project activities growing, we are acutely aware of our responsibility to invest in regional communities in an informed way to provide enduring economic and social benefits.

#### Local supplier engagement

Building local supplier capability and engaging their participation is central to Powerlink's commitment to delivering regional economic benefits. We provide opportunities for local and Indigenous industry participation in energy projects through subcontracting, supply and service provision, and employment and training.

Businesses across Central Queensland were invited to express interest in working on Powerlink's major projects in the Gladstone region. More than 100 local businesses registered their interest for 54 defined work packages and will be introduced to our primary contractor, once appointed.

A dedicated Supplier Capability Development program targeted local suppliers and Indigenous businesses with an interest in tendering and participating in Powerlink's major projects in North Queensland. More than 99 people, including 73 local and Indigenous businesses, engaged in the program which involved local training and workshops provided across the CopperString corridor alignment, including Hughenden, Cloncurry, Richmond, Mount Isa and Julia Creek.

## Promoting regional student opportunities

We signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with James Cook University to advance opportunities for students, including participation by First Nations students. The first of its kind for Powerlink, this MOU documents our commitment to collaborate in providing these opportunities as part of the delivery of CopperString.

#### A regional presence

Powerlink intends to maintain a long-term presence in Central Queensland and North Queensland to deliver local benefits, support our program of works and capture efficiencies. Our two interim hubs, in Gladstone and Townsville, are our bases for regional employees and provide operational facilities for teams travelling to the regions. They also support local recruitment and skills transfer, and create regional employment and procurement opportunities. Powerlink is committed to establishing permanent hubs in Gladstone and Townsville.

In 2025, we welcomed six new apprentices in Gladstone and six new apprentices in Townsville.

#### Engagement with regional communities

Powerlink remains committed to prioritising community needs and ensuring transparent and meaningful engagement.

We continue to improve our approach for working with regional communities, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, to foster trusting relationships and enable lasting benefits generated by new energy projects. Our work with regional communities is described more fully in the <u>Our communities</u> section of this report.

### Value for customers

## Customers are our priority – we exist to serve Queenslanders

As we plan and deliver services and projects for Queensland households and business customers, we are mindful of the cost-of-living pressures they face. Powerlink prioritises delivering value by taking a long-term view of expected changes in electricity demand and changes in the generation and energy storage mix, always with a focus on transmission solutions and investment that supports delivery of the lowest system cost of electricity for customers. To do this we are guided by extensive power system modelling, customer and generator data, and market and technology insights.

Our 2024 annual Stakeholder Perception Survey involved more than 90 interviews across 11 stakeholder categories (including customers). Stakeholders highlighted energy affordability, leading the energy transformation, community engagement, supply chain and workforce constraints, and network reliability as priority issues and the insights from this are key to ensuring we continue to stay aligned.

Our Customer Panel continues to provide input and feedback on key operational and strategic topics of relevance to our business. We welcomed new panel members from organisations representing energy proponents and large energy users. Additionally, we continued to engage our PTI Expert Panel, comprising Customer Panel members, on the Gladstone Project investment process.

Our annual Transmission Network Forum in November 2024 had a record attendance of energy industry participants and customer representatives who participated in discussions about the future of Queensland's transmission network. More than 600 people joined in person and online for presentations from Powerlink's Chief Executive and senior leaders, as well as guest presenters from AEMO and Rio Tinto. Forum topics included the challenges and opportunities associated with the energy needs of the Central Queensland region and Powerlink's opportunities to provide greater investment certainty to industry. Participant feedback indicated strong support for Powerlink's approach and shared views that the forum was now seen as the premier energy event in Queensland.

We maintained our funding commitment to Uniting (previously UnitingCare) to support their household energy programs for customers in energy hardship or facing extreme vulnerabilities. Since we began supporting Uniting in January 2022 they have provided support to 165 households, delivering an estimated \$132,108 in quantified benefits (in terms of savings).

#### Revenue determination engagement

Our engagement with the AER and customers is underway for the revenue determination process for the five-year period from 1 July 2027 to 30 June 2032. As with our previous proposal, we are working to prepare a 2027–32 Revenue Proposal that is capable of acceptance by our customers, the AER and Powerlink's shareholder representatives.

Under the NER, Powerlink is required to lodge a Revenue Proposal in January 2026 that sets out our forecast revenue requirements to provide efficient, safe and reliable prescribed (or regulated) transmission services.

To achieve acceptance, Powerlink's proposal involves significant engagement with customers and stakeholders, consistent with our co-design engagement approach. We formed a Revenue Proposal Reference Group (RPRG), a subset of our Customer Panel, to provide input and challenge our positions and forecasts. The RPRG will be involved in frequent and deeper discussion on key aspects and provide detailed customer input into Powerlink's Revenue Proposal.

We will work with our customers and stakeholders to review and update Powerlink's engagement plan, which details our approach to working closely with our customers throughout the process and in line with the discussion and feedback received from the RPRG.

#### The Energy Charter

We published Powerlink's 2024 The Energy Charter Disclosure Statement in alignment with the Charter's 2024 Accountability Standards to share information about the outcomes we delivered for customers and communities.

Our 2024 Accountability Forum, held in collaboration with CS Energy and Energy Queensland, brought together Customer Panel members and organisational leaders for an in-depth discussion on our shared commitment to customer focus, energy affordability, sustainability and supporting vulnerable customers. This forum enabled customer representatives to ask CEOs from Powerlink and other energy industry organisations directly about actions being delivered across the whole of the energy supply chain.

Powerlink is a foundation signatory to The Energy Charter and its principles.

We participated in The Energy Charter's #BetterTogether initiatives which support collaboration to deliver tangible benefits for energy customers and communities on initiatives such as social licence, road safety, biodiversity, and engagement with First Nations people, landholders and communities.

## A world-class network

#### Operating the network

The increasing complexity of the power system requires Powerlink to continue to adapt and innovate.

To maintain world-class 24/7 real-time operations, we strengthened our operational processes and uplifted both capacity and capability across our teams. This included improvements to the customer connection processes, enabling a more transparent and efficient experience across the stages of connecting, commissioning, testing and operating.

In collaboration with AEMO, we continued reviewing our operating procedures for the Queensland jurisdiction to ensure our resources and capabilities are efficiently utilised and operationally ready to respond.

We progressed the Future Grid Operations initiative, a multi-year program focused on identifying and addressing the risks, challenges and opportunities of our future operating environment. Through this initiative, we successfully leveraged existing technology to enhance real-time visibility of emerging network challenges, such as voltage management in South East Queensland and minimum system load conditions. These improvements have delivered meaningful operational efficiencies and strengthened our ability to respond to dynamic system conditions.

Our Next Generation Network Operations (NGNO) program is building strong foundations to support the operation of the network in an increasingly complex environment. This year the program delivered a major milestone with the modernisation of our real-time control room facility by future-proofing the space, systems and technology that underpin our operational capability. It also advanced our business continuity infrastructure and technology, ensuring we are well-prepared for a range of operational scenarios. This includes establishing a new control room simulator to assist in training the system operators of the future.

We completed a comprehensive review of our network incident management tools and procedures, supported by enhanced engineering capacity and updated service documentation. These improvements enable more informed and timely decision-making, supporting a smoother shift to enhanced incident response capabilities.

A cornerstone of the NGNO program is the multi-year replacement of Powerlink's long-serving Energy Management System with an Advanced Energy Management System (AEMS). The AEMS project will ensure we maintain our ability to monitor and control the transmission network into the future. Following a major replan in 2023/24, we made strong progress in configuring the new platform to meet Queensland's unique operational requirements. More than just a system replacement, the AEMS program is establishing a scalable and adaptable foundation for our future operations.

#### Electricity demand and forecasting

Strategic planning and development of the transmission network is integral to Powerlink meeting our obligations under the NER, the *Electricity Act 1994* (Qld) and our Transmission Authority. Our Transmission Annual Planning Report (TAPR) provides stakeholders with a 10-year outlook on the existing and future transmission network in Queensland, including energy and demand forecasts, committed generation, current projects, potential future transmission network investments and non-network solutions.

The 2024 TAPR forecast steady growth in the transmission-delivered summer maximum demand at an average rate of 3.1 percent per annum over the next 10 years. This increase is mainly due to new anticipated loads and industries beginning to electrify their operations.

The TAPR also forecast a decline in transmission-delivered minimum demand over the 10-year period. Minimum demand, or minimum system load, is the lowest amount of energy flowing across the network at a given time, and has fallen dramatically over the past seven years, driven by the uptake of rooftop photovoltaic (PV) and distribution-connected solar systems. The TAPR forecast that the rate at which minimum demand declines over the coming years will be closely related to the rate at which rooftop PV systems are installed. The continued reduction in minimum demand is likely to present challenges to operating the power system in the future.

Queensland set a record for operational maximum electricity demand of 11,144MW on 22 January 2025, surpassing the previous record of 11,005MW on 22 January 2024.

Queensland also set a record for operational minimum demand of 3,091MW on 5 October 2024. This was lower than the previous record minimum demand of 3,387MW on 17 September 2023.

Powerlink continued to support AEMO to develop the Integrated System Plan which identifies optimal development pathways across the NEM up to 2050.

#### **Emergency management**

We published our revised Crisis and Emergency Management Handbook, reflecting an uplift in our processes to align with the Australian Inter-Service Incident Management System framework. This approach provides a Powerlinkwide framework for timely and effective response to events. Supporting materials were provided and training delivered.

The Crisis and Emergency Management Handbook was deployed in response to Tropical Cyclone Alfred and other weather events, with lessons learned applied to continually improve the function.

Powerlink joined industry participants in the annual Queensland power system emergency preparedness exercises to test the preparedness to manage incidents and protect the provision of essential energy services.

#### Network performance

Powerlink's network demonstrated resilience as it operated safely through a year of extreme weather conditions, including floods, storms, bushfires, sustained high summer temperatures and Tropical Cyclone Alfred, a one-in-50-year event that crossed the South East Queensland coast on 8 March 2025.

In operating our network, a key focus is minimising the impact of network outages on wholesale market prices. The complexity of the operating environment, including the changing generation mix, continues to challenge our operating processes and outage planning principles.

The number of planned outages required to enable project and maintenance work across the network continued to increase. Such outages require robust contingency plans to reduce customer impacts, with fast restoration should an unplanned event occur.

Powerlink's network performed better than our SCI target during 2024/25 despite the challenging weather conditions and did not experience any unexpected loss of supply events greater than the specified thresholds.

#### **Innovation**

Innovation is one of the core tenets underpinning Powerlink's corporate strategy. Innovation helps us to solve priority business problems, de-risk solutions, accelerate the delivery of benefits to customers and drive value.

The 2024 Australian Financial Review (AFR) Energy Awards recognised Powerlink for applying innovative practices in the energy sector by presenting an Innovation Award for our groundbreaking use of drone technology in infrastructure projects. In partnership with Infravision, Powerlink used drones to string selected sections of high voltage transmission lines as part of the project to connect Genex's Kidston Clean Energy Hub to the network. The innovative technology enhanced project efficiency, eliminated critical safety risk and reduced impacts on landholders and the environment. Powerlink and Infravision subsequently embarked on an agreement which promotes consideration of drone stringing for all transmission projects in Queensland.

Powerlink launched a trial of line-based sensors and ground-based weather stations to gather real-time data on the operating conditions of transmission assets. In partnership with the Bureau of Meteorology, Powerlink will analyse the data to identify opportunities to improve transmission line operation through the use of dynamic line ratings, unlocking more capacity in the existing network to benefit Queenslanders. The additional data from the ground-based weather sensors can also be used by the Bureau of Meteorology to improve weather services for regional Queenslanders.

Powerlink worked with ConXedge to trial the use of concrete maturity sensors to measure the relationship between concrete temperature, time and strength development. The data gathered by sensors has the potential to inform decision-making on construction programs and may significantly reduce construction timelines.

#### Capital works program

Our approach to capital expenditure supports a safe, reliable and cost-effective transmission service, delivering on our purpose of connecting Queenslanders to a world-class energy future.

Capital expenditure in 2024/25 was \$1,132.1 million.

Capital expenditure as a percentage of total capital works 2024/25		
Capital expenditure	Percentage	
Regulated	26.9%	
Non-regulated*	31.8%	
CopperString 2032	22.8%	
Other Transmission Network Developments	18.5%	

<sup>\*</sup> The cost of non-regulated customer connections is paid for by the customer seeking connection.

In 2024, Powerlink undertook investigations and implemented a replacement program in response to a series of unexpected current transformer failures in substations on our network. These failures have also been experienced by other networks which deployed the same model. Current transformer failures did not lead to loss of customer supply. but the equipment is required for the sole operation, control, and protection of the network. Our replacement program included implementation of key safety risk controls such as establishment of exclusion zones in the vicinity of these current transformers at a number of substations. As at 30 June 2025, 55 current transformers had been replaced or removed, with a further 58 identified for replacement in 2025/26. We undertook the replacement works in a timely and safe manner while minimising safety risks, impacts on customers, network security and other project works.

#### Network maintenance

Our approach to network maintenance is critical to ensuring the continued resilience and reliability of the network.

Maintenance on transmission assets 2024/25		
97.9% of planned maintenance completed*	\$98.1 million invested in maintenance	

<sup>\*</sup> Inclusive of maintenance impacted by restricted substation site access based on current transformer issues.

The impacts of restricted substation site access due to the potential failure of current transformers, in addition to adverse weather conditions including Tropical Cyclone Alfred, created challenges to our planned routine maintenance. These challenges impacted 2.1 percent of the planned maintenance delivery. Any maintenance past its delivery date is subject to a process involving a risk-based engineering assessment on each maintenance element to determine a revised maintenance end date.

#### Major regulated projects

Major transmission developments and reinvestments (over \$10 million) completed in 2024/25		
Region	Project Name	
North Queensland	Nebo 275kV Substation replacement	
	Broadsound 275kV bus reactor	
Central Queensland	Kemmis 132kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
	Wurdong 275kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
	Abermain 110kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
Southern	Belmont 275kV bus reactor	
Queensland	Palmwoods 275kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
	Mudgeeraba 275kV Substation secondary systems replacement	

Major transmission developments and reinvestments (over \$10 million) under construction in 2024/25		
Region	Project Name	
	Cairns 132kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
	Innisfail 132kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
	Chalumbin 275kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
North Queensland	Eton to Alligator Creek 132kV transmission line refit	
	Davies Creek to Bayview Heights 275kV transmission line refit	
	Ross 275kV and 132kV Substation primary plant replacement	
	Townsville South to Clare South 132kV transmission line refit	
Central	Gladstone South 132kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
Queensland	Lilyvale 132kV Substation primary plant replacement	
	Next Generation Network Operations Advanced Energy Management System	
	Mt England 275kV Substation secondary systems replacement	
Southern Queensland	Tarong 275kV Substation secondary systems replacement – stage 2	
	Sumner 110kV Substation secondary system replacement	
	Tangkam and Oakey 110kV substations secondary system replacement	

## Engaging in external regulatory consultation

Powerlink engaged in regulatory consultation processes to advocate for the benefit of our customers, support the delivery of our capital works and operate the network securely in a changing environment.

#### **Ring Fencing**

The AER published its Final Transmission Ring-Fencing Guideline in February 2025, which extended ring-fencing obligations to include negotiated as well as prescribed transmission services and placed new requirements on Powerlink and other TNSPs. Powerlink continued to advocate for more fit-for-purpose obligations suited to the changing energy environment.

#### Service Target Performance Incentive Scheme

Following a review of the Service Target Performance Incentive Scheme, in April 2025 the AER suspended the Market Impact Component until it determines an alternative, and amended both the Service Component and the Network Capability Component. Powerlink's submission advocated to pause the Market Impact Component, supported an expedited rule change to apply the new scheme to remaining years of the current regulatory period, and made several recommendations to establish a potential outage reporting mechanism.

## Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) and other network consultations

Powerlink is required to undertake the RIT-T when potential solutions to replace network assets or increase the capacity of the network exceed an \$8 million threshold, as defined in the NER. The purpose of the RIT-T is to identify the credible network or non-network option to address the identified need at the greatest net benefit, or least net cost, to the NEM, taking into account changes to Australia's greenhouse gas emissions where relevant.

#### RIT-T assessments completed in 2024/25

Addressing the secondary systems condition risks at Sumner

Maintaining reliability of supply to Mansfield

#### RIT-T consultations under way as at 30 June 2025

Maintaining reliability of supply and addressing condition risks at Ingham South

Maintaining reliability of supply to Kamerunga, Cairns and northern beaches area

Addressing system strength requirements in Queensland from 2025  $\,$ 

Other regulated consultation processes underway at 30 June 2025

Gladstone Project Priority Transmission Investment

#### **Procurement**

Supplier relationship management is fundamental to our procurement strategy, particularly in light of the current global supply chain constraints driven by significant increases in demand for specialised power system equipment. We maintained transparency with our suppliers regarding our pipeline of projects, providing them with assurance about our future needs.

Our inventory management strategy has ensured the availability of specialised equipment necessary for project delivery. The establishment of a new warehousing facility at Pinkenba further supports the strategy and enhances our access, security, and storage capabilities for additional inventory across the state. This has enabled us to be more resilient to global supply chain impacts.

Through strategic partnerships and robust inventory management, we achieved effective collaboration with a major supplier to mitigate risks associated with supply chain constraints. This facilitated a global technology transfer, which ultimately resulted in reduced lead times, cost optimisation and certainty of supply.

#### Digital innovation

Powerlink was recognised as a leading enterprise for our implementation of RISE with SAP to deliver efficiencies and a range of new capabilities. This digital transformation aligned with our digital strategy, ensuring faster access to insights, improved operational efficiency and better sustainability tracking.

We progressed introduction of advanced tools to improve the way we manage drawings, designs and asset information. These tools include intelligent 3D CAD for primary substation design, a dedicated CAD platform, and a modern drawing management system. The integrated approach will enable a more seamless and reliable transition of asset information from design and construction to operations, improve asset visibility, reduce rework, and enhance the readiness and safety of operational teams.

Emphasising field work efficiency, our Field Data Optimisation Project enhanced the collection, management, and utilisation of field data throughout the network. The project introduced digital tools and applications that streamline processes, improve accessibility and facilitate data collection in the field.

#### Cyber security

Our cyber security program continues to support the delivery of safe, cost-effective and reliable electricity to Queenslanders.

An assessment of Powerlink's cyber security maturity against the Australian Energy Sector Cyber Security Framework (AESCSF) targets flagged significant improvements in our cyber security strategy, governance, awareness and technology, pointing to our robust management capabilities. Our 24/7 security operations across information and operational technology were supported by a cyber security culture uplift. Following these improvements, our achievement of Security Profile 2 against the AESCSF demonstrated Powerlink's cyber maturity.

#### Security of critical infrastructure

As a TNSP, Powerlink must comply with the *Security of Critical Infrastructure (SOCI) Act 2018* (Cth). Consistent with Powerlink's obligations under the Act, we updated Powerlink's Critical Infrastructure Risk Management Program (CIRMP), completed the Annual Critical Infrastructure Report FY25, and submitted Powerlink's SOCI attestation FY24, which is a process of verifying and demonstrating compliance with the SOCI Act.

## Customer network connections

#### Connecting new generation

Powerlink connects new generation, energy storage and large load customers to the transmission network, enabling Queensland's energy network of the future. Powerlink's resources, processes and specialist services support connection customers to make informed decisions and comply with generator performance standards.

Our pipeline of connection works demonstrates the scale of future projects and investments in the state's power generation and energy storage.

In 2024/25, Powerlink undertook the following non-regulated customer network connections:

- completed construction of seven connections comprising 2,622MW of generators and battery energy storage systems (BESS)
- finalised connection and access agreements for nine new generators and BESS comprising 2,806MW, and two new connection project delivery agreements for a solar park and BESS comprising 511MW
- progressed 103 connection applications.

## Electricity generator and battery storage connections completed in 2024/25

Project	Generation capacity at the point of connection
Region: Central Queensland	
Aldoga Solar Farm	387MW
Clarke Creek Wind Farm	440MW
Region: Southern Queensland	
Greenbank BESS	200MW
MacIntyre Wind Farm	890MW
Tarong BESS	300MW
Ulinda Park BESS	155MW
Wambo Wind Farm Stage 12	250MW

Completed projects are projects where all Powerlink works are complete. Generation may not be at full capacity as facilities may still be under construction or commissioning.

