Strategic projects

07

This chapter explores possible new loads within the resource-rich areas of Queensland and the associated coastal port facilities, as well as the potential future electrification of mining and industrial processing loads that may cause network limitations to emerge within the 10-year outlook period. In addition, the chapter outlines potential upgrades to major grid sections that support Queensland's energy future.

Key highlights

- Powerlink is aware of multiple proposals for large mining, metal processing and other industrial loads, as well as the electrification of existing loads. These developments could impact the performance and adequacy of the transmission system within the 10-year outlook period.
- On 10 October 2025, the Queensland Government released its Energy Roadmap. Central to the Energy Roadmap is a commitment to leverage existing assets and opportunities to rebuild aging assets with higher capacity 275 kilovolt (kV) infrastructure.
- In response to moderating load forecasts and the current cost of transmission network delivery, Powerlink is undertaking a staged, flexible network development approach to unlock new generation connection opportunities across Queensland.
- Powerlink's approach to investment planning and timing is driven on a principle of prudent investment and innovation to prepare Queensland's network for the opportunities and challenges ahead. This approach enables timely responses to market signals, supports generation growth and integrates a mix of firming assets such as batteries, gas-powered generation and longer duration solutions like Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (PHES).

7.1 Introduction

On 10 October 2025, the Queensland Government released its Energy Roadmap—a strategic plan to deliver an affordable, reliable and sustainable energy future. The Energy Roadmap commits to leveraging existing assets, optimising investments, and enabling new generation through targeted transmission upgrades. Importantly, it highlights Queensland's commitment to the Priority Transmission Investment (PTI) framework and Regional Energy Hubs to progress critical transmission infrastructure efficiently and effectively[1].

In line with the Energy Roadmap, Powerlink is implementing a staged development model that is prudent and efficient, providing flexibility to accommodate future load growth and generation patterns. This approach focuses on:

- targeted 275kV augmentations and asset rebuilds to relieve congestion and better utilise existing infrastructure
- rebuilding aging assets with higher capacity solutions to provide flexibility for future load growth and generation patterns
- applying staged development principles to respond efficiently to market signals and integrate firming technologies such as PHES.

Within this strategic context, Powerlink is aware of several proposals for large mining, metal processing, other industrial loads, including the electrification of existing operations. While these developments have not progressed sufficiently to be included (either wholly or in part) in Powerlink's Central scenario forecast of future load, they collectively represent approximately 2,982 megawatts (MW) across northern, central and southern Queensland, as outlined in Table 2.1. Their potential impact on transmission system performance and adequacy is explored in Section 7.2, considering:

- existing and committed network and generation infrastructure (refer to tables 6.1 and 6.2)
- the potential development of new generation areas and future projects that may be required within the 10-year outlook period.

Powerlink's network development approach also reflects evolving market conditions and policy changes, including:

- moderated demand forecasts, particularly for hydrogen loads in central Queensland
- escalating transmission costs, making large-scale backbone builds less economically viable[2]
- cancellation of the Pioneer-Burdekin PHES in November 2024
- operating timeframes of coal-fired power stations owned by the Queensland Government.

These factors reinforce the need for a flexible, staged approach rather than large-scale backbone expansion.

1 Queensland Government, Energy Roadmap, October 2025.
2 For further discussion on cost escalation for transmission projects and equipment, see Powerlink, Powerlink 2027-32 Revenue Proposal (Draft), September 2025, pages 11-15.

In September 2025, Powerlink published a Draft Revenue Proposal for the 2027-32 regulatory period. The proposal considered contingent projects for the regulatory period to respond to increased local demand and/or reduced generation, and potential future actionable projects under the Australian Energy Market Operator's (AEMO) Integrated System Plan (ISP). As indicated in the proposal, should any contingent project triggers occur, Powerlink will undertake the required regulatory processes, including public consultation and a request for non-network solutions[3]. Where relevant, potential network solutions for strategic projects that are aligned to a contingent project in the Draft Revenue Proposal are noted in this chapter.

While this chapter presents potential network options, Powerlink will also assess non-network solutions as part of our evaluation process to ensure all technically and economically viable approaches are considered.