Electricity generator and batt	ery storage connections
committed in 2024/25	

Project	Generation capacity at the point of connection	
Region: Southern Queensland		
Brendale (South Pine) BESS	205MW	
Brendale Supernode Data Centre and BESS Stages 1 and 2	520MW	
Fraser Coast Solar Park	290MW	
Punchs Creek Solar Farm	400MW	
Tarong BESS	300MW	
Wambo Wind Farm Stage 2	247MW	
Swanbank BESS	250MW	
Region: Central Queensland		
Aldoga Solar Farm	387MW	
Boulder Creek Wind Farm	221MW	
Lotus Creek Wind Farm	276MW	
Stanwell BESS	221MW	

Committed projects are projects under a Connection Project Delivery Agreement (CPDA) or a Connection and Access Agreement (C&AA).

#### Improved customer proposals

With a growing market of connection customers and the complexity of rising sector costs, we recognised an opportunity to improve the speed and accuracy of our process for making proposals for connection proponents. This improvement will increase our responsiveness to customer needs.

Our approach accesses real-time market data by centralising the bid team and leveraging Powerlink's strong private sector contractor relationships to develop market-informed prices for project proponents. This initiative helps to enhance Powerlink's position as the leading provider of connection services in Queensland.

## Our role as Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) Delivery Body

Powerlink was appointed to a new statutory role as Queensland's REZ Delivery Body. Powerlink has implemented processes and protocols to support our dual role as the state's REZ Delivery Body and TNSP.

Under this role, Powerlink has supported the Queensland Government in further developing the associated frameworks.

<sup>2.</sup> Previously Diamondy Wind Farm

## Our communities

#### Understanding community sentiment

Prioritising community needs and ensuring transparent and meaningful engagement has never been more important to Powerlink. We seek to understand how to effectively engage and build trust with stakeholders impacted by new and existing energy infrastructure.

We undertook research in late 2024 to gauge community sentiment towards Powerlink and renewable energy developments. The insights from this, and prior research undertaken in the field, inform our work to enhance our social licence to operate and community acceptance of our activities.

Creating jobs, supporting local businesses and providing meaningful opportunities for community input into planning processes were identified as the factors most valued by communities. Effectively managing the environmental impacts of infrastructure development was also highly valued.

Road safety emerged in 2024 as a new key factor for community acceptance, most strongly in Southern Queensland.

Community trust and acceptance of Powerlink activities declined slightly in North and Southern Queensland compared to previous research, with landholder sentiment lower than broader community sentiment. However, respondents were positive to Powerlink's responsiveness to community concerns and follow through on commitments.

Sustaining community trust requires Powerlink to demonstrate local benefits and ensure procedural fairness as development activity increases.

#### Community and social performance

Reflecting on our sentiment research and recognising changing community expectations, we have focused on strengthening Powerlink's social performance and resources to help us to meet community expectations and foster an inclusive energy future.

We sought input to guide our community and social performance from key stakeholders including our Customer Panel, the Queensland Farmers' Federation, Coexistence Queensland, RE-Alliance and the Queensland Renewable Energy Council.

We uplifted activities focused on community insights, relationship building, managing impacts and working to identify and deliver lasting benefits from our activities. Social performance efforts have been applied to projects such as CopperString in North and North West Queensland, including social impact management plans for Richmond and Flinders Shires, and a CopperString community legacy investment approach.

Our increased presence in regional Queensland will support the roll out and delivery of our activities, with engagementfocused team members located in areas including Chinchilla, Charters Towers, Townsville, Cairns, Cannonvale and the Gladstone region.

#### Community engagement

We are committed to listening to communities and demonstrating respect as we work to build trust in Powerlink.

We revised our approach to engagement and applied our principles for respectful and meaningful engagement in the first stage of our Bayview Heights to White Rock Underground Cable Project in Cairns. The project involved maintenance and refurbishment of critical underground high voltage transmission cables to ensure a continued safe and reliable power supply in Cairns and Far North Queensland. Significant vegetation growth around the cables had posed risks, necessitating tree removal and restoration works.

Through proactive engagement with local residents and stakeholders, we provided community benefits such as improved restoration of easements, upgraded amenities including walking paths, responsible stewardship of vegetation and wildlife and strengthened community safety measures.

Our engagement is also guided by the Better Practice Social Licence Guideline developed as part of The Energy Charter's #BetterTogether initiative. We participated in the independent accountability process for this initiative, collaborating with industry members to refine priority actions and better practice opportunities, and to evaluate our progress.

#### First Nations Leadership Group

We established a First Nations Leadership Group to provide Powerlink with advice, facilitate engagement and partnerships, and provide a central forum for discussing First Nations-related matters. The Leadership Group comprises external First Nations representatives with diversity of experience and represents a critical step in advancing Powerlink's commitment to reconciliation, cultural safety and sustainable relationships with First Nations people.

The perspectives provided by the Leadership Group will be key in guiding Powerlink's strategic approach to engaging and partnering with First Nations communities and to develop cultural capacity within Powerlink.

In its foundation meetings, the Leadership Group has provided guidance on agreement-making processes and associated benefits that could be provided by Powerlink to First Nations groups.

## Community, educational and First Nations partnerships

Our investment in partnerships with community stakeholders created mutual value and demonstrated that Powerlink and its representatives are active members of the community.

We worked to enhance collaboration between the agricultural and energy sectors to facilitate improved information sharing. To support this goal, Powerlink funded an Energy Engagement and Education Advisor role within the Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) from July 2024 to aid in the development of policies, projects and initiatives related to energy development.

The role has strengthened engagement with the agricultural sector through QFF's 18 peak body members and the 13,000 primary producers they represent throughout regional Queensland. In the first year of operation, the advisor engaged in more than 80 stakeholder meetings and workshops, and participated in key sector events and forums and relevant consultation processes.

In line with community value for creation of jobs and opportunities, Powerlink continued its foundation partnership with Country Universities Centre (CUC) Maranoa and established a new foundation partnership with CUC Western Downs at Chinchilla. A third CUC at Hughenden has also now received approval and Powerlink will again be a foundation partner. Our involvement in this program is helping to empower rural and regional students to complete their education by providing technology and academic support.

Our support as key Engagement Partner for a Queensland Museum initiative brought more than 200 students from regional Queensland to the World Science Festival events in Townsville.

We launched two new fully funded scholarships with QUT. The Else Shepherd Scholarship for Women in Engineering and the Powerlink Scholarship for First Nations Engineers will be awarded for the first time in mid-2025.

Powerlink's partnership with the Clontarf Foundation continued, with our support enabling education and employment initiatives to young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander men.

Powerlink also extended support to Murra Pathways on programs to drive change for the next generation by helping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to achieve their full career potential.

#### Sponsorship program

Powerlink entered a three-year sponsorship agreement with the Capricorn Helicopter Rescue Service (CapRescue), based in Rockhampton. As a Blue Sky Partner we support the service that provides medical rescue operations throughout Central Queensland, aligning with our commitment to safety and supporting communities. CapRescue delivers care to over 300,000 people across an area of 350,000 square kilometres

This year marked the 10th year of Powerlink's sponsorship of vital equipment for State Emergency Service (SES) groups across the State, in partnership with Energex and Ergon Energy Network (part of the Energy Queensland Group). This Energising Queensland SES partnership is the largest investment in equipment for SES volunteers since the program began, reflecting Powerlink's support for building community resilience, safety and wellbeing. Powerlink's contribution of \$100,000 in 2024/25 enabled SES groups across Queensland to purchase life-saving equipment including power tools, generators, lighting, vehicle accessories, first aid and water rescue training equipment, stretchers and tactical response kits.

## Community grants and investment programs

Powerlink's community investment contributions supported the installation of a battery and solar panels on the Abergowrie Country Women's Association Clubhouse and state-wide support of the Clontarf Foundation.

Under the Powerlink Community Grant program, grants of up to \$5,000 are available for projects or initiatives that enhance community wellbeing or promote sustainable communities. There were 78 beneficiaries of the grants program in 2024 who received a share of more than \$320,000 in funding state-wide.

#### The Energy Charter initiatives

We took an active role in guiding and collaborating on The Energy Charter initiatives, reinforcing their intent to provide positive and lasting benefits to communities.

Powerlink led a submission to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator to seek funding for The Energy Charter #BetterTogether initiative focused on road safety. Community sentiment research shows that road safety and impacts on local roads are emerging issues for communities impacted by energy infrastructure development.

Powerlink also developed a progress update against the 20 priority principles from The Energy Charter Better Practice Social Licence Guideline to further improve community engagement and co-existence practices. This progress report was presented at the Ag + Energy Social Licence Roundtable in March 2025.

Powerlink has been an active participant with The Energy Charter and Queensland Renewable Energy Council in contributing to development of a code and best practice guide to improve the way that energy developers engage with Queensland communities.

#### Land access

We engage with more than 19,000 landholders who host Powerlink's existing infrastructure on their properties to ensure we can continue to safely and reliably operate our network. We continued to adhere to Powerlink's Land Access Protocol which guides our access to and use of land, and underpins our ongoing relationship with landholders across the lifecycle of our infrastructure.

In March 2025, Powerlink hosted a Land Access Code workshop to seek insights from industry, agricultural and government stakeholders to inform the development of a Land Access Code for transmission in Queensland. The code aims to build greater accountability for land access across transmission activities in Queensland to support heightened expectations, consistency, governance and clear escalation processes – in turn, managing risk and enhancing project delivery outcomes across the industry.

#### Community electrical safety

Powerlink's commitment to delivering a safe high voltage electricity transmission network for Queenslanders extends to raising community awareness of electrical safety. Our five-year Community Electrical Safety Action Plan was launched to guide our actions to influence safe community behaviour around our network. The plan is an operational element of Powerlink's Electrical Safety Management System and is supported by a governance structure.

We developed new community awareness materials promoting key safety messages including what to do if a vehicle contacts powerlines, Lookupandlive.com, Dial Before You Dig Australia, equipment height awareness and powerline exclusion zones. These and other relevant materials were shared at on-site stakeholder meetings and community engagement events including FarmFest 2025.

We worked closely with local government and community groups to embed powerline safety into target events, including aero and kite focused festivals, and engaged with rural fire brigades and plantation networks to share electrical safety and bushfire awareness education.

## People and environment

Our people	26	
ESG and sustainability	29	

## Our people

#### Our workforce

Our workforce is aligned to support delivery of Powerlink's program of works. To ensure this support into the future, we invested in initiatives to build Powerlink's reputation as a great place for career growth and positive employee experiences. Recognition of Powerlink as an employer of choice included:

- LinkedIn's Top Companies 2025 ranked Powerlink in 13th position in the category of midsized workplaces in Australia, improving on our 2024 ranking of 18th position
- Prosple awarded Powerlink number two ranking among Australian energy and utilities graduate employers, and a Top 100 Graduate Employer
- Powerlink is a finalist in the Best Graduate Development Program category, Australian HR Awards 2025, with award recipient to be announced in late 2025
- Work180 ranked Powerlink the best employer for women in the mining, resources and energy category in 2024
- Queensland Mental Health Week Achievement Awards 2024 recognised Powerlink with the Workplace Wellbeing Award for our Speaksafe program
- world-class hiring standards were achieved against Bain & Company benchmarking, with a hiring experience net promoter score of +81
- Powerlink was certified as a Veteran Employment Supporter by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, recognising a safe and equitable employment landscape for veterans.

We developed a First Nations Recruitment and Professional Development Strategy as we focused on ensuring our talent pipeline continues to improve the diversity in our employment applications and intakes. We experienced significant uplifts including all aspects of our early career programs.

Applications for our 2025 apprentice intake increased by 227 percent on the previous year. Of the 27 apprentices appointed in 2025, 11 percent were First Nations people, and 22 percent were women. To support our new apprentices and our retention aims, we established the Apprenticeship Foundation program, a six-month springboard that involves structured learning for skills and foundations.

We achieved a 195 percent increase in applications to our 2025 graduate program and 80 percent increase in applications to our 2024 vacation program. We also improved diversity in our 2025 graduate program intake, with 11 percent being First Nations people and 39 percent women. Our new Civil, Environment and Engineering Officer Graduate programs attracted significant interest and applications.

Our first work experience program for women and First Nations students was delivered in partnership with the University of Queensland's (UQ) Women in Engineering and the Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundation.

We took part in more than 120 events to engage with schools, vocational and tertiary students and industry participants, including a regional school roadshow to promote employment opportunities to high school students in the Gladstone and Townsville regions. We also promoted employment opportunities at First Nations career events Gunya Meta and Dorrie Day. Our industry partnerships included a Busy Sister Try A Trade event, Girls Day Out in STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths), QUT Gender Equity Makes Sense and additional engineering student societies at QUT and UQ.

#### Diversity, equity and inclusion

Our Inclusion@Powerlink program guides our initiatives to attract and retain diverse talent, promote equitable policies and practices, and foster a culture of belonging.

At 30 June 2025 we had:

- a 7.3 percent gender pay gap (bettering the national benchmark recorded by the Workplace Gender Equality Agency)
- 57 percent women on the Powerlink Board
- 28.1 percent of senior leadership positions held by women.

To support a safe and inclusive workplace, we launched a Sexual Harassment Prevention Plan, refreshed Powerlink's Code of Conduct and introduced new procedures on sexual harassment and sex-based harassment, workplace bullying and anti-discrimination. We also launched Powerlink's Disability Inclusion Plan focused on improving accessibility and creating greater opportunities for individuals with disability.

We formalised our relationship with Women in Sustainable Energy and Resources (Inc) through a sponsorship arrangement and continued to partner with Women in Technology and the National Association for Women in Construction. We focused on improving system accessibility through our Raising the Bar initiative, addressing diverse needs related to vision, hearing, neurodiversity, learning, mobility and mental health. This program further supports the range of continuing initiatives and Communities of Practice to ensure our people feel included and safe to bring their whole selves to work.

2025 Employee census – diversity data		
Diversity Powerlink-wide	Percentage of employees	
LGBTQIA+	2.1%	
People with disability	2.8%	
First Nations people	1.3%	
Culturally and linguistically diverse people	28.2%	

#### Reconciliation

Through Powerlink's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), we aim to deepen cultural understanding, strengthen partnerships and embed reconciliation in our operations. We reported our RAP progress to Reconciliation Australia.

We developed a workshop to help project owners understand their responsibilities and recognise connections and interdependencies, which was offered in addition to our continuing Cultural Agility program. Positive feedback on a pilot program of cultural capability mini workshops led to an organisation-wide roll out of topics including meaningful engagement with First Nations people and cultural safety.

## Employee engagement and development

We achieved an overall engagement score of 80 percent in our 2025 employee engagement survey, consistent with Powerlink's 2024 score and retaining Powerlink's rank in the top 10 percent of companies of a similar size. More than 77 percent of employees responded to the survey, which was the fifth annual survey we have undertaken.

Powerlink recognises that prioritising employee development and recognition will unlock the full capabilities of our workforce, foster a culture of continuous improvement and unleash the potential of our people to drive innovation and success.

We launched the 2024/25 Accelerate Women in Leadership program with 47 participants and a further 11 women enrolled in a year-long Accelerate Mentoring program to support their development as leaders. We also built the capability and readiness of high potential women, creating a pool of 'ready now' women executives. These programs complemented our established suite of leadership development programs.

#### Industrial relations

The replacement Working at Powerlink Agreement (WAPA) and Managers' Agreement were successfully negotiated and endorsed this year, with the WAPA taking effect on 11 July 2024 and the Managers' Agreement taking effect on 23 July 2024. Both agreements are set for four years, expiring in early 2028.

Following the successful renegotiation of the Enterprise Agreements we undertook extensive updates to Powerlink's Human Resource Information System. These updates ensure compliance by aligning our system with the new agreements and support our workforce by providing a seamless and efficient experience for employees.

These efforts reflect Powerlink's commitment to fostering a supportive and innovative work environment, ensuring our employees are equipped to drive success and continuous improvement.

#### Human capital management

Our human capital management project was initiated to establish a fully integrated people system across the employee life cycle at Powerlink. We chose SuccessFactors to meet our requirements for an efficient and consistent digital experience for our workforce and implemented four integrated people systems modules in this first phase.

The system enhances the employee experience and delivers efficiency through automated processes and convenient self-service access to key personnel data and functions, including via mobile interface.

A significant benefit is a streamlined hiring process and onboarding journey, including improved access to information which supports new employees to smoothly integrate into the Powerlink workforce.

#### Workforce statistics

Our workforce was 1,952 Full Time Equivalent Staffing as at 30 June 2025.

Workforce demographics as at 30 June 2025					
Gender profile*					
Woman	Percentage of employees				
Powerlink-wide	30%				
Apprentices	19%				
Leadership	33%				
Executive	33%				
Board	57%				
Man	Percentage of employees				
Powerlink-wide	67%				
Apprentices	79%				
Leadership	65%				
Executive	56%				
Board	43%				
Gender diverse	Percentage of employees				
Powerlink-wide	0.2%				
Apprentices	0%				
Leadership	0.3%				
Executive	0%				
Board	0%				
Role profile					
Role	Percentage of employees				
Administration	13%				
Professional	48%				
Engineering	14%				
Technical	21%				
Apprentices	4%				
Age profile					
Age	Percentage of employees				
<20	1%				
20-29	10%				
30-39	26%				
40-49	34%				
50-59	22%				
60+	7%				

<sup>\*</sup> The gender profile percentages for Powerlink-wide, apprentices, leadership and executive do not add to 100, reflecting that 2 percent preferred not to say.

#### Committed and accountable for safety

Safety is central to how we work and we share a commitment to improving Health, Safety and Environment (HSE) performance. We strive to support the safety and wellbeing of our people, customers, contractors and communities, and minimise harm to the environment where we work and operate.

Following the uplift to HSE performance measurement implemented last year, we introduced a new process safety performance measure to track injuries due to asset-related causes. The process safety performance measure is collated using multiple data sources to deliver a richer insight of risk controls and is reported quarterly.

Enhancements to our safety reporting systems have improved the consistency and quality of safety data and reporting, providing insights and context for where our processes are performing well and opportunities for improvement.

Our new apprentice supervision and training program aims to uplift safety culture and improve safety standards by addressing the risk of injury among our less experienced employees. The program includes training packages tailored for apprentices and supervisors, and emphasises direct supervision in line with the level of training and competence of the apprentice. Consistent with our ongoing Safe for Life program, the program will help to ensure that apprentices are well prepared and confident in their roles and promote a safer and more supportive work environment.

#### **Electrical safety**

Our Electrical Safety Management System retained certification under the *Electrical Safety Act 2002* (QLD).

We held workshops for relevant employees to strengthen compliance with recent changes to electrical safety legislation. The workshops aimed to enhance risk-based decision-making, embed change and improve safety outcomes.

We made significant updates to Powerlink's most important safety tool, our Electrical Safety Rules (known as the Green Book). This comprehensive review of the Green Book improved the readability, accessibility, content and format, informed by legislative change, extensive engagement with our workforce and with consideration of the needs of the network of the future. The Green Book was published and launched with an app to further support improved access for our operational and field-based employees. The app works offline in remote locations so our employees will always have ready access to current safety information.

#### Psychological safety

More than 1,500 employees participated in 125 SpeakSafe workshops which aim to foster an environment of trust and collaboration where employees feel empowered to express themselves openly without fear or judgement. Our Psychological Safety Champions network was embedded and instrumental in maintaining a strong emphasis on psychological safety in all operational practices at Powerlink.

As part of our ongoing commitment to identifying and managing psychosocial hazards in the workplace, we investigated and have introduced a holistic psychosocial risk assessment tool as part of a pilot program.

## ESG and sustainability

#### Environmental, social and governance

Powerlink's approach to managing our day-to-day operations and planning for the future focuses on delivering environmentally, socially and economically sustainable outcomes, with an emphasis on efficiency and value for customers.

We continue to build on our established Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) framework to strengthen our response to climate-related matters and ensure we are positioned to meet the reporting requirements of the Australian Accounting Standard Board S2 Climate-related Disclosure under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth). We have adapted our governance structures and are continuously reviewing our climate-related risks and opportunities in alignment with Queensland Government commitment to net zero emissions by 2050 under a credible and affordable pathway.

We are committed to ensuring our corporate strategy is updated to align with the Queensland Government's energy roadmap.

## Environmental management and engagement

Powerlink had no reportable serious environmental incidents in 2024/25.

A framework for early engagement established under a MOU between Powerlink and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) has delivered benefits for environmental assessments and regulatory approvals. The MOU outlines how Powerlink and DCCEEW will collaborate on initiatives to support environmental assessment of Powerlink projects under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (Cth) (EPBC Act). Opportunities include identifying efficiencies in assessments, approvals and offset initiatives to support timely, effective and robust environmental assessment of projects.

We actively manage our effects on Queensland's biodiversity and balance our impacts by investing in land-based biodiversity offsets and local conservation initiatives. We continued to work with environmental and energy sector representatives and communities across all stages of project delivery to ensure biodiversity is a key focus across the project life cycle.

We demonstrated our commitment to the environment and stakeholder relationships by supporting key environmental partnerships. We partnered with National Hazards Research Australia and the Queensland Fire and Biodiversity Consortium to publish public resources about bushfire risks associated with the electricity network. We strengthened partnerships with regional natural resource management (NRM) organisations by signing an MOU with NRM Regions Queensland to work together to deliver social and environmental benefits for communities and landscapes as part of Queensland's energy transition.

Powerlink supported the Pest Animal and Weed Symposium held in Gladstone in May 2025. The event showcased innovative strategies for biosecurity management demonstrated by local governments and industry professionals.

## Climate change and greenhouse gas emissions

Our commitment to monitoring climate change as a strategic risk aligns with heightened expectations of stakeholders and emergent government requirements.

We submitted our 2023–24 Annual Report on energy and greenhouse gas emissions to the Clean Energy Regulator under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme (NGERS). An independent limited assurance audit verified the report, and we remain compliant with the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007* (Cth).

Powerlink continued to facilitate connections for renewable generators and BESS in Queensland, contributing to an overall reduction in the CO2 intensity of transmission losses (which form part of Powerlink's emissions footprint under the NGERS) and in the power system more generally. Innovative pilot programs with potential to reduce environmental impacts during construction include the use of low carbon concrete.

We advanced a review of our strategic approach to climate-related business impacts and the progressive maturity of our business resilience to long-term climate related risks and opportunities. This approach aligns with Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards and is the foundation for Powerlink's preparedness for climate-related financial disclosures.

Strategic approach to climate change impacts					
Focus areas	Key activities				
Governance	Continue to engage with Powerlink Board and executives on climate-related matters to progress business maturity.				
	Update existing responsibilities and accountabilities for management in relation to monitoring and managing climate-related risks and opportunities.				
	Establish a new executive Climate Disclosure Steering Committee.				
Strategy	Implement a fleet strategy which considers low emissions solutions.				
Risk management	Investigate long-term climate-related risks and opportunities for assets, operations and responses including in planning, design, construction and operation of the network.				
	Embed climate risks into enterprise and operational risk registers.				
Metrics and targets	Continue to monitor scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions.				
	Monitor viable alternatives to using sulphur hexafluoride (SF6) in the transmission network.				
	Investigate zero-emission power purchasing agreements for corporate sites where value can be identified.				
	Develop and execute energy efficiency initiatives.				
	Develop scope 3 emissions profile.				

#### Modern Slavery

We submitted Powerlink's 2023/24 annual statement and met our ongoing obligations as outlined in the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth). Powerlink's statement detailed our focus on enhancing our core capabilities for identifying, assessing and responding to modern slavery risks, and our approach to working collaboratively with suppliers and industry peers. It also identified the essential pillars for implementing focused, effective and measurable key controls for ongoing modern slavery risk mitigation.

## Corporate performance

Corporate governance	32
Powerlink corporate governance framework	33
Corporate Governance Guidelines	
for GOCs - Queensland Government	35

## Corporate governance

Powerlink and its subsidiaries operate and are managed within a corporate governance framework which encompasses an appropriate degree of accountability and transparency to all stakeholders.

#### Corporate governance

Powerlink is a Government Owned Corporation (GOC) under the *Government Owned Corporations Act 1993* (Qld) and is a registered public company under the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth). The Board of Directors has overall responsibility for corporate governance.

Directors are appointed by the Queensland Government and the Board reports to the nominated shareholding Ministers. Powerlink's shareholding Ministers during 2024/25 were:

- Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment (to 27 October 2024)
- Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs (to 27 October 2024)
- Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership (from 15 November 2024)
- Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training (from 15 November 2024).

The Queensland Government has published its *Corporate Governance Guidelines for Government Owned Corporations* which includes a *Code of Conduct and Conflicts of Interest Best Practice Guide for Government Owned Corporations*. The Guidelines outline the expectations of shareholding Ministers and describe a set of comprehensive corporate governance principles, and proper disclosure and reporting arrangements that are appropriate to GOCs. There were no revisions made to the Guidelines that required changes to Powerlink's corporate governance arrangements in 2024/25. The Board has regard to the Guidelines in the overall scope and application of corporate governance within Powerlink.

Corporate governance in Powerlink is managed through a framework of policies approved by the Board and supported by standards, procedures and practices developed by management. The corporation commits to and regularly reviews these to ensure appropriate accountability and control systems are in place to achieve business outcomes and encourage and enhance sustainable business performance. This section of the Annual Report outlines Powerlink's corporate governance arrangements and describes its reporting and disclosure practices.

The Powerlink Board is responsible for the overall corporate governance of the corporation, setting the strategic direction articulated in Powerlink's Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI) and five-year Corporate Plan.

The Board sets goals for management and establishes the policies and operational framework for the corporation. It monitors performance of the corporation, its Chief Executive and senior management through regular direct reporting and via established committees.

Details relating to Powerlink Directors, Board Committee composition and meetings in 2024/25 are set out in the Directors' Report.

The table below sets out the balance and tenure of Board members at Powerlink as at 30 June 2025.

Board balance	Board tenure		
1 Non-Executive Chair	6-8 years	1	
6 Non-Executive Directors	0-2 years	3	
	2-4 years	1	
	4-6 years	1	
	8-10 years	1	

## Powerlink corporate governance framework

#### Shareholding Ministers

#### Our shareholders

Powerlink has two shareholders who hold the shares on behalf of the State of Queensland. Our shareholding Ministers as at 30 June 2025 were:

- The Honourable David Janetzki MP, Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership, holding 50 percent of the A class voting shares.
- The Honourable Rosslyn Bates MP, Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training, holding 50 percent of the A class voting shares and 100 percent of the B class non-voting shares.

#### Powerlink Queensland Board

#### Key accountabilities of the Board

The Powerlink Board establishes the overall corporate governance of the corporation and is responsible for:

- setting the corporation's values and standards of conduct and ensuring that these are observed
- setting the risk appetite within which the Board expects management to operate
- providing leadership of the corporation within a framework of prudent and effective controls
- setting the corporation's direction, strategies and financial objectives, and ensuring that all necessary resources are available for the business to meet its objectives
- · endorsing the Statement of Corporate Intent (SCI)
- monitoring financial outcomes and the integrity of reporting, in particular approving annual budgets and longer-term strategic and business plans

- monitoring management's performance and implementation of strategy and ensuring appropriate processes for risk assessment, management and internal controls are in place
- ensuring an effective system of corporate governance exists
- disclosing to shareholding Ministers relevant information on the operations, financial performance and financial position of the corporation and its subsidiaries
- selection and appointment of the Chief Executive
- providing formal delegations of authority to the Chief Executive, management and other specified officers.

#### Membership and meetings

- All Directors, including the Chair, are independent, non-executive Directors appointed by the Queensland Government in accordance
  with the GOC Act.
- In 2024/25, the Powerlink Board held 12 formal meetings of Directors, which were supplemented with Flying Minutes. The attendance record of the Directors at meetings of the Board is presented in the Directors' Report section in the Annual Report.

#### Powerlink Subsidiaries

- · Harold Street Holdings Pty Ltd act as holding company for investments made by the parent company.
- Powerlink Transmission Services Pty Ltd act as holding company for investments made by the parent company.
- Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd an entity established to operate as a data and telecommunications carrier, jointly owned with Energy Queensland Limited.
- CopperString 2.0 Electricity Transmission Corporation Pty Ltd (CETC) entity set up for the purpose of progressing a proposed transmission connection from Townsville to Mount Isa.

#### **Board Committees**

Accountable to Board:

- · Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
- People, Safety and Environment Committee

#### Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee

Chair: Alan Millis (appointed to Committee 1 November 2015,

appointed as Committee Chair 1 July 2016)

Members: Kathy Hirschfeld AM (appointed 1 June 2019)

Wayne Collins (appointed 1 July 2024)
Prins Ralston (appointed 1 April 2025)

The Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee supports the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in relation to the integrity of the financial reporting processes (including climate-related financial reporting), effectiveness of internal controls, reporting on issues relating to audit effectiveness and legal compliance. The Committee endorses Powerlink's internal audit program and risk management profile and provides a link between our auditors (internal and external) and the Board. The Committee meets with, and receives reports from, both the internal and external auditors.

#### People, Safety and Environment Committee

**Chair:** Joanna Brand (appointed to Committee 25 October

2022, appointed as Committee Chair 1 July 2024)

Members: Kate Drews (appointed 1 July 2024)

Alan Millis (appointed 1 April 2025)

The People, Safety and Environment Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its governance responsibilities and due diligence in relation to people, health and safety (which includes both personal and process safety) and the environment (including climate change and emissions). This is to be achieved by reviewing and reporting to the Board on the People Policy and Health, Safety and Environment Policy and their application relating to organisational strategies, obligations, performance and culture.

#### · Mega Projects Committee

· CopperString 2032 Project Committee

#### Mega Projects Committee

Chair: Amanda Yeates (appointed to Committee 1 July 2024,

appointed as Committee Chair 1 July 2024)

Members: Kate Drews (appointed 1 July 2024)

Prins Ralston (appointed 1 July 2024)

The Mega Projects Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities regarding Mega Projects. The Committee will review and report to the Board on the delivery of the program of transmission infrastructure Mega Projects associated with the achievement of Queensland Government energy policies.

The Committee has specific duties to review, monitor and evaluate Powerlink's enterprise capacity and capability, investment program, project management methodology, project recommendations, project reporting, and assurance activities related to Mega Projects.

#### CopperString 2032 Project Committee

Chair: Wayne Collins (appointed to Committee 1 July 2024,

appointed as Committee Chair 1 July 2024)

Members: Kathy Hirschfeld AM (appointed 1 July 2024)

Joanna Brand (appointed 1 July 2024) Amanda Yeates (appointed 1 July 2024)

The CopperString 2032 Project Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its oversight responsibilities by reviewing and reporting to the Board on all aspects of the CopperString 2032 project. The Committee's main duties include reviewing and endorsing the Final Investment Proposal, receiving regular reports on the project status and risks, reviewing the outputs from assurance activities, and monitoring implementation of the Project deliverables.

#### Executive Committees\*

Accountable to Chief Executive:

- Executive Committee for Health, Safety and Environment
- Executive Committee for Enterprise Resilience
- Executive Committee for Network Investment
- Digital Technologies Executive Committee
- \* Details of these committees are provided in Principle 7.

Information on the numbers and attendees of Board and Committee meetings held during 2024/25 can be found in the Directors' Report.

## Corporate Governance Guidelines for GOCs – Queensland Government

Powerlink's corporate governance processes are consistent with the Guidelines issued by the Queensland Government. Powerlink's corporate governance arrangements in reference to the Guidelines are:

#### Principle 1:

Foundations of management and oversight

The Board Charter, a summary of which is available on the Powerlink website, describes the Board's functions and responsibilities, which include to:

- set the corporation's values and standards of conduct and ensure that these are adhered to
- set the corporation's risk appetite within which the Board expects management to operate
- provide leadership of the corporation within a framework of prudent and effective controls which enable risks to be assessed and managed effectively
- in collaboration with management, develop and approve the corporation's direction, strategies and financial objectives, and ensure that all necessary resources are available for the business to meet its objectives
- monitor business performance outcomes and the integrity of reporting
- monitor management's performance and implementation of strategy
- ensure an effective system of corporate governance exists

The Board and management work together to establish and maintain a legal and ethical environment and framework that ensures accountability.

Day-to-day management of the corporation's affairs and the implementation of the corporate strategy and business initiatives are formally delegated by the Board to the Chief Executive and senior management, as set out in approved Delegation of Authority instruments. These delegations are reviewed as considered necessary.

The Powerlink Board undertakes an annual evaluation of the performance of the Chief Executive against pre-agreed business and individual targets. The Chief Executive evaluates the annual performance of each executive against pre-agreed business and individual targets, and submits the outcomes of the evaluation to the Board for its consideration and approval.

The Board Handbook is a key resource identifying the major reference documents that are relevant and will assist the Powerlink Directors in undertaking their roles and responsibilities. The Handbook serves as both an induction and an ongoing reference guide for Directors, and is updated annually by the Company Secretary.

New Directors attend induction sessions which provide an overview of Powerlink's operations and policies, and information on the Board and Committee functions. The induction process assists the Directors to understand their roles and responsibilities.

## Principle 2: Structure the Board to add value

At 30 June 2025, the Board comprised seven independent non-executive Directors. All Directors are appointed by the Government in accordance with the GOC Act. During 2024/25 one new Director was appointed – Jennifer Hill – and two Directors finished their appointments – Kevin Hegarty and Jennifer Hill.

Details of the skills and experience of each current Director are presented separately in the <u>Board of Directors</u> section of this Annual Report. The table below provides an overview of the significant strengths of the current Directors.

	Appointed to Powerlink Board	Finance and commercial	Government and stakeholder relations	Business strategy development	Corporate governance and risk management	Industry knowledge	Human resources and industrial relations
Kathy Hirschfeld AM	1 October 2018	•	•	•	•	•	•
Alan Millis	1 October 2015	•	•	•	•	•	
Wayne Collins	1 October 2020	•	•	•	•	•	•
Joanna Brand	13 October 2022		•	•	•		•
Amanda Yeates	1 October 2023	•	•	•	•		•
Kate Drews	1 October 2023		•	•	•	•	•
Dr Prins Ralston	7 December 2023	•	•	•	•	•	•

The Directors' Report includes a listing of the terms of office and appointment date for each Director.

In the event of Directors requiring independent professional advice, it may be provided at the expense of Powerlink. All Directors, including the Chair, continue to exercise independent judgement in the conduct of their responsibilities.

The Board continually assesses the ongoing independence of the Directors. All Directors are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest including at the commencement of each Board meeting. Declared interests are recorded and permanently available to Board members. Conflicts declared in meetings are recorded in the minutes of the meeting.

All Directors are considered to be independent. No Directors are considered to have material supplier or customer relationships with the corporation. A pre-determined specific materiality threshold has not been established by the Board. The Board's assessment of materiality is undertaken on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration the relevant facts and circumstances that may impact Director independence.

The Board annually reviews the individual and collective performance of the Directors and the Board, either through a self-assessment by the Directors and input from the Chief Executive and Company Secretary, or through an external expert review, to assure itself that it operates in accordance with the Board Charter in the discharge of its responsibilities. A key element in this evaluation is the consideration of the continuing education and professional development of Directors.

In addition to business operational and performance matters, the Board specifically considers at each meeting the key issues relevant to the business including health, safety and environment, stakeholder engagement, risk and corporate governance.

In addition to the 2024/25 Board meetings, the Board held a regular series of strategic planning and risk focus sessions to enable leadership to plan and respond to the rapidly evolving business environment.

The Board formally considers its information requirements on an annual basis to ensure it is receiving appropriate information to effectively carry out its responsibilities.

The Board, having undertaken its self-assessment for 2024/25, concluded that it is fulfilling its role with no obvious gaps in its performance and that there was good interaction and relations with shareholding Ministers as well as Powerlink management.

#### Principle 3:

# Promote ethical and responsible decision-making

The Board has a Code of Conduct that guides Directors in carrying out their duties and responsibilities, sets out expected standards of behaviour and includes policies relating to conflict of interest issues. A summary of this document is available on the Powerlink website.

The Board provides input to a Dealing in Securities Standard. The primary purpose of this standard is to mitigate the risk of inappropriate trading of shares by Powerlink employees, managers and Directors.

Each Director has a responsibility to declare any related interests, which, as outlined in the Board Conflict of Interest Policy, are appropriately recorded and assessed for materiality on a case-by-case basis. Where appropriate, the Director does not participate in the Board's consideration of matters related to the interests disclosed.

All Powerlink Directors and management are expected to act with integrity and strive at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the corporation.

# Principle 4:

#### Safeguard integrity in financial reporting

The Powerlink Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee approves the corporation's annual internal audit plan, endorses the risk management profile and provides a link between the corporation's auditors (internal and external) and the Board. The Committee meets with, and receives reports from, both the internal and external auditors over the duration of the financial year.

The Committee is responsible for considering the annual statutory financial statements for subsequent consideration and approval by the Board. The Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officer are required to provide an annual declaration that the financial statements represent a true and fair view, and are in accordance with accounting standards. The processes the Chief Executive and the Chief Financial Officer have in place to support their certifications to the Board are also considered by the Committee.

The Committee also assesses and reports on issues relating to financial integrity, corporate processes for compliance with laws and regulations, codes of conduct and business risk management.

# Principle 5:

## Make timely and balanced disclosures

Powerlink has established processes to ensure it meets its disclosure and reporting obligations, including those to shareholding Ministers. Powerlink's reporting arrangements include the Annual Report, regulatory reports, Powerlink website and other public disclosures.

# Principle 6:

#### Respect the rights of shareholders

The Powerlink Board has a communication framework to promote effective communication with shareholding Ministers. The Board aims to ensure that shareholding Ministers are informed of all major developments affecting the corporation's state of affairs. This includes regular meetings with shareholding Ministers' representatives and departments, and information communicated formally through quarterly progress reports and the Annual Report.

Each year, Powerlink prepares its SCI and five-year Corporate Plan, reflecting the outcomes of a comprehensive strategic and business planning process involving the Board and the Executive. Both documents are presented to shareholding Ministers.

Quarterly progress reports on performance against the SCI are prepared by the Board and are submitted to shareholding Ministers.

# Principle 7:

#### Recognise and manage risk

Risk assessment processes are inherent within Powerlink's business. Powerlink has an approved Risk Management Policy and supporting Risk Appetite Statements that provide an overall framework and structure for the management of risk within Powerlink. Management regularly reports to the Board on key business risks.

An Executive Committee structure also operates in parallel with the Board Committees to address key strategic and operational priorities. Each of these Executive Committees submits reports to the Board, the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee, or the People, Safety and Environment Committee, through the Chief Executive.

The Executive Committee for Health, Safety and Environment develops and directs Powerlink's health, safety and environmental management practices. The Committee develops appropriate strategic responses to health, safety and environmental issues, and ensures the management of risk and compliance with Powerlink standards and with relevant health, safety and environment legislation.

The Executive Committee for Enterprise Resilience has governance over the development, approval and improvement of Powerlink's approaches to security management and the management of significant emergencies.

The Digital Technologies Executive Committee provides overarching governance and shapes strategic direction for digital technology, including both information technology and operational technology.

The Executive Committee for Network Investment provides strategic oversight to the proposed network investment program (regulated, non-regulated and power system transformation investments) to enhance decision transparency and ensure alignment with business priorities and objectives.

The corporation's internal control framework is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the achievement of the corporation's objectives. Implicit within this framework is the prevention of fraud (including corruption). Powerlink has a range of strategies and approaches that provides an effective integrity, fraud and corruption control framework that is integrated with the corporation's enterprise information management systems.

Powerlink's Code of Conduct documents aim to ensure that Powerlink employees and those carrying out work for Powerlink perform their work cost-effectively, efficiently, cooperatively, honestly, ethically and with respect and consideration for others.

#### Principle 8:

#### Remunerate fairly and responsibly

Powerlink seeks to develop individuals to attain the skills and motivation necessary to excel in an environment of high achievement. High priority is given to selecting the best person for the job at all levels in the corporation, recognising the benefits of diversity, and investing in that person's potential through further training and development.

The membership and responsibilities of the Board's People, Safety and Environment Committee are presented under the Corporate Governance Framework on <a href="mailto:page-34">page-34</a>. Powerlink's remuneration framework is designed to:

- attract and retain high quality and talented people from competitive labour markets
- recognise and reward our people for performance outcomes and behaviours.

The Working at Powerlink Agreement 2024 and the Powerlink Managers Enterprise Agreement 2024 underpin Powerlink's remuneration framework. The Agreements allow for Powerlink and its employees to respond to targets agreed with our shareholding Ministers and continue to focus Powerlink on developing a competitive and efficient workforce.

The remuneration framework provides the opportunity for performance-based payments for all employees engaged on a Total Employment Cost (TEC) contract with the payments directly linked to the performance of the business and the performance of the individual against pre-agreed performance targets. All TEC contracts are reviewed annually. Powerlink's Chief Executive and Senior Executives also have their performance payments governed by the requirements of the Policy for Government Owned Corporations Chief and Senior Executive Employment Arrangements.

Employees engaged under the Working at Powerlink Agreement 2024 may be eligible for performance-based payments that are delivered as gainsharing. The gainsharing payment is made subject to the corporation's profitability target being exceeded and key organisation performance measures and stretch targets being achieved.

The fees paid to Directors for serving on the Board and on the Committees of the Board are determined by shareholding Ministers. Directors also receive reimbursement for expenditure incurred in performing their roles as Directors.

# Shareholding Ministers' directions

Notification of application of Procurement Policies, 30 September 2024 – the following procurement policies apply to Powerlink from 1 November 2024:

- the Building Policy Framework
- Buy Queensland 2023, comprising the Queensland Procurement Strategy 2023 and Queensland Procurement Policy 2023
- Queensland Renewable Energy Procurement Policy and Best Practice Industry Conditions.

However, on 11 November 2024, a temporary suspension of Best Practice Industry Conditions (BPIC) was announced by the Queensland Government.

# Corporate entertainment and hospitality

The GOC Corporate Entertainment and Hospitality Guidelines establish reporting requirements for GOCs. Powerlink's corporate entertainment and hospitality expenditure for 2024/25 totalled \$118,232. There were no events above the individual reporting threshold of \$5,000.

# **Human Rights Act reporting**

Following the commencement of the *Human Rights Act* (Cth) in July 2019, Powerlink undertook a review of the possible areas where its operations may impact on protected human rights. Powerlink identified 10 areas of its operations where protected human rights may be affected. Operational areas identified included:

- ensuring property rights are respected when seeking to acquire property compulsorily
- respecting Indigenous rights when acquiring Native Title or affecting Indigenous Cultural Heritage
- allowing peaceful assembly on Powerlink's property.

A decision-making framework compatible with human rights is in place, with specific officers appointed as contacts and advisors. There have been no human rights complaints during the reporting period.

# Appendices

Statistical summary	4(
Index and abbreviations	43

# Statistical summary

Substations/switching stations and transformers added in 2024/25									
Valtage	Subst	ations		Transformers					
Voltage	Total number	Location	Total number	Total rating (MVA)	Location				
330kV	0		0	0					
275kV	1	Diamondy	1	300	Greenbank 1TX (+300), Ross 8TX (+375), Kumbarilla Park 2TX (-375)				
132kV	0		2	200	Blackwater 2TX (+100), Collinsville North (+100)				
110kV	0		0	0					
Total	1		3	500					

Substations/switching stations and communication sites as at 30 June 2025							
Voltage	Cable transition	Communication					
330kV	6	0					
275kV <sup>‡</sup>	53	1					
132kV	82	3					
110kV	13	5					
66kV*	0	0					
Total	154^	9	24 <sup>†</sup>				

Power transformers as at 30 June 2025						
Voltage	Total	MVA				
330kV	5	4975				
275kV	82	24510				
132kV	95	7727				
110kV	29	2470				
66kV*	0	0				
Total	211	39682				

Three communication sites removed as they were previously reported, but are not owned by Powerlink: Bracker Forest Repeater Site (OR owned), Bloodwood Hill Repeater Site (Telstra owned), Yarongmulu (EQ/QR owned)

Capacitor bank, shunt reactors and Static Var Compensators added in 2024/25									
Voltage	Capacit	or banks	Reactors		SVCs				
	Total	MVAr	Total	MVAr	Total	MVAr	Location		
330kV	0	0	0	0	0	0			
275kV	0	0	2	210	0	0	Belmont 2REAC (+150), Guybal Munjan (+60)		
132kV	0	0	0	0	0	0			
110kV	0	0	0	0	0	0			
66kV*	0	0	0	0	0	0			
Total	0	0	2	210	0	0			

 $<sup>^{\</sup>star}$  equal to or less than 66kV

<sup>\*</sup> equal to or less than 66kV

<sup>‡</sup> As at 30 June 2024, 275kV substations numbered 52

<sup>^</sup> total number of substations as at 30 June 2024 was 153

<sup>† 7</sup> communication sites decommissioned: Cherwell, Cameron Hill Repeater, Connor's Hump Repeater, Dacey, Rangemoore, Sarina, Table Mountain

# Statistical summary

Capacitor bank, shunt reactors and Static Var Compensators as at 30 June 2025								
Voltage	Capacit	or banks	Read	ctors	sv	/Cs		
Voltage	Total	MVAr	Total	MVAr	Total	MVAr		
330kV	3	440	4	144	0	0		
275kV	27	3760	19	1173	8	2510		
132kV	35	1555	0	0	15	1881		
110kV	32	1775.2	0	0	0	0		
66kV*	4	76	1	18.4	0	0		
Total	101	7606.2	24	1335.4	23	4391		

<sup>\*</sup> equal to or less than 66kV

Circuit brea	Circuit breakers added in 2024/25 (net)					
Voltage	Circuit breakers	Location				
330kV	0					
275kV	5	Belmont (+1), Nebo (+1), Ross (+4-5=-1), Lilyvale (+1-2=-1), Tarong (+1), Broadsound (+1-1=0), Chalumbin (+1-1=0), Larcom Creek (+1), Diamondy (+1), Greenbank (+1), Western Downs (+1)				
132kV	-2	Nebo (+1-1=0), Ross (+2-2=0), Lilyvale (+1-1=0), Dysart (-2), Kamerunga (+2-2=0), Townsville South (+1-1=0)				
110kV	1	South Pine (+1)				
66kV*	-1	Nebo (-1)				
Total	3					

Circuit breakers as at 30 June 2025						
Voltage	Total number					
330kV	46					
275kV	550					
132kV	553					
110kV	267					
66kV*	22					
Total	1438					

<sup>\*</sup> equal to or less than 66kV

*	eaual	to	or	less	than	66kV

Transmission lines and underground cables added in 2024/25								
\/oltogo	Transmis	ssion line	Undergro	und cable				
Voltage	Route km	Circuit km	Route km	Circuit km				
330kV	22.1	29.2	0	0				
275kV	61.6	122.4	0	0				
132kV	-21.4	-41	0	0				
110kV	0	0	0	0				
66kV*	0	0	0	0				
Total	62.3	110.6	0	0				

<sup>\*</sup> equal to or less than 66kV

# Statistical summary

Five-year history of transmission lines and underground cables as at 30 June 2025										
Voltage <sup>^</sup>	20	21	20	22	20	23	20	24	20	25
	Route km	Circuit km								
Transmission	lines									
330kV	427	838	427	838	427	838	468	919	490	948
275kV	6649	9658	6655	9664	6656	9665	6661	9674	6723	9796
132kV	2774	4407	2776	4411	2776	4412	2777	4413	2756	4372
110kV	220	416	220	416	220	416	220	416	220	416
66kV*	1	2	1	2	1	2	2	2	2	2
Total Lines	10071	15321	10079	15331	10080	15333	10128	15424	10191	15534
Underground	cables									
275kV	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	11	11	11
132kV	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
110kV	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
66kV*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total cables	24	24	24	24	25	25	25	25	25	25
Total lines and cables	10095	15345	10103	15355	10105	15358	10153	15449	10216	15559

<sup>\*</sup> equal to or less than 66kV ^ as constructed voltages

# Index and abbreviations

Abbreviation	Term	Page
AEMO	Australian Energy Market Operator	13, 15, 16
AER	Australian Energy Regulator	2, 7, 15, 18, 19
AESCSF	Australian Energy Sector Cyber Security Framework	20
AFR	Australian Financial Review	8, 17
Al	Artificial intelligence	3
BESS	Battery energy storage system	21, 29
CUC	Country Universities Centre	23
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water	29
EBIT	Earnings Before Interest and Tax	6
ESG	Environmental social governance	25, 29
GOC	Government Owned Corporation	2, 32, 33, 35, 38
HSE	Health safety and environment	28
km	kilometre	2, 41, 42
kV	kilovolt	18, 40, 41, 42
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding	14, 29
MW	megawatt	3, 10, 16, 21
NEM	National Electricity Market	2, 16, 19
NER	National Electricity Rules	2, 15, 16, 19
NGNO	Next Generation Network Operations	16
NPAT	Net Profit After Tax	5, 6, 7
NRM	Natural resource management	29
NSW	New South Wales	2
PTI	Priority Transmission Investment	7, 13, 15
PV	photovoltaic	16
QFF	Queensland Farmers' Federation	23
QNI	Queensland/NSW Interconnector	2
QUT	Queensland University of Technology	4, 23, 26
RAP	Reconciliation Action Plan	27
REZ	Renewable Energy Zone	21
RIT-T	Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission	13, 19
RPRG	Revenue Proposal Reference Group	3, 15
SCI	Statement of Corporate Intent	5, 6, 7, 17, 32, 33, 37
SES	State Emergency Service	23
TAPR	Transmission Annual Planning Report	16
TNSP	Transmission Network Service Provider	2, 20, 21
UQ	University of Queensland	8, 26
WAPA	Working at Powerlink Agreement	27

Powerlink Queensland

# Financial Statements 2024/25



#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

The Directors present their report together with the financial report of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited trading as Powerlink Queensland (the Company) and of the Consolidated Entity being the Company and its subsidiaries for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, together with the auditor's report thereon. Throughout the report, the Consolidated Entity is referred to as the Group.

#### **Directors**

The names of Directors in office at any time during the financial year are:

Directors of Powerlink		
Queensland	Date first appointed	Date ceased
Kathy Hirschfeld AM (Chair)	1 October 2018	n/a
Alan Millis	1 October 2015	n/a
Kevin Hegarty OAM	1 October 2020	30 October 2024
Wayne Collins	1 October 2020	n/a
Joanna Brand	13 October 2022	n/a
Kate Drews*	1 October 2023	7 August 2025
Amanda Yeates*	1 October 2023	7 August 2025
Dr Prins Ralston*	7 December 2023	7 August 2025
Jennifer Hill AM	8 July 2024	19 December 2024

<sup>\*</sup>Effective 7 August 2025, Peta Tilse and Diana Lollato have been appointed as Directors, while Kate Drews, Amanda Yeates and Dr Prins Ralston have ceased as Directors.

Please refer to the 'Board of Directors' section of the Group's Annual Report 2024/25 for details of Directors' qualifications, experience and special responsibilities.

#### **Company Secretary**

Ms Brooke Saunders was appointed as Company Secretary effective 1 February 2024. Ms Saunders has extensive senior leadership experience across government and public companies, is a graduate from the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) and holds qualifications in corporate governance, environmental management and health science.

Mr Darryl Rowell (Chief Financial Officer) and Ms Teresa Howard (Head of Legal) are appointed as alternate Company Secretaries.

#### **Principal Activities**

During the year the principal continuing activities of the Group consisted of:

- (a) Delivery of a transmission service to electricity market participants via open, non-discriminatory access to the Queensland transmission grid which connects generating sites with customer/distribution connection points, and
- (b) Provision of metering services to measure electricity generation and use at connection points to the transmission network.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the activities of the Group during the financial year.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **Dividends - Powerlink Queensland**

The proposed 2024/25 final dividend of \$103.0M is based on 100% of the operating profit after income tax equivalent expense, excluding net profit attributable to non-controlling interest (2024: \$50.2M). The Group did not pay any special/interim dividend during the year (2024: \$70.0M unfranked).

#### **Review of Operations**

A review of the Group's operations during the financial year, and the results of those operations, is contained in this annual report.

# Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

The Queensland Government announced on 8 April 2025 that Powerlink and Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) will be partnering to deliver the CopperString project. QIC will be focused on undertaking an assessment of the project to ensure value for money, and identification of opportunities for private sector investment. Powerlink will prioritise project works on the Eastern Link while this assessment is undertaken, with additional oversight from QIC as it undertakes its assessment.

Importantly, no transfer of assets is involved in this arrangement, and QIC is not considered to have control over any part of the project in accordance with the definition of control under Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) 10 Consolidated Financial Statements.

#### Matters Subsequent to the End of the Financial Year

On 7 August 2025, the Shareholding Ministers appointed Peta Tilse and Diana Lollato as Directors of Powerlink. On the same day, Prins Ralston, Amanda Yeates and Kate Drews ceased as Directors (refer to Note 35).

#### **Likely Developments and Expected Results of Operations**

Information on likely developments in the operations of the Group and the expected results of operations have not been included in this annual report because the Directors believe it would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Group.

#### **Environmental Regulation**

The Group is subject to environmental regulation under State and Federal Government legislation with regard to its acquisition and development of transmission line easements, its maintenance and construction activities, and the operation of facilities at its Virginia and other sites.

The Group has an Executive Committee for People and Health, Safety and Environment, a Board Committee for People, Safety and Environment, and a Board Committee for Audit, Risk and Compliance that monitors its compliance with environmental regulations.

During the period covered by this report there were no breaches that led to prosecution, and the Directors are not aware of any material breaches of environmental regulations.

#### **Emissions Reduction Fund**

The Group has not triggered the current thresholds for the Emissions Reduction Fund "safeguarding emissions reduction" scheme which commenced on 1 July 2016.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **Greenhouse Gas and Energy Data Reporting Requirements**

The National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007 (NGER) requires the Group to report its annual greenhouse gas emissions, including emissions associated with energy use. The Group has systems and processes for the collection and calculation of the data required and submits its report to the Clean Energy Regulator each year before the 31 October deadline. Powerlink's NGER reporting methods and submissions for 2024/25 will be independently reviewed.

#### **Meetings of Directors**

The number of meetings held by the Company's Board of Directors, each Board Committee and each subsidiary Board during the year ended 30 June 2025, including the number of meetings attended by each Director, were:

			Meetings of Committees							
	Powe Boa meet			Risk & liance				ega jects	Copper 203 Proj	32
	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В	Α	В
Kathy Hirschfeld AM	11	12	4	5	3	3	**	**	10	11
Alan Millis	12	12	5	5	1	1	**	**	8	9
Kevin Hegarty OAM	4	4	2	2	2	2	**	**	4	4
Wayne Collins	11	12	5	5	**	**	4	4	10	11
Joanna Brand	12	12	**	**	4	4	4	4	11	11
Kate Drews	12	12	**	**	3	4	4	4	9	9
Amanda Yeates	11	12	3	4	**	**	4	4	9	11
Dr Prins Ralston	11	12	1	1	1	3	2	4	8	9
Jennifer Hill AM	5	6	**	**	**	**	**	**	3	4

A= Number of meetings attended

#### **Remuneration Report of Key Management Personnel**

Details of the remuneration of the key management personnel of the Group including the Directors and Shareholding Ministers who have authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the entity as defined in AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures are provided in Note 29.

#### Loans to Directors and Executives

The Group has not advanced loans to any Director or key management personnel during or since the end of the last financial year.

#### Indemnification and Insurance of Directors and Officers

The Company indemnifies the Directors and Officers of the Company and its subsidiaries.

The indemnity relates to any liability:

B= Number of meetings held during the time the Director held office or was a member of the committee during the year

<sup>\*\*</sup> Not a member of the relevant Committee/Board

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### Indemnification and Insurance of Directors and Officers (continued)

- to a third party (other than the Company or a related body corporate) unless the liability arises out of conduct involving a lack of good faith; and
- for legal costs incurred in successfully defending civil or criminal proceedings or in connection with proceedings in which relief is granted under the *Corporations Act 2001*.

The Company holds appropriate Directors' and Officers' liability insurance policies.

The liabilities insured include legal costs that may be incurred in defending civil or criminal proceedings brought against the officers in their capacity as officers of entities in the Group. Additionally, it covers any other payments arising from liabilities incurred by the officers in connection with such proceedings. This does not include such liabilities that arise from conduct involving a wilful breach of duty by the officers or the improper use by the officers of their position or of information to gain advantage for themselves or someone else or to cause detriment to the Group. It is not possible to apportion the premium between amounts relating to the insurance against legal costs and those relating to other liabilities.

The Directors have not included details of premiums paid in respect of the Directors' and Officers' liability and legal insurance contract as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

The Group has not, during the financial year or since, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the Group or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred.

#### **Auditor's Independence Declaration**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is included with this annual report.

# **Rounding of Amounts**

The Group is of a kind referred to in ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191, and in accordance with that instrument, amounts in the Directors' Report and the consolidated Financial Report have been rounded off to the nearest one thousand dollars, unless otherwise indicated.

This Directors' Report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.

Kathy Hirschfeld AM

Chair Brisbane

27 August 2025

#### **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

To the Directors of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited (trading as Powerlink Queensland)

This auditor's independence declaration has been provided pursuant to s.307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

#### Independence declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Powerlink Queensland for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations*Act 2001 in relation to the audit
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

This declaration is in respect of Powerlink Queensland and the entities it controlled during the period.

mluwinga

27 August 2025

Martin Luwinga as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office Brisbane

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

		2025	2024
	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
DEVENUE			
Revenue Revenue	2	1,275,198	1,143,895
Other gains/(losses)  EXPENSES		(5,752)	383
Expenses from continuing operations	3	(883,045)	(869,317)
PROFIT FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS		386,401	274,961
FROITI ROW CONTINUING OF ENATIONS		300,401	274,301
Finance income		39,830	24,238
Finance costs		(279,012)	(227,088)
NET FINANCE COSTS	4	(239,182)	(202,850)
PROFIT BEFORE INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT		147,219	72,111
THO IT BEFORE INCOME TAX EXCITATENT		147,210	72,111
Income tax equivalent expense	5(a)	(44,233)	(21,868)
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD		102,986	50,243
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Item that may be reclassified to profit or loss			
Cash flow hedges, net of tax	22	2,453	2,309
Items that will not be reclassified to profit or loss  Gain on revaluation of property, plant and equipment, net of tax	22	140,637	223,660
- <u></u>		140,637	223,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit superannuation fund, net of tax	23	(7,354)	(4,329)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD,		(-,,	(1,1-1)
NET OF TAX		135,736	221,640
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD		238,722	271,883
Profit/(loss) is attributable to:			
Owners of Powerlink Queensland		103,020	50,238
Non-controlling interests		(34)	5
		102,986	50,243
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the period is			
attributable to:			
Owners of Powerlink Queensland		238,756	271,878
Non-controlling interests		(34)	5
		238,722	271,883

The above consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

# **AS AT 30 JUNE 2025**

	Notes	2025	2024
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	19,793	13,782
Advances	7	668,745	552,426
Trade and other receivables	8	145,671	129,418
Inventories	9	172,126	115,921
Derivative financial instruments	24	1,434	368
Current tax equivalent assets		-	11,390
Other current assets	10	24,791	20,928
Total current assets		1,032,560	844,233
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	11	10,517,517	9,653,805
Intangible assets	12	171,445	128,537
Defined benefit fund asset	18	1,028	13,247
Right-of-use assets	19	56,803	14,773
Derivative financial instruments	24	28,437	25,997
Other non-current assets	10	1,672	630
Total non-current assets		10,776,902	9,836,989
Total assets		11,809,462	10,681,222
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	13	128,710	252,766
Interest bearing loans	14	59,614	40,960
Current tax equivalent liabilities		7,483	-
Provisions	16	209,827	151,257
Lease liabilities			
	19	11,990	3,967
Other current liabilities	19 17	11,990 66,222	3,967 75,598
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities		66,222	75,598
Other current liabilities		66,222	75,598
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest bearing loans	17	66,222 483,846	75,598 524,548
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	17	66,222 483,846 6,343,857	75,598 524,548 5,671,458
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest bearing loans Deferred tax equivalent liabilities	17 14 15	66,222 483,846 6,343,857 1,077,125	75,598 524,548 5,671,458 1,021,227
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest bearing loans Deferred tax equivalent liabilities Provisions	14 15 16	66,222 483,846 6,343,857 1,077,125 10,915	75,598 524,548 5,671,458 1,021,227 7,888
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest bearing loans Deferred tax equivalent liabilities Provisions Lease liabilities	14 15 16 19	66,222 483,846 6,343,857 1,077,125 10,915 47,066	75,598 524,548 5,671,458 1,021,227 7,888 11,206
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest bearing loans Deferred tax equivalent liabilities Provisions Lease liabilities Other non-current liabilities	14 15 16 19	66,222 483,846 6,343,857 1,077,125 10,915 47,066 279,930	75,598 524,548 5,671,458 1,021,227 7,888 11,206 288,244
Other current liabilities  Total current liabilities  NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest bearing loans Deferred tax equivalent liabilities Provisions Lease liabilities Other non-current liabilities Total non-current liabilities	14 15 16 19	66,222 483,846 6,343,857 1,077,125 10,915 47,066 279,930 7,758,893	75,598 524,548 5,671,458 1,021,227 7,888 11,206 288,244 7,000,023

The above consolidated balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

# **AS AT 30 JUNE 2025**

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
EQUITY			
Share capital	20	401,000	401,000
Contributed equity	21	946,350	672,397
Reserves	22	1,872,036	1,809,425
Retained earnings	23	344,958	272,464
Capital and reserves attributable to the owners of Powerlink Queensland		3,564,344	3,155,286
Non-controlling interests	34(b)	2,379	1,365
Total equity		3,566,723	3,156,651

The above consolidated balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

Attributable to owners of Powerlink Queensland								
	Notes	Share capital \$'000	Contributed equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000		Non- controlling interests \$'000	
CHANGES IN EQU BALANCE AT	ITY FC							
1 JULY 2023		401,000	192,397	1,647,546	282,790	2,523,733	1,360	2,525,093
Profit for the period		-	-	-	50,238	50,238	5	50,243
Other comprehensive income		-	-	225,969	(4,329)	221,640	-	221,640
Transfers between reserves and retained earnings		-	-	(63,969)	63,969	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	-	162,000	109,878	271,878	5	271,883
TRANSACTIONS V	VITH O	WNERS I	N THEIR (	CAPACITY	AS OWN	ERS:		
Contributions of equity, net of transaction costs and tax		-	480,000		-	480,000	_	480,000
Dividends provided for or paid	27	-	_	-	(120,238)	(120,238)	-	(120,238)
Currency adjustment		-	-	-	34	34	-	34
Deferred tax liability true-up through equity		-	_	(121)	_	(121)	-	(121)
Total transactions with owners for the period		-	480,000	(121)	(120,204)	359,675	-	359,675
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2024		401,000	672,397	1,809,425	272,464	3,155,286	1,365	3,156,651

The above consolidated statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Attributable to owners of Powerlink Queensland							
	Notes	Share capital \$'000	Contributed equity \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Retained earnings \$'000	Total \$'000	Non- controlling interests \$'000	Total equity \$'000
CHANGES IN EQUITY	FOR	2025						
BALANCE AT 1 JULY 2024		401,000	672,397	1,809,425	272,464	3,155,286	1,365	3,156,651
Profit for the period		-	-	-	103,020	103,020	(34)	102,986
Other comprehensive income		-	-	143,090	(7,354)	135,736	-	135,736
Transfers between reserves and retained earnings		-	-	(79,850)	79,850	-	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the period		-	-	63,240	175,516	238,756	(34)	238,722
TRANSACTIONS WIT	H OW	NERS IN	THEIR C	CAPACITY	AS OWNE	ERS:		
Contributions of equity, net of transaction costs		-	273,953	-	-	273,953	1,047	275,000
Dividends provided for or paid	27	-	-	-	(103,020)	(103,020)	-	(103,020)
Deferred tax liability true-up through equity		-	-	(629)	-	(629)	-	(629)
Currency Adjustment		-	-	-	(2)	(2)	1	(1)
Total transactions with owners for the period		-	273,953	(629)	(103,022)	170,302	1,048	171,350
BALANCE AT 30 JUNE 2025		401,000	946,350	1,872,036	344,958	3,564,344	2,379	3,566,723

The above consolidated statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
		\$'000	\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from customers		1,240,378	1,090,681
Payments to suppliers and employees		(627,484)	(431,597)
Finance costs paid		(260,980)	(210,678)
Income tax equivalent paid		(43,665)	(4,272)
Interest received		40,100	22,711
Net goods and services tax received/(paid)		216	(13,282)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	6(e)	348,565	453,563
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for property, plant and equipment and intangible assets	11 12	(1,136,279)	(922,886)
Advances from / (to) Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC)		(116,319)	(340,281)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment and			(* ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' ' '
intangible assets		4,447	2,570
NET CASH (OUTFLOW) FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		(1,248,151)	(1,260,597)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from issue of equity to owners of Powerlink Queensland		275,000	480,000
Proceeds from borrowings		849,846	529,596
Dividends paid to the Company's shareholders	27	(50,238)	(202,110)
Repayment of borrowings		(169,055)	(23,589)
NET CASH INFLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		905,553	783,897
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH			
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		5,967	(23,137)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		13,782	36,898
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		44	21
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	6	19,793	13,782

The above consolidated statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 1: BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The material principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial report are set out within this report. Policies have been consistently applied across the Group for all years presented, unless noted otherwise.

#### (a) General Information

The consolidated financial statements consist of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited and its subsidiaries (the Group).

Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited is a company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Its registered office and principal place of business is:

33 Harold Street Virginia Qld 4014

During the year the principal continuing activities of the Group consisted of:

- Delivery of a transmission service to electricity market participants via open, non-discriminatory access to the Queensland transmission grid which connects generating sites with customer/distribution connection points, and
- Provision of metering services to measure electricity generation and use at connection points to the transmission network.

The consolidated financial statements were authorised for issue by the Directors on 27 August 2025. The Directors have the power to amend and reissue the consolidated financial statements.

Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited is a for profit entity for the purpose of preparing the financial statements.

#### (b) New or Revised Standards or Interpretations

The Group has reviewed all new accounting standards and interpretations effective from 1 July 2024 and concluded that there will be no material impact on the consolidated financial statements.

#### (c) Basis of Preparation

These general purpose consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the *Corporations Act 2001*, and the Queensland *Government Owned Corporations Act 1993* (GOC Act).

#### (i) Going concern

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, which assumes continuity of normal business activities and the realisation of assets and the settlement of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. Furthermore, there are no material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 1: BASIS OF PREPARATION (CONTINUED)**

#### (ii) Functional and Presentation Currency

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is the Group's functional and presentation currency.

The Group is of a kind referred to in Rounding Instrument 2016/191 issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, relating to the 'rounding off' of amounts in the consolidated financial statements. Amounts in the consolidated financial statements have been rounded off in accordance with that instrument to the nearest thousand dollars unless stated otherwise.

Where necessary, comparative amounts have been reclassified to be consistent with current year disclosures. These changes are not considered material.

#### (iii) Historical Cost Convention

These consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the basis of historical costs, except for:

- · revaluation at fair value of derivative instruments, and
- revaluation of certain classes of property, plant and equipment.

#### (iv) Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared using consistent material accounting policies. Where material differences were identified between subsidiaries, adjustments have been made on consolidation.

# (v) Critical Accounting Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group's accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the consolidated financial statements, are disclosed in the notes to which they relate.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 1: BASIS OF PREPARATION (CONTINUED)

#### (vi) Reclassifications

The Group has made the following changes to the classification of its financial statements in both current and comparative periods to improve the presentation of relevant information in this report:

#### Net Finance Costs

Finance Income of \$39.8M (2024: \$24.2M) has been reclassified from Revenue and is now presented separately alongside Finance Costs on the face of the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss, with a subtotal for Net Finance Costs. Comparative figures have been re-presented accordingly. Disclosures in *Note 2: Revenue* and *Note 4: Net Finance Costs* have been updated.

#### Prepayments

Prepayments of \$8.1M (2024: \$7.9M) has been reclassified from Trade and Other Receivables to Other Current Assets. Disclosures in *Note 8: Trade and Other Receivables* and *Note 10: Other Assets* have been updated.

#### Accrued Interest Payable

Accrued Interest Payable of \$15.9M (2024: \$14.1M) on interest bearing loans and working capital facilities held with Queensland Treasury Corporation has been reclassified from Current Trade Payables to Current Borrowings. Disclosures in *Note 13: Trade and Other Payables* and *Note 14: Interest Bearing Loans* have been updated.

#### Accrued Employee Benefits

Accrued Employee Benefits of \$3.0M (2024: \$9.0M) have been reclassified from Current Trade Payables to Current Provisions. Disclosures in *Note 13: Trade and Other Payables* and *Note 16: Provisions* have been updated.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 2: REVENUE**

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS		
Grid sales revenue 1,1	80,860	989,326
Total Revenue from Contracts with Customers 1,1	80,860	989,326
OTHER REVENUE		
Customer works	68,035	143,504
Other commercial activities	26,303	11,065
Total Other Revenue	94,338	154,569
TOTAL REVENUE 1,2	75,198	1,143,895

Certain balances presented in this note have been reclassified. Note 1(vi) discloses the nature, amount and reason for each reclassification made.

#### SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable. Amounts disclosed as revenue are net of returns, trade allowances, rebates and amounts collected on behalf of third parties.

Revenue is recognised for the major business activities using the methods outlined below.

#### Grid Sales Revenue

Grid sales revenue comprises revenue earned from the provision of regulated and non-regulated transmission grid services. Sales revenue is recognised when the services are provided.

Regulated grid sales revenue is subject to the application of an annual regulated revenue allowance determined for the Company. Transmission Use of System prices are initially set to recover the annual regulated revenue allowance.

Regulated grid revenue is recognised on an as-billed basis in relation to services provided within the period, and may vary from the annual regulated revenue allowance with over or under recoveries being refunded or recovered in subsequent years.

Under the National Electricity Rules, the Australian Energy Market Operator processes all electricity market settlement transactions for Queensland and transfers the residual (Inter and Intra Regional Settlements Residue) to Powerlink Queensland as the appropriate Transmission Network Service Provider.

#### Customer works

Customer works revenue is earned from connection enquiries, line relocations, applications and early works. Revenue from customer works is recognised when the services are provided.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

# **NOTE 2: REVENUE (CONTINUED)**

Other commercial activities

Other commercial activities revenue is earned from the provision of property searches, wholesale telecommunications services and various miscellaneous works and services. Revenue from other commercial activities is recognised when the services are provided.

#### **NOTE 3: EXPENSES**

#### **Expenses from Continuing Operations**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Network operations	48,668	33,460
Network maintenance	186,139	153,346
Corporate/business support	134,561	144,613
Customer works and other commercial activities	85,244	142,617
Depreciation and amortisation	428,433	395,281
TOTAL EXPENSES FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	883,045	869,317
Employee benefits included in total expenses from continuing operations		
Employee benefit expense through the consolidated statement of profit		
or loss	229,037	208,410

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Employee Benefits

Refer to Note 28 for material accounting policies related to employee benefits.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 4: NET FINANCE COSTS**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
FINANCE INCOME		
Interest received	39,830	24,238
FINANCE INCOME	39,830	24,238
FINANCE COSTS		
Interest expense	(254,345)	(205,439)
Other	(24,667)	(21,649)
FINANCE COST	(279,012)	(227,088)
NET FINANCE COCTS	(220.402)	(202.950)
NET FINANCE COSTS	(239,182)	(202,850)

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### Finance Income

The Group previously included its Finance Income within Other Revenue. This has been reclassified and is now separately identified as part of the Net Finance Costs in the Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss, using the effective interest method as it accrues.

#### Finance Costs

Finance Costs include interest and costs incurred in connection with the arrangement of borrowings. All borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

# **NOTE 5: INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE**

# (a) Income Tax Equivalent Expense

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE			
Current tax		47,240	45,661
Deferred tax		(3,007)	(23,793)
TOTAL INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE		44,233	21,868
DEFERRED INCOME TAX (BENEFIT)/EXPENSE			
(Increase)/decrease in deferred tax equivalent assets	15(a)	(16,379)	(19,514)
(Decrease)/increase in deferred tax equivalent liabilities	15(b)	13,372	(4,279)
TOTAL DEFERRED TAX (BENEFIT)/EXPENSE		(3,007)	(23,793)

# (b) Numerical Reconciliation of Income Tax Equivalent Expense to Prima Facie Tax Payable

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Profit from continuing operations before income tax equivalent expense	147,219	72,111
Tax equivalent at the Australian tax rate of 30.0% (2024: 30.0%)	44,166	21,634
INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE DUE TO:		
Other differences	10	(126)
Prior year adjustments	57	360
TOTAL INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE	44,233	21,868

# (c) Amounts Recognised Directly in Equity

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT RECOGNISED DIRECTLY IN EQUITY		
Net deferred tax equivalent - debited / (credited) directly to equity	58,907	95,109

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 5: INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE (CONTINUED)

#### (d) Tax Expense/(Benefit) Relating to Items of Other Comprehensive Income

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Gains on revaluation of property, plant and equipment	22	60,273	95,853
Cash flow hedges	22	1,052	990
Remeasurement of defined benefit fund asset		(3,047)	(1,855)
True-up to prior year balances		629	121
TOTAL TAX EXPENSE/(BENEFIT) RELATING TO ITEMS OF			
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		58,907	95,109

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### Tax Equivalents

The Group is liable to make tax equivalent payments on its taxable income to the Queensland Government. These taxation payments are made pursuant to Section 129(4) of the GOC Act.

The National Tax Equivalents Regime (NTER) broadly utilises the provisions of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*, the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* and associated legislation, the NTER Manual as well as Rulings and other pronouncements by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) to determine the tax payable by the Group.

#### Current Tax Equivalent Payable/Receivable

The current income tax equivalent charge is determined based on the tax laws enacted or substantively enacted at the end of the reporting period in Australia, where the Group operates and generates taxable income. Management periodically evaluates positions taken in tax returns concerning situations where applicable tax regulation are open to interpretation. Provisions are established where appropriate, based on the amounts expected to be paid to the tax authorities.

#### Income Tax Equivalent Expense

The income tax equivalent expense or credit for the period is the tax payable on the current period's taxable income based on the applicable income tax rate in Australia adjusted by changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities attributable to temporary differences and to unused tax losses.

Current and deferred tax is recognised in the consolidated profit and loss, except when it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity. In such cases, the tax is recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity, respectively.

#### Tax Consolidation Legislation

Powerlink Queensland and its wholly-owned Australian controlled entities have adopted the tax consolidation legislation. Consequently, these entities are taxed as a single entity and the deferred tax assets and liabilities of these entities are set off in the consolidated financial statements.

On adoption of the tax consolidation legislation, the entities in the tax consolidated group entered into a tax sharing agreement which, in the opinion of the Directors, limits the joint and several liability of the wholly owned entities in the case of a default by the head entity, Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 5: INCOME TAX EQUIVALENT EXPENSE (CONTINUED)

#### Tax Consolidation Legislation (continued)

The entities have also entered into a tax funding agreement under which the wholly owned entities fully compensate Powerlink Queensland for any current tax payable assumed and are compensated by Powerlink Queensland for any current tax receivable and deferred tax assets relating to unused tax losses or unused tax credits that are transferred to Powerlink Queensland under the tax consolidation legislation. The funding amounts are determined by reference to the amounts recognised in the wholly owned entities' financial statements.

The amounts receivable/payable under the tax funding agreement are due upon receipt of the funding advice from the head entity, which is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each financial year. The head entity may also require payment of interim funding amounts to assist with its obligations to pay tax instalments. The funding amounts are recognised as current intercompany receivables or payables.

#### Investment Allowances and Similar Tax Incentives

Companies within the Group may be entitled to claim special tax deductions for investments in qualifying assets or in relation to qualifying expenditure (e.g. the Research and Development Tax Incentive regime in Australia or other investment allowances). The Group accounts for such allowances as tax credits, which means that the allowance reduces income tax payable and current tax expense. A deferred tax asset is recognised for unclaimed tax credits that are carried forward.

#### Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of associated GST, unless the GST incurred is not recoverable from the taxation authority. In this case, for expenses and assets, it is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense.

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included with other receivables or payables in the consolidated balance sheet.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to the taxation authority, are presented as operating cash flows.

Refer to Note 15 for material accounting policies related to Deferred Tax Equivalent balances.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 6: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Cash at bank	15,679	5,123
Cash on deposit with Queensland Treasury Corporation	4,114	8,659
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	19,793	13,782

#### (a) Deposits at Call

Contained within Cash on deposit with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) is a foreign currency bank balance of USD \$2.7M (2024: USD \$2.7M) which is used for operational purposes. This amount has been translated into the functional currency using the applicable exchange rate at the end of the financial year.

Cash on deposit with QTC earns interest at floating rates based on daily QTC deposit rates. Similarly, cash at bank earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates.

#### (b) Fair Value

The carrying amount for cash and cash equivalents equals the fair value.

#### (c) Restricted cash

The Group holds cash as customer securities when a bank guarantee has not been provided. These customer securities are recorded in Note 13 within Deposits.

#### (d) Risk Exposure

The Group's exposure to interest rate risk is discussed in Note 24(b). The maximum exposure to credit risk at the end of the reporting period is the carrying amount of each class of cash and cash equivalents mentioned above other than Cash at Bank.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 6: CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (CONTINUED)

# (e) Reconciliation of Profit After Income Tax Equivalent to Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Profit for the period	102,986	50,243
ADJUSTMENT FOR:		
Depreciation and amortisation	420,416	393,436
Net (gain)/loss on sale of non-current assets	5,869	(383)
Net exchange differences	(46)	(21)
CHANGE IN OPERATING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES:		
(Increase)/decrease in trade receivables	(20,910)	47,313
(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(56,205)	(53,681)
(Increase)/decrease in deferred tax equivalent assets	(16,469)	(19,514)
(Decrease)/increase in trade and other payables	(126,771)	(43,534)
(Decrease)/increase in provision for income tax equivalent payable	19,831	41,390
(Decrease)/increase in deferred tax equivalent liabilities	15,278	(4,279)
(Decrease)/increase in other provisions	5,788	48,715
(Increase)/decrease in other assets	(1,202)	(6,122)
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	348,565	453,563

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short-term, highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in Current Liabilities in the consolidated balance sheet.

#### **NOTE 7: ADVANCES**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Advances to Queensland Treasury Corporation	668,745	552,426
TOTAL ADVANCES	668,745	552,426

Under the Queensland Government's cash management regime which became effective in the 2016/17 financial year, Government Owned Corporations (GOCs) advance surplus cash to QTC for use by Queensland Treasury. QTC pays interest on these advances at its Cash Fund rate.

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

GOCs' access to the advances is generally subject to notification periods of 24 to 48 hours. Because of the short-term nature of the advances, the carrying amount is assumed to represent fair value.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 8: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Trade receivables	139,220	126,733
Provision for impairment of trade receivables	(466)	-
Other	6,917	2,685
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	145,671	129,418

#### **IMPAIRED TRADE RECEIVABLES**

	2025		202	4
	Gross \$'000	Impairment \$'000	Gross \$'000	Impairment \$'000
Current receivables	137,758		125,545	_
Less than 1 month	348	=	222	-
1 to 2 months	242	121	117	
2 to 3 months	227	114	123	-
Greater than 3 months	645	231	726	
TOTAL	139,220	466	126,733	_

#### MOVEMENT IN PROVISION FOR IMPAIRMENT OF TRADE RECEIVABLES

CLOSING BALANCE	466	-
Amount used	-	-
Additional provisions recognised	466	-
Opening balance	-	-
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000

Certain balances presented in this note have been reclassified. Note 1(vi) discloses the nature, amount and reason for each reclassification made.

# **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Trade receivables are recognised initially at the amount of consideration that is unconditional. Due to the short-term nature of the current receivables, their carrying amount is considered to be a reasonable approximation of their fair value.

If collection of the amounts are expected in one year or less they are classified as current assets. If not, they are presented as non-current assets. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days and therefore are all classified as current.

The recoverability of trade and other receivables is reviewed on an ongoing basis. The impairment provision is based on expected credit losses resulting from all possible default events over the expected life of the financial instrument with consideration of the credit risk of the financial asset.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 8: TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES (CONTINUED)

#### CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING THE MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A provision for impaired receivables is recognised when there is objective evidence indicating that the Group will be unable to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables. The Group follows the requirements of AASB 9 Financial Instruments in determining expected credit losses on its receivables.

# **NOTE 9: INVENTORIES**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Maintenance and construction stock	172,126	115,921
TOTAL INVENTORIES	172,126	115,921

#### SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Maintenance and construction stock is valued at the lower of the weighted average cost and net realisable value. A provision for inventory obsolescence of \$0.5M has been recognised in 2025 (2024: Nil) reflecting the outcome of ongoing assessments of inventory value. This provision accounts for items affected by factors such as technical obsolescence or diminished service potential. The creation and release of this provision is reported under Corporate/Business support costs.

Inventories of \$8.8M (2024: \$9.0M) were recognised as an expense during the year and included within network maintenance.

#### **NOTE 10: OTHER ASSETS**

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT		
Work in progress - Customer Works	16,018	9,727
Prepayments	8,068	7,883
Other	705	3,318
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT ASSETS	24,791	20,928
NON-CURRENT		
Other non-current assets	1,672	630
TOTAL OTHER NON-CURRENT ASSETS	1,672	630

Certain balances presented in this note have been reclassified. Note 1(vi) discloses the nature, amount and reason for each reclassification made.

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Costs incurred in delivering customer-specific projects are recognised as work in progress when they are directly attributable to a contract and are expected to be recoverable. These costs are released once the associated works are completed.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

# NOTE 11: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

					Other	
		Freehold		Supply	Property,	
	Work in	Land and Easements	Freehold Buildings	System	Plant and Equipment	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
AT 1 JULY 2023						
Cost or fair value	996,180	824,261	130 081	11,983,787	123 047	14,059,156
Accumulated depreciation				(5,085,802)	(81,156)	
NET BOOK VALUE	996,180	824,261	78,900	6,897,985	42,791	8,840,117
NET BOOK VALUE	330,100	024,201	70,900	0,037,303	42,791	0,040,117
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 20	24					
Opening net book value	996,180	824,261	78,900	6,897,985	42,791	8,840,117
Revaluation surplus	-	33,306	3,197	283,013	-	319,516
Additions	876,894	-	-	-	-	876,894
Disposals	-	(2,181)	-	(6)	-	(2,187)
Depreciation	-	-	(3,544)	(362,651)	(14,340)	(380,535)
Transfers	(468,744)	26,308	-	414,405	28,031	-
CLOSING NET BOOK						
VALUE	1,404,330	881,694	78,553	7,232,746	56,482	9,653,805
AT 1 JULY 2024 Cost or fair value	1 101 220	001 601	126 207	10 044 720	140.250	15 416 407
	1,404,330	881,694		12,844,738		15,416,407
Accumulated depreciation	- 4 404 000	-		(5,611,992)	(92,876)	
NET BOOK VALUE	1,404,330	881,694	78,553	7,232,746	56,482	9,653,805
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 20	25					
Opening net book value	1,404,330	881,694	78,553	7,232,746	56,482	9,653,805
Revaluation surplus		21,251	1,900	177,760	-	200,911
Additions	1,076,575		<u>-</u>			1,076,575
Disposals		(3,857)		(6,201)	(97)	
Depreciation	-		(3,742)	(385,128)	(14,749)	
Transfers	(628,744)	100,807	7,676	490,019	30,242	-
CLOSING NET BOOK		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	
VALUE	1,852,161	999,895	84,387	7,509,196	71,878	10,517,517
AT 30 JUNE 2025	4.050.404	000 005	447.000	40 507 740	470 400	40.700.455
Cost or fair value	1,852,161	999,895		13,597,716		16,769,155
Accumulated depreciation	-	-		(6,088,520)		(6,251,638)
NET BOOK VALUE	1,852,161	999,895	84,387	7,509,196	71,878	10,517,517

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 11: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

#### Historical cost of property, plant and equipment

If property, plant and equipment were stated on a depreciated historical cost basis, the carrying value would have been:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Freehold land and easements	611,392	513,581
Buildings	59,564	54,523
Supply system assets	5,201,296	4,977,726

#### **VALUATION OF PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

The Group's supply system assets, freehold land and easements, and building assets are carried at fair value.

The Group applies an annual income-based valuation method, complemented by evaluations from external independent valuers at least once every five years. The most recent review was completed in 2024. This process includes a thorough review of the valuation approach and its assumptions.

As at 30 June 2025, the fair value measurement of these assets has been categorised as a Level 3 fair value in the fair value hierarchy. This classification reflects the use of significant unobservable inputs in the valuation process. The income-based approach estimates the net present value of future cash flows expected from the assets, incorporating assumptions that are not based on observable market data.

The key assumptions and approach as at 30 June 2025 are as follows:

#### Regulated Assets

- are subject to regulation in the form of a regulated revenue allowance and it is assumed that they
  will continue to be subject to regulation in the future;
- cash flows have been projected based on post-tax forecasts consistent with existing regulatory determinations and methodologies and assuming an average growth rate using the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is assessed to be the best estimate of future inflation for years beyond the current determination period;
- inclusion of a terminal value calculated using the Gordon growth model and assuming an annual growth rate using the CPI which is assessed to be the best estimate of future inflation; and
- application of a nominal vanilla discount rate.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 11: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

#### Non-regulated assets

- · cash flows have been estimated over the life of non-regulated contracts;
- cash flow projections are based on tax-adjusted contract terms and conditions including both operating and capital expenditures to maintain the assets at required service levels; and
- application of a post-tax nominal discount rate.

An increase/(decrease) in the discount rate can result in a significantly lower/(higher) valuation.

Asset carrying values are within the valuation range developed using these assumptions and approach.

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Supply system assets, freehold land and easements, and buildings are measured at fair value. All other property, plant and equipment is valued at historical cost less depreciation.

#### Acquisition of Assets

The cost method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets. Cost is measured as the fair value of the assets given up or liability undertaken at the date of the acquisition plus incidental costs attributable to the acquisition.

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment constructed by the Group includes the cost of materials and direct labour and any other costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to a working condition for its intended use. Cost may also include transfers from equity of any gain or loss on qualifying cash flow hedges of foreign currency purchases of property, plant and equipment. Purchased software that is integral to the functionality of the related equipment is capitalised as part of that equipment.

#### Subsequent Costs

Subsequent costs are included in the asset's carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Group and the cost of the item can be measured reliably. The carrying amount of any component accounted for as a separate asset is derecognised when replaced. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to consolidated profit or loss during the reporting period in which they are incurred.

#### Revaluation

Supply system assets, freehold land and easements, and buildings are revalued in line with the Australian Bureau of Statistics CPI (Weighted Average of Eight Capital Cities Index) at the end of each financial year.

Revaluation increments, net of tax, are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in reserves in equity, except for amounts reversing a decrement previously recognised as an expense. Revaluation decrements are only offset against revaluation increments applying to the particular asset, and any excess is recognised as an expense.

The CPI revaluation amount is compared to an income-based approach valuation based on expected future cash flows to ensure the revalued asset amounts do not differ materially from fair value. The application of this policy to existing assets is reviewed by the Directors at each reporting date.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 11: PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (CONTINUED)

## Depreciation

Land is not depreciated. Easements are only depreciated where the indefinite useful life of an easement no longer applies, and a known useful life is identified. Depreciation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate cost or revalued amounts, net of their residual values, over estimated useful lives of assets, as follows:

Supply System Assets
 Buildings
 Other Property, Plant and Equipment
 12 - 60 years
 3 -15 years

Depreciation commences from the time units of property, plant and equipment are ready for use and is calculated on all assets with the exception of land and easements, other than as specified above.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

#### Derecognition and Disposal of Assets

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

Any gain or loss arising from derecognition of the asset (calculated as the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset) is included in the consolidated profit or loss in the year in which the asset is derecognised.

## CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING THE MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## Fair Value of Property, Plant and Equipment

In the absence of an active market, the Group determines the fair value of supply system assets, freehold land and easements, and buildings using an income-based approach. This method involves significant unobservable inputs, including assumptions about future cash flows and discount rates, and is therefore classified as a Level 3 fair value.

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In assessing fair value, a number of key estimates and assumptions are adopted for expected future cash flows and discount rates.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 12: INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

		Work in	
	Software	Progress	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
AT 1 JULY 2023			
Cost	151,124	55,849	206,973
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(111,534)	_	(111,534)
NET BOOK VALUE	39,590	55,849	95,439
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024			
Opening net book value	39,590	55,849	95,439
Additions	_	45,992	45,992
Amortisation	(12,894)	-	(12,894)
Transfers	19,471	(19,471)	-
CLOSING NET BOOK VALUE	46,167	82,370	128,537
AT 1 JULY 2024			
Cost	170,596	82,370	252,966
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(124,429)	-	(124,429)
NET BOOK VALUE	46,167	82,370	128,537
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025	40.407		400.507
Opening net book value	46,167	82,370	128,537
Additions	162	59,542	59,704
Amortisation	(16,796)	-	(16,796)
Transfers	38,115	(38,115)	-
CLOSING NET BOOK AMOUNT	67,648	103,797	171,445
AT 30 JUNE 2025			
Cost	207,859	103,797	311,656
Accumulated amortisation and impairment	(140,211)	-	(140,211)
NET BOOK VALUE	67,648	103,797	171,445

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### Recognition and measurement

Intangible assets with a value equal to or greater than \$5,000 are capitalised and measured at historical cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. Subsequent costs, such as development activities, are capitalised only when they can be reliably measured and increase the future economic benefits of the intangible asset. Subsequent costs are not amortised until the intangible asset is completed and ready for use.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## **NOTE 12: INTANGIBLE ASSETS (CONTINUED)**

#### Amortisation

Amortisation is calculated using the straight-line method to allocate cost or revalued amounts, net of their residual values, over estimated useful lives of assets (3 - 10 years).

Amortisation begins when intangible assets are put into use. The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each reporting date.

#### Software as a Service (SaaS) Arrangements

SaaS arrangements are classified as service contracts that allow access to the cloud provider's application software throughout the duration of the contract. As a result, there is no recognition of a software intangible asset at the inception of the contract. Expenses related to the configuration and customisation of the software, as well as recurring access fees, are treated as operating expenses when incurred. When software development costs are incurred to enhance or add new functionalities to existing on-premise systems and meet the criteria for recognition as an intangible asset, they are capitalised accordingly. Additionally, any licensed software and associated customisation and configuration costs that are deployed in a private cloud environment controlled by the entity are recognised as intangible assets. The costs for ongoing support services are expensed as they are received.

## **NOTE 13: TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Trade payables	93,564	93,102
Deposits and cash securities	17,350	126,405
Other payables	17,796	33,259
TOTAL TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES	128,710	252,766

Certain balances presented in this note have been reclassified. Note 1(vi) discloses the nature, amount and reason for each reclassification made.

## **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Trade payables represent unsecured liabilities for goods and services provided to the Group prior to the end of the financial year, which are unpaid. Trade and other payables are classified as current liabilities unless the payment is not due within 12 months from the reporting date. Due to the short-term nature, their carrying amount is a reasonable approximation of fair value.

Deposits reflect customer cash securities provided to the Group.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 14: INTEREST BEARING LOANS**

		2025 Non-			2024 Non-	
	Current \$'000			Current \$'000	current \$'000	
UNSECURED BORROWINGS						
Queensland Treasury Corporation	59,614	6,209,575	6,269,189	40,960 5	5,597,393	5,638,353
Clean Energy Finance Corporation	_	134,282	134,282	_	74,065	74,065
TOTAL UNSECURED BORROWINGS	59,614	6,343,857	6,403,471	40,960 5	5,671,458	5,712,418

Certain balances presented in this note have been reclassified. Note 1(vi) discloses the nature, amount and reason for each reclassification made.

Further information relating to loans from related parties is set out in Note 33.

#### (a) Compliance with Loan Covenants

Powerlink Queensland has complied with the financial covenants of its borrowing facilities during the 2025 and 2024 financial years.

## (b) Fair Value

With the exception of Queensland Treasury Corporation borrowings, the carrying amount of financial liabilities measured at amortised cost approximates their fair value at reporting date.

	2025		2024		
	Carrying amount \$'000	Fair value \$'000	Carrying amount \$'000	Fair value \$'000	
Queensland Treasury Corporation	6,269,189	6,046,745	5,638,353	5,244,086	
TOTAL	6,269,189	6,046,745	5,638,353	5,244,086	

## (c) On-balance Sheet

The borrowings from QTC are carried on the consolidated balance sheet at an amount different to the aggregate net fair value. The Directors have not caused those liabilities to be adjusted to the aggregate net fair value as it is intended to retain those securities until maturity. QTC loans are classified as level 2 in the fair value hierarchy.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 14: INTEREST BEARING LOANS (CONTINUED)

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Borrowings are initially recognised at fair value, net of transaction costs incurred, and subsequently measured at amortised cost. Any difference between the proceeds (net of transaction costs) and the redemption amount is recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss over the period of the borrowings using the effective interest method. Fees paid on the establishment of loan facilities are recognised as transaction costs of the loan to the extent that it is probable that some or all of the facility will be drawn down.

Borrowings are removed from the consolidated balance sheet when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying amount of a financial liability that has been extinguished or transferred to another party and the consideration paid, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss as other income or finance costs.

Borrowings are classified as current liabilities unless the Group has an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting period.

The Group has both principal-and-interest loans, and interest-only loans. In accordance with the Company's borrowing plan, principal repayments on the interest-only loans have been deferred. Interest expenses are accrued over the period in which they are incurred. All borrowing costs are expensed as incurred.

#### **NOTE 15: DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT BALANCES**

#### (a) Deferred Tax Equivalent Assets

	Notes		2024
	Notes	\$'000	\$'000
THE BALANCE COMPRISES TEMPORARY DIFFERENCES ATTRIBUTABLE TO:			
Provisions		36,852	34,377
Contract liabilities		14,972	13,831
Lease liabilities		17,717	4,552
Accruals		588	1,021
Other		820	789
TOTAL DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT ASSETS		70,949	54,570
Set-off of deferred tax liabilities pursuant to set-off provisions	15(b)	(70,949)	(54,570)
NET DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT ASSETS		-	-

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 15: DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT BALANCES (CONTINUED)

MOVEMENTS:		
Opening balance	54,570	35,056
Credited/(charged) to profit or loss	16,379	19,514
Closing balance	70,949	54,570
Deferred tax assets expected to be recovered within 12 months	38,070	34,445
Deferred tax assets expected to be recovered after more than 12 months	32,879	20,125
CLOSING BALANCE	70,949	54,570

## (b) Deferred Tax Equivalent Liabilities

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
THE BALANCE COMPRISES TEMPORARY DIFFERENCES ATTRIBUTABLE TO:			
Property, plant and equipment		1,104,349	1,043,657
Right-of-use assets		17,041	4,432
Inventories		14,639	15,707
Cash flow hedges		8,961	7,909
Receivables		2,566	-
Defined benefit fund surplus		394	3,987
Cash and term deposit		124	105
TOTAL DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT LIABILITIES		1,148,074	1,075,797
Set-off of deferred tax liabilities pursuant to set-off provisions	15(a)	(70,949)	(54,570)
NET DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT LIABILITIES		1,077,125	1,021,227

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
MOVEMENTS:			
Opening balance		1,075,797	984,967
True-up to opening balance through equity		629	121
Charged/(credited) to profit or loss		13,372	(4,279)
Charged/(credited) to equity		58,276	94,988
Closing balance		1,148,074	1,075,797
Deferred tax liabilities expected to be settled within 12 months		17,760	15,922
Deferred tax liabilities expected to be settled after more than 12			
months		1,130,314	1,059,875
CLOSING BALANCE		1,148,074	1,075,797

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 15: DEFERRED TAX EQUIVALENT BALANCES (CONTINUED)

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Refer to Note 5 Income Tax Equivalent Expense for material accounting policies related to general income taxation.

#### Deferred Tax Equivalent Assets and Liabilities

Deferred tax equivalent assets are recognised only if it is probable that future taxable amounts will be available to utilise those temporary differences and losses.

Deferred tax equivalent assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to do so, and when these balances relate to the same taxation authority. Similarly, current tax equivalent assets and liabilities are offset where the entity has a legally enforceable right and intends either to settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the consolidated financial statements. Deferred income tax is determined using tax rates that have been enacted or substantially enacted by the end of the reporting period and are expected to apply when the related deferred income tax asset is realised or the deferred income tax liability is settled.

#### CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING THE MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Recovery of Deferred Tax Equivalent Assets

Deferred tax equivalent assets are recognised for deductible temporary differences as management considers it is probable that future taxable profits will be available to utilise those temporary differences.

## **NOTE 16: PROVISIONS**

		2025 Non-			2024 Non-	
	Current \$'000	current \$'000	Total \$'000	Current \$'000	current \$'000	Total \$'000
Dividends	103,020	-	103,020	50,238	-	50,238
Employee benefits	104,587	10,915	115,502	98,878	7,888	106,766
Unresolved Easement Compensation	2,220	-	2,220	2,141	-	2,141
TOTAL PROVISIONS	209,827	10,915	220,742	151,257	7,888	159,145

Certain balances presented in this note have been reclassified. Note 1(vi) discloses the nature, amount and reason for each reclassification made.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## **NOTE 16: PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)**

## (a) Information About Individual Provisions and Significant Estimates

#### Employee Benefits

The current provision for employee entitlements includes all unconditional entitlements where employees have completed the required period of service and also those where employees are entitled to pro-rata payments in certain circumstances. The amount is presented as current, since the Group does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement for any of these obligations.

Annual leave, vested long service leave and on-cost entitlements accrued but not expected to be taken within 12 months have been included as part of current liabilities as the Group does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date. Refer to Note 28 for accounting policies related to employee benefits.

Prior history indicates that on average, personal leave taken each reporting period is less than the entitlement accrued. This is expected to continue in future periods. Accordingly, it is unlikely that existing accumulated entitlements will be used by employees and no liability for unused personal leave entitlement is recognised. As personal leave is non-vesting, an expense is recognised for this leave as it is taken.

#### Unresolved Easement Compensation

The Group has a number of easement compensation liability obligations currently unresolved with the relevant landowners. Easements have been placed over the land in question however negotiations with landowners as to the amount of compensation and the timing of the compensation payments are still unresolved.

## (b) Movements in Provisions

Movements in each class of provision during the financial year, other than employee benefits, are set out below:

		Inresolved Easement pensation	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Opening balance	50,238	2,141	52,379
Additional provision recognised	103,020	79	103,099
Amount used	(50,238)	-	(50,238)
CLOSING BALANCE	103,020	2,220	105,240

#### SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

All provisions, exclusive of employee entitlements, are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that an outflow of resources will be required to settle the obligation and the amount has been reliably estimated. Provisions are not recognised for future operating losses.

Where there are a number of similar obligations, the likelihood that an outflow will be required in settlement is determined by considering the class of obligations as a whole. A provision is recognised even if the likelihood of an outflow with respect to any one item included in the same class of obligations may be small.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## **NOTE 16: PROVISIONS (CONTINUED)**

These provisions are measured at the present value of management's best estimate of the expenditure required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period. The discount rate used to determine the present value is a pre-tax rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the liability. The increase in the provision due to the passage of time is recognised as an interest expense.

#### **NOTE 17: OTHER LIABILITIES**

		2025 Non-			2024 Non-	
	Current \$'000	current \$'000	Total \$'000	Current \$'000	current \$'000	Total \$'000
Unearned Revenue	57,737	-	57,737	67,541	-	67,541
Contract Liability	8,485	279,308	287,793	8,056	287,794	295,850
Other	-	622	622	1	450	451
TOTAL OTHER LIABILITIES	66,222	279,930	346,152	75,598	288,244	363,842

#### SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue represent moneys received by the Group for which the Group has yet to provide the corresponding goods and services.

## Contract Liability

Contract liability represents unearned income associated with contracts that contain a significant financing component, as defined by AASB 15 Revenue from contracts with customers.

## **NOTE 18: SUPERANNUATION COMMITMENTS**

## (a) Superannuation Plan

The Group contributes to an industry multiple employer superannuation fund, Brighter Super. Members of the fund, after serving a qualifying period, are entitled to benefits on retirement, resignation, retrenchment, disability or death. The Group has one plan, with a defined benefit section and a defined contribution section. The defined benefit section is only open to existing employees who have always been in the section, and is not open to new employees.

The defined contribution section receives fixed contributions from Group companies and the Group's legal or constructive obligation is limited to these contributions. Alternatively, subject to eligibility, employees may elect to have these payments made to a defined contribution plan of the employee's choice.

The defined benefit account of the industry plan provides defined lump sum benefits based on years of service and final average salary. Employee contributions to the scheme are based on percentages of their salaries and wages. The Group also contributes to the plan.

The following sets out details in respect of the defined benefit section of the industry plan only. The expense recognised in relation to the defined contribution section of the industry plan, or to another defined contribution plan of the employee's choice, is included in Note 3.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 18: SUPERANNUATION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

## (b) Defined Benefit Plan

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet arising from the Group's obligation in respect of its defined benefit plan are as follows:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Fair value of defined benefit plan assets	78,018	77,088
Present value of the defined benefit obligation	(76,990)	(63,841)
NET SURPLUS IN THE CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET	1,028	13,247

## (c) Employer Contributions

Employer contributions to the defined benefit section of the plan are based on recommendations by the plan's actuary. Actuarial assessments are made at no more than three yearly intervals, and the last such assessment was made as at 1 July 2024.

During the most recent review it was noted by the actuary that the defined benefit section of the plan is able to meet its existing and future liabilities without employer contributions. The Group, on advice previously received from the fund actuary, ceased employer contributions to the defined benefits fund plan effective from 1 July 2015. This will continue until advised otherwise by the actuary to the fund.

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

A liability or asset in respect of the defined benefit superannuation plan is recognised in the consolidated balance sheet, and is measured as the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date less the fair value of the superannuation fund's assets at that date and any unrecognised past service cost. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is based on expected future payments which arise from membership of the fund to the reporting date, calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. Consideration is given to expected future wage and salary levels, experience of employee departures and periods of service.

Expected future payments are discounted using market yields at the end of the reporting period on high quality corporate bonds with terms to maturity and currency that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows.

Actuarial gains and losses arising from the experience during the financial year which differed from previous estimates and changes in actuarial assumptions are recognised in the period in which they occur, outside of profit or loss directly in other comprehensive income.

Contributions to the defined contribution section of the Group's superannuation plan and other independent defined contribution superannuation funds are recognised as an expense as they become payable. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that a cash refund or a reduction in future payments is available.

Past service costs are recognised immediately in the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 19: LEASES**

The Group has entered into a number of leases for offices and warehouses under non-cancellable operating lease agreements expiring within one to seven years. The leases have varying terms, escalation clauses and renewal options. The escalation applicable to each lease is a fixed annual rate and on renewal, the terms of the leases are re-negotiated.

#### Leases as Lessee

(i) Amounts recognised in the consolidated balance sheet		
	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS		
Opening balance at start of financial year	14,773	-
Additions to right-of-use assets	50,048	16,618
Depreciation charge for the year	(8,018)	(1,845)
TOTAL RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS	56,803	14,773
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
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LEASE LIABILITIES		
Current lease liabilities	11,990	3,967
Non-current lease liabilities	47,066	11,206
TOTAL LEASE LIABILITIES	59,056	15,173

## (ii) Amounts recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss

	\$'000	\$'000
Interest on lease liabilities	2,178	412
Expense relating to short-term leases	4,429	3,665

#### (iii) Total cash outflow for leases

	\$'000	\$'000
Not later than one year	11,990	3,967
Later than one year and no later than five years	52,532	13,014
Later than five years	4,643	-
Less: effect of discounting	(10,109)	(1,808)
Lease liabilities at 30 June 2025	59,056	15,173

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## **NOTE 19: LEASES (CONTINUED)**

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Right-of-use Asset

Right-of-use assets are initially recognised at cost comprising the following:

- · the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability;
- · lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received;
- · initial direct costs incurred; and
- · the initial estimate of restoration costs.

Right-of-use assets are subsequently depreciated over the lease term.

The carrying amount of right-of-use assets are adjusted for any remeasurement of the lease liability in the financial year following a change in discount rate, a reduction in lease payments payable, changes in variable lease payments that depend upon variable indexes/rates or a change in lease term.

The Group has elected not to record right-of-use assets and liabilities for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets. These lease payments are expensed evenly throughout the lease term.

#### Lease Liabilities

Lease liabilities are initially recognised at the present value of lease payments over the lease term that are not yet paid. The lease term includes any extension or renewal options that the Group is reasonably certain to exercise. The future lease payments included in the calculation of the lease liability comprise the following:

- fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments), less any lease incentives receivable;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date; and
- payments for termination penalties, if the lease term reflects the early termination.

When measuring the lease liability, the Group uses its incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate, which is provided by QTC and corresponds to the commencement date and term of the lease.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liabilities are increased by the interest charge and reduced by the amount of lease payments. Lease liabilities are also remeasured in certain situations such as a change in variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate (e.g. a market rent review), or a change in the lease term.

## CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING THE MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

When the Group has the option to extend a lease, management exercises its judgement to determine whether it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised. Management evaluates all relevant facts and circumstances including past practices and any cost associated with altering the lease if the extension option is not utilised, to determine the lease term.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 20: SHARE CAPITAL**

	Notes	2025 Shares	2024 Shares	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
ORDINARY SHARES					
Fully paid	20(a) 4	101,000,000	401,000,000	401,000	401,000
TOTAL SHARE CAPITAL	4	101,000,000	401,000,000	401,000	401,000

## (a) Issued and Paid Up Capital - Ordinary Shares

Ordinary shares have no par value and the Company does not have a limited amount of authorised capital.

Issued capital consists of 2 "A" Class voting shares of \$1.00 each and 400,999,998 "B" Class non-voting shares of \$1.00 each. Holders of "A" Class ordinary shares are entitled to one vote per share at shareholders' meetings.

There was no movement in the issued and paid up capital during the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

## (b) Terms and Conditions of Share Capital - Ordinary Shares

Ordinary shares entitle the holder to receive dividends as declared and, in the event of winding up of the Company, to participate in the proceeds from the sale of all surplus assets in proportion to the number of, and amounts paid up on, shares held.

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Incremental costs directly attributable to the issue of new shares or options are shown in equity as a deduction, net of tax, from the proceeds.

## **NOTE 21: CONTRIBUTED EQUITY**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Contributed equity	946,350	672,397
TOTAL CONTRIBUTED EQUITY	946,350	672,397

Contributed equity reflects contributions received from the owner (Queensland Government). During the year, the Group received a \$275.0M (2024: \$480.0M) equity contribution for the Copperstring 2032 investment of which \$10.5M was allocated to the Company's subsidiary, Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd (QCN), on behalf of the owner. A \$1.0M adjustment was made for the non-controlling interest in QCN. Refer to Note 34 for further details.

## **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Where assets and liabilities are transferred between entities of the wholly-owned Group or State of Queensland controlled entities under the direction of the owner (Queensland Government), the equity contribution is adjusted to reflect the amount attributable to any non-controlling interest.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 22: RESERVES**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Revaluation surplus - property, plant and equipment	1,851,127	1,790,970
Cash flow hedges	20,909	18,455
TOTAL RESERVES	1,872,036	1,809,425

#### (a) Nature and Purpose of Reserves

## Revaluation Surplus - Property, Plant and Equipment

The property, plant and equipment revaluation surplus reserve is used to record increments and decrements on the revaluation of non-current assets measured at fair value in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards. The balance standing to the credit of the surplus may be used to satisfy the distribution of bonus shares to shareholders and is only available for the payment of cash dividends in limited circumstances as permitted by law.

#### Cash Flow Hedges

The cash flow hedges reserve is used to record gains or losses in cash flow hedging instruments, that are recognised in other comprehensive income. Amounts are reclassified to consolidated statement of profit or loss when associated hedged transactions affect consolidated statement of profit or loss.

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
MOVEMENTS:		
Revaluation surplus - property, plant and equipment		
Opening balance	1,790,970	1,631,399
Revaluation - gross	200,910	319,514
Deferred tax	(60,273)	(95,853)
Transfer to retained earnings	(79,851)	(63,969)
Tax adjustment through other comprehensive income	(629)	(121)
Closing balance	1,851,127	1,790,970
Cash flow hedges		
Opening balance	18,455	16,147
Revaluation - gross	3,506	3,298
Deferred tax	(1,052)	(990)
Closing balance	20,909	18,455
TOTAL RESERVES	1,872,036	1,809,425

During the year the Group transferred from the revaluation reserve to retained earnings a revaluation surplus of \$79.9M (2024: \$64.0M). This surplus reflects the difference between depreciation based on the revalued carrying amount of assets and depreciation based on the assets' original costs.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 23: RETAINED EARNINGS**

Movements in retained earnings were as follows:

	Notes	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Opening balance		272,464	282,790
Net profit for the period		103,020	50,238
Dividends	27	(103,020)	(120,238)
Actuarial gains/(losses) and tax on remeasurement of defined benefit plan assets		(9,511)	(5,676)
Defined benefit fund contributions tax		2,157	1,347
Transfer from revaluation surplus		79,850	63,969
Currency adjustment		(2)	34
CLOSING BALANCE		344,958	272,464

#### **NOTE 24: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Group manages financial risk under a Board-approved Risk Policy, supported by various frameworks, programs, and policies. This approach ensures that all significant enterprise risks are consistently identified, assessed, prioritised, and managed in line with the Board-approved Risk Appetite Statements. The policies cover specific areas such as foreign exchange risk, interest rate risk, credit risk, use of derivative and non-derivative financial instruments, and the investment of excess liquidity.

## (a) Derivatives

202	5 2024
\$'000	\$'000
CURRENT ASSETS	
Foreign currency exchange - cash flow hedges 1,434	368
NON-CURRENT ASSETS	
Interest rate swaps - cash flow hedges 28,437	25,997
TOTAL DERIVATIVES 29,871	26,365

Derivatives are only used for economic hedging purposes and not as speculative investments. However, where derivatives do not meet the hedge accounting criteria, they are classified as 'held for trading' for accounting purposes and are accounted for at fair value through profit or loss. They are presented as current assets or liabilities to the extent they are expected to be settled within 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

All derivatives are measured as level 2 in the fair value measurement hierarchy (refer Note 25).

For hedged forecast transactions that result in the recognition of a non-financial asset, the Group has elected to include related hedging gains and losses in the initial measurement of the cost of the asset.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 24: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

Derivatives are initially recognised at fair value on the date a derivative contract is entered into and are subsequently re-measured to their fair value at the end of each reporting period. The Group designates certain derivatives as hedges of a particular risk associated with the cash flows of highly probable forecast transactions (cash flow hedges). The effective portion of changes in the fair value of derivatives that are designated and qualify as cash flow hedges are recognised in other comprehensive income and presented in the cash flow hedge reserves within equity. The gain or loss relating to ineffective hedges is recognised immediately in the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

#### Hedge Effectiveness

Hedge effectiveness is evaluated at the inception of a hedging relationship, and through periodic prospective effectiveness assessments, to ensure that an economic relationship exists between the hedged item and the hedging instrument.

For hedges of foreign currency purchases and interest rate swaps, the Group enters into hedge relationships where the critical terms of the hedging instrument match with the terms of the hedged item. The Group therefore performs a qualitative assessment of effectiveness. If changes in circumstances affect the terms of the hedged item such that the critical terms no longer match with the critical terms of the hedge instrument, the hedge relationship is no longer effective and the related fair value changes are transferred to the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

In hedges of foreign currency purchases or interest rate swaps, ineffectiveness may arise if the timing of the forecast transaction changes from what was originally estimated, or if there are changes in the credit risk of Australia or the derivative counterparty.

#### (b) Market Risk

#### (i) Foreign Exchange Risk

The Group is exposed to currency and commodity risks when purchasing materials in foreign currencies for the construction and maintenance of supply system assets.

Exchange rate and commodity exposures are managed within approved policy parameters using forward foreign exchange and commodity contracts.

The Group's market risk management standard is to generally hedge between 50% and 100% of anticipated transactions (material purchases) in the foreign currency where a commitment or contracted exposure exists and the amount exceeds a Board-approved threshold.

The carrying amounts of the Group's financial assets and liabilities are all denominated in Australian dollars.

## Exposure

The Group's exposures to foreign currency risk at the end of the reporting period, expressed in the foreign currency, were as follows:

	2025		2024	
	USD	EURO	USD	EURO
	\$'000	€'000	\$'000	€'000
Foreign currency forwards				
- buy foreign currency (cash flow hedges)	36,415	1,740	38,217	5,082

All forward foreign exchange contracts are hedging against forecast purchases.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 24: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

## (b) Market Risk (continued)

#### (ii) Interest Rate Risk

The Group's main interest rate risk would normally arise from long term borrowings. However, under the lending arrangements provided by QTC, the Company's borrowings are largely funded by fixed rate debt instruments with various terms to maturity which produce a relatively stable average interest rate.

The Group primarily holds its borrowings with QTC, an entity controlled by the Queensland Government, except for a variable loan with the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC). All borrowings are denominated in Australian dollars. To hedge against the variability in future cash flows due to interest rate fluctuations, the Group has entered into pay fixed/receive variable interest rate derivatives with QTC and CEFC, respectively.

#### (iii) Price Risk

The Group does not have any exposure to equity securities price risk or material commodity price risk.

#### (c) Credit Risk

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss to the Group.

The Group is primarily exposed to credit risk through its electricity transmission services to a few large reputable customers including electricity generators, distributors and direct connect load customers. The risk associated with these customers is considered low. Additionally, appropriate financial security is obtained when necessary, either through regulatory regime arrangements, or other forms such as parent guarantees and unconditional bank guarantees.

Outside of the small number of major electricity network customers, trade receivables consists of a limited number of customers, spread across diverse industries and geographical areas. Ongoing credit evaluation is performed on the financial condition of accounts receivable.

The credit risk on liquid funds and derivative financial instruments is limited as the counterparties are either banks, QTC or Government entities, all of whom have high credit ratings assigned by international credit rating agencies.

The carrying amount of financial assets recorded in the consolidated financial statements, net of any allowances for losses, represents the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk without taking into account the value of any collateral obtained.

#### Trade Receivables Ageing and Impairment

The ageing analysis of trade receivables along with the amount of any loss due to impairment of trade receivables during the current or prior year is contained within Note 8.

## (d) Liquidity Risk

The Board of Directors holds ultimate responsibility for liquidity risk management. They have implemented a suitable framework to manage the Group's short, medium, and long-term funding and liquidity needs. The Group manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate reserves, banking facilities, and reserve borrowing facilities, while continuously monitoring forecast and actual cash flows. Surplus funds are invested with QTC and can be accessed on call.

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 24: FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

## (d) Liquidity Risk (continued)

## Financing Arrangements

Under the funding arrangements entered into between the Company and the Company's Shareholding Ministers, any undrawn approved funding lapses at the end of each financial year. The Company seeks approval from the Shareholding Ministers for funding requirements for the forthcoming year on an annual basis, and these approved borrowings form part of the State of Queensland's borrowing program. Should additional borrowings beyond the approved amounts be necessary to maintain liquidity and/or meet operational requirements, approval must be sought from the Queensland Treasurer.

#### Maturities of Financial Liabilities

The tables below indicate the Group's financial liabilities, in relevant maturity groupings based on the remaining period at the reporting date to the contractual maturity date. The amounts disclosed in the 30 June 2025 table reflect the position at that date.

Contractual maturities of financial liabilities At 30 June 2025 NON-DERIVATIVES	0 - 12 months \$'000	Between 1 and 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000	Total contractual cash flows \$'000	
Trade and other payables	128,710	-	-	128,710	128,710
Interest bearing loans	268,104	1,093,917	6,222,960	7,584,981	6,403,471
TOTAL NON-DERIVATIVES	396,814	1,093,917	6,222,960	7,713,691	6,532,181

Contractual maturities of financial liabilities At 30 June 2024	0 - 12 months \$'000	Between 1 and 5 years \$'000	Over 5 years \$'000	Total contractual cash flows \$'000	
NON-DERIVATIVES					
Trade and other payables	252,766	-	-	252,766	252,766
Interest bearing loans	207,294	905,321	6,008,952	7,121,567	5,712,418
TOTAL NON-DERIVATIVES	460,060	905,321	6,008,952	7,374,333	5,965,184

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 25: FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS**

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

To provide an indication of the reliability of the inputs used in determining fair value, the Group classifies its assets and liabilities measured at fair value into the three levels prescribed under the accounting standards.

The Group's policy is to recognise transfers between fair value hierarchy levels as at the end of the reporting period.

**Level 1:** The fair value of financial instruments traded in active markets (such as publicly traded derivatives and equity securities) is based on quoted market prices at the end of the reporting period. The quoted market price used for financial assets held by the Group is the current bid price. These instruments are included in level 1.

**Level 2:** The fair value of financial instruments that are not traded in an active market (e.g. over-the-counter derivatives) is determined using valuation techniques that maximise the use of observable market data and rely as little as possible on entity-specific estimates. If all significant inputs required to fair value an instrument are observable, the instrument is included in level 2.

**Level 3:** If one or more of the significant inputs is not based on observable market data, the instrument is included in level 3.

There were no transfers between levels 1, 2 and 3 for recurring fair value measurements during the year.

#### **NOTE 26: CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Group's objectives when managing capital are to safeguard its ability to continue as a going concern, so that it can continue to provide returns to shareholders and benefits for other stakeholders, and to maintain an optimal capital structure in line with Shareholding Ministers' expectations.

The Group's overall strategy to maintain at least an "investment grade" business credit rating remains unchanged.

The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, which includes interest bearing loans disclosed in Note 14, cash and cash equivalents in Note 6, and equity attributable to equity holders of the Company, comprising share capital, contributed equity, reserves and retained earnings as disclosed in Notes 20, 21, 22 and 23 respectively.

In order to maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may adjust the amount of dividends paid to shareholders, return capital to shareholders, issue new shares or sell assets to reduce debt.

Operating cash flows are used to maintain and expand the Group's property, plant and equipment, as well as to make routine outflows of tax, dividends and servicing of debt.

The Group's policy is to principally borrow centrally using facilities provided by QTC to meet anticipated funding requirements.

There have not been any material changes in strategy or policy subsequent to the year ended 30 June 2025.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### NOTE 26: CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

The Group's management monitors its capital on the basis of Adjusted Net Debt to Fixed Assets ratio on an annual basis through its reporting to the Board, Shareholding Ministers and QTC.

		2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Total debt		6,403,471	5,712,418
Property, plant and equipment		10,517,517	9,653,805
	Gearing ratio	60.9%	59.2%

#### **NOTE 27: DIVIDENDS**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
ORDINARY SHARES		
Unfranked special/interim dividend	-	70,000
Unfranked final dividend proposed	103,020	50,238
TOTAL DIVIDENDS	103,020	120,238

The proposed 2024/25 final dividend is based on 100% of operating profit after income tax equivalent expense attributable to owners of Powerlink Queensland.

Pursuant to the National Tax Equivalent Regime, the Group is not required to maintain a franking account.

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Provisions are made for any dividends declared, which have been duly authorised and are no longer at the discretion of the entity, by or before the end of the reporting period but remain undistributed at that time.

The dividend recommendation is made after consulting with the Shareholding Ministers in accordance with the GOC Act.

## **NOTE 28: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

Information in respect of each category of performance-related payment is as follows:

## (a) At-Risk Performance Remuneration

Certain employees of the Group are eligible for performance payments based on individual efforts against a range of key performance behaviours and performance objectives contained in individual performance agreements and taking into consideration the overall performance of the Group. In addition, award employees are eligible for a gain-sharing payment based on corporate results.

At-risk performance payments are paid in the current financial year for the preceding financial year.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

NOTE 28: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (CONTINUED)	2025	2024
Aggregate at-risk performance remuneration paid	\$0.2M	\$6.9M
Number of employees receiving performance payments	8	1,226
Total salaries and wages paid	\$473.4M	\$292.7M

#### (b) Number of Employees

Number of employees (full time equivalents excluding labour hire) at year end: 1,947 (2024: 1,666).

#### **SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **Employee Benefits**

Wages and Salaries, Annual Leave, Long Service Leave and Sick Leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave, long service leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in respect of employees' services up to the reporting date and are measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled. Liabilities expected to be settled more than 12 months after the reporting date are measured at the present value of expected future payments to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

For long service leave, future wages, employee departures, and service periods are considered. Future payments are discounted using market yields that closely match the estimated cash outflows.

Liabilities for sick leave are recognised when the leave is taken and measured at the rates paid or payable. Annual leave, vested long service leave and on-cost entitlements accrued but not expected to be taken within 12 months have been included as part of current liabilities as the Group does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least 12 months after the reporting date.

Personal leave taken each reporting period is less than the entitlement accrued. This is expected to continue in future periods. Accordingly, it is unlikely that existing accumulated entitlements will be used by employees. No liability for unused sick leave entitlements is recognised. As sick leave is non-vesting, an expense is recognised for this leave as it is taken.

#### Termination Benefits

Liabilities for termination benefits are recognised for the obligation to provide termination payments to employees where there is a valid expectation that the Group will progress with a restructuring and associated terminations.

## CRITICAL JUDGEMENTS IN APPLYING THE MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

## Employee Entitlements

Management judgement is applied in determining the following key assumptions used in the calculation of long service leave at balance date:

- future increases in salaries and wages;
- future oncost rates; and
- experience of employee departures and periods of service.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 29: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES

The key management personnel of Powerlink Queensland during the financial year were:

#### (a) Shareholding Ministers

Powerlink Queensland is a Queensland GOC established under the GOC Act. The GOC's Shareholding Ministers are identified as part of the GOC's key management personnel (KMP). Two Queensland Government Ministers (Shareholding Ministers) hold shares in Powerlink Queensland on behalf of the people of Queensland. During the financial year they were:

- The Honourable David Janetzki MP, Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership.
- · The Honourable Rosslyn Bates MP, Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training.
- The Honourable Mick de Brenni MP, Minister for Energy and Clean Economy Jobs (1 July 2024 to 27 October 2024).
- The Honourable Cameron Dick MP, Deputy Premier, Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment (1 July 2024 to 27 October 2024).

Ministerial remuneration entitlements are outlined in the Legislative Assembly of Queensland's Members Remuneration Handbook. Powerlink Queensland does not bear any cost of remuneration of Ministers. The majority of Ministerial entitlements are paid by the Legislative Assembly, with the remaining entitlements being provided by Ministerial Services Branch within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. As all Ministers are reported as KMP of the Queensland Government, aggregate remuneration expenses of all Ministers are disclosed in the Queensland General Government and Whole of Government Consolidated Financial Statements, which are published as part of Queensland Treasury's Report on State Finances.

## (b) Directors

Directors of Powerlink Queensland are appointed by the Shareholding Ministers for fixed terms with specified expiry dates. The following persons were directors of the Group during the financial year:

Directors of Po	werlink Queensland	First appointed	Appointment expiry / cessation date
Kathy Hirschfeld AM	Chair	1 October 2018	30 September 2025
Alan Millis	Non-Executive Director	1 October 2015	30 September 2025
Kevin Hegarty OAM	Non-Executive Director	1 October 2020	30 October 2024
Wayne Collins	Non-Executive Director	1 October 2020	30 September 2027
Joanna Brand	Non-Executive Director	13 October 2022	30 September 2025
Kate Drews	Non-Executive Director	1 October 2023	7 August 2025
Amanda Yeates	Non-Executive Director	1 October 2023	7 August 2025
Dr Prins Ralston	Non-Executive Director	7 December 2023	7 August 2025
Jennifer Hill AM	Non-Executive Director	8 July 2024	19 December 2024

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 29: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES (CONTINUED)

## (c) Other KMP

Remuneration of Other KMP

The People, Safety and Environment Committee of the Board of Directors is responsible for establishing remuneration policy, and for determining and reviewing the remuneration arrangements for other key management personnel.

The People, Safety and Environment Committee assesses the appropriateness of the nature and amount of compensation of other key management personnel on a periodic basis by reference to relevant employment market conditions to assist the Company to attract, retain and motivate high calibre individuals. Shareholder guidelines and policy in relation to remuneration of other key management personnel are followed.

The remuneration arrangements include a total fixed remuneration component which provides some flexibility for packaging of superannuation, motor vehicles and other costs, as well as a performance pay component which rewards out-performance of pre-agreed business and individual targets.

Other key management personnel are employed under employment agreements. Their current employment agreements either have a fixed term or do not have an expiry date. The agreements provide a notice period from five weeks to six months depending on the particular contract and provision for a severance payment should the Company elect to terminate the agreement. The severance payment is in accordance with the employment agreement.

#### (d) Details of Remuneration

Each Director receives an annual fee for being a Director of the Company. An additional fee is also paid for each Board Committee and subsidiary Board on which the Director sits. The current base remuneration was last reviewed with effect from 1 October 2023.

Directors are not entitled to receive any performance-related remuneration. Directors do not receive share options and are not entitled to acquire shares in the Company. All shares in the Company are held by the Shareholding Ministers on behalf of the State of Queensland.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 29: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES (CONTINUED)

#### (d) Details of Remuneration (continued)

## (i) Directors of the Company

	Short Te		Post Emplo			
	Benefi		Benefit		Tota	
	2025	2024	2025	2024	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Kathy Hirschfeld AM	122	114	14	13	136	127
Wayne Collins*	70	118	8	13	78	131
Alan Millis*	72	89	8	10	80	99
Kevin Hegarty OAM*	23	86	3	10	26	96
Joanna Brand	70	57	8	6	78	63
Kate Drews	67	41	8	5	75	46
Amanda Yeates	70	41	8	5	78	46
Dr Prins Ralston	67	32	8	4	75	36
Jennifer Hill AM	29	_	3	- -	32	_
Dr Lorraine Stephenson	-	12	-	1	-	13
TOTAL	590	590	68	67	658	657

\*Wayne Collins, Alan Millis and Kevin Hegarty OAM received remuneration as Directors for Copperstring 2.0 Electricity Transmission Corporation Pty Ltd during the 2023/24 financial year. The project has now transitioned to Powerlink, with a Copperstring 2032 committee established to reflect its scale, complexity and strategic significance.

Directors' remuneration excludes insurance premiums paid by Powerlink Queensland in respect of the Directors' and Officers' liability insurance contracts, and premiums in respect of Directors' and Officers' supplementary legal expenses, as the contracts do not specify premiums paid in respect of individual Directors and Officers. Information relating to insurance contracts is set out in the Directors' Report.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 29: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES (CONTINUED)

## (d) Details of Remuneration (continued)

## (ii) Other KMP

Details of the nature and amount of each major element of the remuneration to each of the other KMP of the Group, inclusive of performance payments, are:

	Short	Term				
2025	Benefits <sup>1</sup>	Payments <sup>2</sup>	Post- Employment Benefits <sup>3</sup>	Benefits⁴	Termination Benefits <sup>5</sup>	Total
Paul Simshauser - Chief	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Executive	937	37	31	24	-	1,029
Darryl Rowell - Chief Financial Officer	479	19	35	13	-	546
Gary Edwards - Chief Operating Officer	410	17	53	12	- -	492
Stewart Bell - Executive General Manager Network and Business Development	467	21	90	13	-	591
Jacqui Bridge - Executive General Manager Energy Futures	389	15	50	11	- -	465
Leigh Fleming - Executive General Manager People & Corporate Services	393	19	50	11	-	473
lan Lowry - Executive General Manager Major Projects	555	19	69	15	- -	658
Sarah Huang - Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical		A A	F0	40		450
Solutions <sup>6</sup> TOTAL	385 <b>4,015</b>	11 <b>158</b>	50 <b>428</b>	10 <b>109</b>	<u>-</u>	456 <b>4,710</b>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Short term benefits includes payments made to the executive as part of their fixed remuneration including accrued annual leave (excluding superannuation).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Performance payments are paid in the current financial year for the preceding financial year.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Post employment benefits represent superannuation contributions made by the employer to the superannuation fund.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Other long term benefits represent long service leave accrued.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Termination benefits represent payments made to the executive on termination of employment excluding any entitlements relating to annual leave or long service leave.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Sarah Huang was permanently appointed to the role of Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Solutions effective 25 June 2025.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 29: KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES (CONTINUED)

## (d) Details of Remuneration (continued)

	Short	Term				
			Post-	Other		
2024		Performance I			Termination 5	Total
2024	Benefits <sup>1</sup> \$'000	Payments <sup>2</sup> \$'000	Benefits <sup>°</sup> \$'000	Benefits <sup>*</sup> \$'000	Benefits° \$'000	Total \$'000
Paul Simshauser - Chief Executive	924	71	28	23	φ 000 -	1,046
Darryl Rowell - Chief Financial						
Officer <sup>7</sup>	460	38	28	12	-	538
Gary Edwards - Chief Operating						
Officer	380	22	49	11	-	462
Stewart Bell - Executive General Manager Network and Business						
Development	436	39	86	13	-	574
Jacqui Bridge - Executive General Manager Energy Futures	375	33	49	11	_	468
	373		49 		<u>-</u>	400
Leigh Fleming - Executive General Manager People & Corporate						
Services <sup>8</sup>	384	32	48	11	-	475
lan Lowry - Executive General		•		4.0		
Manager Major Projects <sup>9</sup>	431	34	42	13	-	520
Sarah Huang - Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical						
Manager Delivery and Technical Solutions <sup>10</sup>	283		37	8		328
TOTAL	3,673	269	367	102	_	4,411

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Darryl Rowell resumed his role as the Chief Financial Officer on 28 August 2023 after acting as the Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Solutions.

Other key management personnel remuneration excludes insurance premiums paid by the parent entity in respect of Directors' and Officers' liability insurance contracts and premiums in respect of Directors' and Officers' supplementary legal expenses, as the contracts do not specify premiums paid in respect of individual Directors and Officers. Information relating to the insurance contracts is set out in the Directors' Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Leigh Fleming resumed her sole role as the Executive General Manager People and Corporate Services on 28 August 2023 after undertaking a dual role appointment covering the Chief Financial Officer position.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ian Lowry was permanently appointed to the role of Executive General Manager Major Projects, effective from 29 April 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Sarah Huang was appointed as the Acting Executive General Manager Delivery and Technical Solutions effective 23 August 2023.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

#### **NOTE 30: REMUNERATION OF AUDITORS**

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Audit of financial statements	459	361
Audit and review of regulatory reports and other services	231	-
TOTAL REMUNERATION FOR AUDIT AND OTHER SERVICES	690	361

#### **NOTE 31: CONTINGENCIES**

#### (a) Contingent Assets

The Group has \$Nil contingent assets at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

## (b) Contingent Liabilities

The Group has \$Nil contingent liabilities at 30 June 2025 (2024: \$Nil).

## **NOTE 32: COMMITMENTS**

## **Capital Expenditure Commitments**

Significant capital expenditure for the Group which is attributable to the parent entity, contracted for at the end of the reporting period but not recognised as liabilities, is as follows:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Property, plant and equipment	659,285	816,783
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE COMMITMENTS	659,285	816,783

#### **NOTE 33: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

#### (a) Parent Entities

The Group has a related party relationship with its Parent Entity (includes other agencies and departments of the State of Queensland).

#### (b) Directors

#### Directors' Shareholdings

No shares in Powerlink Queensland were held by Directors of the Company, the Group or their Director-related entities.

#### Loans to Directors

No loans have been made or are outstanding to Directors of the Company, the Group or their Director-related entities.

#### (c) Subsidiaries and Associates

Interests in subsidiaries are set out in Note 34.

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025** 

## NOTE 33: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

#### (d) Transactions with Related Parties

Disclosures relating to other key management personnel are set out in Note 29.

The following transactions occurred with related parties, with terms equivalent to those that prevail in arm's length transactions:

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
SALES OF GOODS AND SERVICES (INCLUDES GST)		
Entities controlled by the State of Queensland	793,796	680,331
PURCHASES OF GOODS AND SERVICES (INCLUDES GST)		
Entities controlled by the State of Queensland	129,548	113,439
INTEREST REVENUE		
Entities controlled by the State of Queensland	38,881	23,680
OTHER TRANSACTIONS		
Dividends to the Shareholders	103,020	120,205
Borrowing costs - entities controlled by the State of Queensland	255,202	208,774
Other related party transactions	275,000	480,000
TOTAL OTHER TRANSACTIONS	633,222	808,979

Refer to Note 5 for details of income tax transactions with the ultimate parent entity in accordance with the National Tax Equivalent Regime.

#### (e) Outstanding Balances

The following balances are outstanding at the end of the reporting period in relation to transactions with related parties:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
ENTITIES CONTROLLED BY THE STATE OF QUEENSLAND		
Trade and other receivables (sales of goods and services)	88,874	80,330
Trade and other payables (purchases of goods and services)	(3,279)	(7,902)
Cash and cash equivalents	4,114	8,659
Net finance costs payable	(7,382)	(8,335)
TOTAL RELATED PARTY OUTSTANDING BALANCE	82,327	72,752

Refer to Notes 15 and 16 for details of outstanding balances with the ultimate parent entity relating to current tax equivalent liabilities, deferred tax equivalent assets, deferred tax equivalent liabilities and provision for dividends.

## (f) Cash Advances to Related Parties

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
CASH ADVANCES TO THE ULTIMATE PARENT ENTITY		
Advances	668,745	552,426

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 33: RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (CONTINUED)

#### (g) Loans from Related Parties

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
LOANS FROM ULTIMATE PARENT ENTITY		
Opening balance	5,638,353	5,190,839
Finance costs charged	255,202	208,774
Finance costs expensed	(253,424)	(194,662)
Loan repayment made	(56,504)	(195,622)
Loan advances	685,562	629,024
CLOSING BALANCE	6,269,189	5,638,353

## (h) Terms and Conditions

All transactions were made on normal commercial terms and conditions, with outstanding balances being unsecured.

## **NOTE 34: INTERESTS IN OTHER ENTITIES**

## (a) Significant investments in subsidiaries

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets, liabilities and results of the following subsidiaries in accordance with the accounting policy described in this note. The country of incorporation is also their principal place of business.

			Equity holding **	
Name of entity	Country of incorporation	Class of shares	2025 %	<b>2024</b> %
Harold Street Holdings Pty Ltd *	Australia	Ordinary	100	100
Powerlink Transmission Services Pty Ltd *	Australia	Ordinary	100	100
Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd*	Australia	Ordinary	51	51
Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd*	Australia	Non-Voting	90	90
Copperstring 2.0 Electricity Transmission Corporation Pty Ltd*	Australia	Ordinary	100	100

- \* These subsidiaries are small proprietary companies and are therefore relieved from the requirement for the preparation, audit and lodgement of annual financial statements.
- \*\* The proportion of ownership interest is equal to the proportion of voting power held, other than for QCN.

Principal activities of both Harold Street Holdings Pty Ltd and Powerlink Transmission Services Pty Ltd are to act as holding companies for investments made by the parent company, Powerlink Queensland.

Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd (QCN) is a telecommunications company set up for the purpose of enabling faster and more reliable internet services in regional Queensland. QCN is jointly owned by Powerlink and Energy Queensland.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 34: INTERESTS IN OTHER ENTITIES (CONTINUED)

## (a) Significant investments in subsidiaries (continued)

Powerlink Queensland owns a controlling 51% of ordinary shares in QCN, along with 90% of non-voting shares. The non-voting shares confer the right to receive any dividend or distribution from the entity and therefore represent the basis of consolidation.

On 30 September 2024, Powerlink Queensland received instructions from its shareholding ministers at the time to allocate up to \$11M additional equity to QCN. A total equity contribution of \$10.5M was made in this regard during the year ended 30 June 2025. As Powerlink Queensland acted as an intermediary for the ultimate shareholder in this arrangement, it does not result in a change to its entitlement to dividends or distributions from QCN.

On 31 March 2023, Powerlink Queensland acquired 100% of the ordinary shares in CopperString 2.0 Electricity Transmission Corporation Pty Ltd, an entity set up for the purpose of providing electricity transmission services in North Queensland.

## (b) Non-controlling Interests (NCI)

		Queensland Capacity Network		
Supporting financials	Capacity N			
	2025	2024		
	\$'000	\$'000		
Current assets	15,260	11,221		
Non-current assets	11,824	6,243		
TOTAL ASSETS	27,084	17,464		
Current liabilities	(3,296)	(3,818)		
TOTAL LIABILITIES	(3,296)	(3,818)		
NET ASSETS	23,788	13,646		
ATTRIBUTABLE TO:				
Owners of Powerlink Queensland	21,409	12,281		
Non-controlling interest	2,379	1,365		

		Queensland Capacity Network	
Summarised statement of comprehensive income	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	
Profit/(loss) for the period	(336)	54	
Total comprehensive income	(336)	54	
Profit/(loss) allocated to NCI	(34)	5	

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 34: INTERESTS IN OTHER ENTITIES (CONTINUED)

	Queensland Capacity Network	
Summarised cash flows	2025 \$'000	
Cash flows from operating activities	(386)	2,899
Cash flows from investing activities	(5,024)	(432)
Cash flows from financing activities	10,476	-
Net increases/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	5,066	2,467

#### SUMMARY OF MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are all entities (including structured entities) over which the Company has control. The Company controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Company. They are deconsolidated from the date that control ceases.

Intercompany transactions, balances and unrealised gains on transactions between Group companies are eliminated on consolidation. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of the impairment of the asset transferred. Accounting policies of subsidiaries have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with the policies adopted by the Group.

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the assets and liabilities of all subsidiaries of Powerlink Queensland ('the Company' or 'parent entity') as at 30 June 2025 and the results of all subsidiaries for the year then ended.

Investments in subsidiaries are accounted for at cost by Powerlink Queensland.

## NOTE 35: EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

On 7 August 2025, the Shareholding Ministers appointed Peta Tilse and Diana Lollato as Directors of Powerlink. On the same date, Prins Ralston, Amanda Yeates, and Kate Drews ceased as Directors. These changes occurred after the reporting date and do not give rise to adjustments to the amounts recognised in these financial statements. Further details are provided in the Directors' Report.

No other matters or circumstances have occurred subsequent to the financial year end that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations of the Group, the results of the operations or the state of affairs of the Group in subsequent financial years (2024: \$NiI).

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

## NOTE 36: PARENT ENTITY (POWERLINK QUEENSLAND) FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## (a) Summary Financial Information

The individual consolidated financial statements for the parent entity, Powerlink Queensland, show the following aggregate amounts:

	Powerlink Queensland		
0	2025	2024	
Summarised balance sheet	\$'000	\$'000	
Balance Sheet			
Current assets	1,018,610	837,021	
Non-current assets	10,786,478	9,840,501	
TOTAL ASSETS	11,805,088	10,677,522	
Current liabilities Non-current liabilities	(482,868) (7,759,613)	(523,979) (7,000,822)	
TOTAL LIABILITIES	(8,242,481)	(7,524,801)	
	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	<u>-</u>	
NET ASSETS	3,562,607	3,152,721	
SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Issued capital	401,000	401,000	
Contributed equity	948,390	673,390	
Revaluation surplus - property, plant and equipment	1,851,127	1,790,970	
Cash flow hedges	20,909	18,455	
Retained earnings	341,181	268,906	
TOTAL EQUITY	3,562,607	3,152,721	
Profit or loss for the year	102,797	49,514	
Total comprehensive income	238,533	271,154	

## (b) Determining the Parent Entity Financial Information

The financial information for the parent entity has been prepared on the same basis as the consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED ENTITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

## **CONSOLIDATED ENTITY DISCLOSURE STATEMENT AS AT 30 JUNE 2025**

Entity name	Entity type	Place of incorporation	% share capital held	Tax residency	Foreign jurisdiction
Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited	[1]	Australia	100%	Australia	N/a
Harold Street Holdings Pty Ltd	[2]	Australia	100%	Australia	N/a
Powerlink Transmission Services Pty Ltd	[2]	Australia	100%	Australia	N/a
Queensland Capacity Network Pty Ltd	[2]	Australia	90%	Australia	N/a
Copperstring 2.0 Electricity Transmission Corporation Pty					
Ltd	[2]	Australia	100%	Australia	N/a

#### **BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The consolidated entity disclosure statement has been prepared in accordance with subsection 295(3A)(a) of the *Corporations Act 2001*. The entities listed in the statement are Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited and all the entities it controls in accordance with *AASB 10 Consolidated Financial Statements*.

The percentage of share capital disclosed for each entity included in the statement represents the voting interest controlled by Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited directly.

## **DIRECTORS' DECLARATION**

In the opinion of the Directors of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited (the Company):

- (a) the consolidated financial statements and notes are in accordance with the *Corporations Act* 2001, including:
  - (i) complying with Australian Accounting Standards, the *Corporations Regulations 2001* and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
  - (ii) giving a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2025 and of its performance for the year ended on that date, and
- (b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable, and
- (c) the Consolidated Entity disclosure statement as at 30 June 2025 is true and correct.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors.

Marschfeld

Kathy Hirschfeld AM

Director Brisbane

27 August 2025



#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited (trading as Powerlink Queensland)

## Report on the audit of the financial report

#### **Opinion**

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Powerlink Queensland (the company) and its controlled entities (the group).

The financial report comprises the consolidated balance sheet as at 30 June 2025, the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information, the consolidated entity disclosure statement and the directors' declaration.

In my opinion, the accompanying financial report of the group is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the group's financial position as at 30 June 2025, and its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

## Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of my report.

I am independent of the group in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards) (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the Auditor-General Auditing Standards. I am also independent of the group in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001, and confirm that the independence declaration required by the Corporations Act 2001, which has been given to the directors of the company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

## **Key audit matters**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in my professional judgement, were of most significance in my audit of the financial report of the current period. I addressed these matters in the context of my audit of the financial report as a whole, and in forming my opinion thereon, and I do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.



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## Valuation of property, plant and equipment - \$8.6 billion (excluding work in progress)

Refer to note 11 in the financial report.

#### Key audit matter

## How my audit addressed the key audit matter

Powerlink Queensland used a complex discounted cash flow model to ensure that the carrying value of property, plant and equipment (excluding work in progress) did not differ materially from its fair value.

The model involved significant judgements for:

- estimating future cash flows and terminal values
- · setting discount rates.

My procedures included, but were not limited to:

- Obtaining an understanding of the discounted cash flow model, and assessing its design, integrity and appropriateness with reference to common industry practices.
- Engaging an auditor's expert to assist me in assessing the reasonableness of the discount rates and implied regulated asset base multiple with reference to market data and industry research.
- Performing a sensitivity analysis for discount rates to develop a reasonable range for fair value.
- Performing a retrospective analysis of previous year's cash flow forecasts against subsequent actual results to identify potential forecasting risk.
- Assessing the reasonableness of cash flow forecasts relative to regulator-approved determination, board approved budgets, non-regulated revenue contracts, historical growth trends, and other relevant internal and external evidence.
- Verifying the mathematical accuracy of net present value calculations.

# Useful lives of property, plant and equipment estimated for depreciation expense (\$403.6 million)

Refer to note 3 and note 11 in the financial report.

#### Key audit matter

#### How my audit addressed the key audit matter

The straight-line depreciation method used by Powerlink Queensland requires significant judgements for:

- identifying the significant parts of property, plant and equipment that have different useful lives
- estimating the remaining useful lives of those significant assets.

My procedures included, but were not limited to:

- Evaluating management's approach for componentising property, plant and equipment into parts with different useful lives, and changes to useful life assessments for components within the assets for reasonableness, having regard to recent replacement projects and long-term asset management plans.
- Evaluating remaining useful life estimates for reasonableness with reference to historical disposal rates, condition assessments for older assets, and long-term asset management plans and budgets.



#### Other information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

## Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of:

- the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Act 2001; and
- b) the consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, and,

for such internal controls as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of:

- the financial report (other than the consolidated entity disclosure statement) that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- ii. the consolidated entity disclosure statement that is true and correct and is free of misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the group to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the group or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could



reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\_responsibilities/ar5.pdf

This description forms part of my auditor's report.

mluwinga

28 August 2025

Martin Luwinga as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office Brisbane

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