7.2 Network options to meet reliability obligations for potential new loads

If network limitations emerge from possible yet uncertain loads, Powerlink will leverage targeted transmission augmentations that are consistent with the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap. These will be considered holistically with any emerging condition-based drivers as part of the longer-term planning process, and in conjunction with the ISP.

To help meet customer timeframes, Powerlink may implement bridge solutions that preserve reliability and future optionality. These could include non-firm access arrangements supported by special protection schemes so proponents can progress projects, as well as advancing preparatory activities to reduce delivery lead times as project commitments become more certain.

Details of potential network options are outlined in sections 7.2.1 to 7.2.4 for the transmission grid sections that could be impacted by the commitment of potential new large loads that are excluded from the Low and Central scenario forecast (refer to Table 2.1).

7.2.1 CopperString

The Energy Roadmap confirms that Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) will deliver the Eastern Link (Townsville to Hughenden) of CopperString with major construction commencing by 2028 and commercial operations by 2032 (subject to approvals). QIC is also beginning the work to deliver the Western Link (Hughenden to Mount Isa).

The Eastern Link will be constructed at 330kV and is expected to connect to a new Powerlink switching station at Reid River, by cutting into the existing 275kV network between Strathmore and Ross substations. In the immediate term, the $200 million North West Energy Fund will support local generation and storage solutions - in partnership with the private sector - across Mount Isa, Cloncurry, Julia Creek and Richmond.

The Energy Roadmap notes that the Eastern Link will enable the connection of new generation in the Flinders region. The hosting capacity for new generation within this region, together with further generation development in northern Queensland, has the potential to significantly increase power transfers from northern to central Queensland.

This increased transfer may prompt the need to assess whether targeted network enhancements efficiently support reliable energy delivery and realise net market benefits for customers.

7.2.2 Northern Bowen Basin coal mining area

There is strong interest from customers regarding the potential electrification of existing mining operations in the Northern Bowen Basin. Electrification would involve replacing diesel fuel with electricity, and could significantly increase electrical demand and drive substantial requirements for new generation. Rather than being behind the meter, investment in new generation is likely to occur through power purchase agreements (PPAs) with large-scale energy suppliers.

Electrifying existing mining processes could see load increase of up to 600MW. This would cause significant voltage and thermal limitations on the existing 132kV transmission system supplying the Northern Bowen Basin (refer to Figure 5.8). These loads also have the potential to impact the central Queensland to North Queensland (CQ-NQ) grid section. Possible network solutions to address CQ-NQ limitations are discussed in Section 7.3.

Potential solutions

The 132kV network supplying the Northern Bowen Basin has limited thermal capacity and is forecast to reach end of technical service life in the 2040s.

[3] Powerlink, Powerlink 2027-32 Revenue Proposal (Draft), September 2025, pages 66-67.

Powerlink will work with mining proponents to understand their electrification timeline and load ramp-up as proposed developments progress towards commitment. Detailed planning analysis will then inform and optimise the project scopes and cost estimates with Powerlink undertaking the relevant consultation process to identify the preferred option, which may include non-network solutions.

Previous economic assessment of network options for different load development scenarios has identified that advancing the rebuild of the 132kV transmission lines supplying the Northern Bowen Basin area, as higher capacity 132kV lines with associated capacitive compensation for voltage control, is the preferred network option. Powerlink would stage these works to be delivered 'just in time'.

The first stage would rebuild the 132kV double circuit between Nebo and Moranbah, via the Kemmis and Wotonga substations. Based on current customer discussions the earliest need for this rebuild is 2033. To enable a 2033 delivery, a new easement (and/or easement widening) between Nebo and Moranbah substations is required[4].

7.2.3 Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct

The Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct (LEIP) is located approximately 40 kilometres (km) south of Townsville. The 2,200 hectare (22km^2) precinct is primarily a high impact industrial zone away from residential areas. It is a greenfield development with the vision to become northern Australia's foremost precinct for advanced manufacturing, processing, technology, and emerging industries[5].

Possible tenants of the LEIP include hydrogen production facilities, energy chemicals and quartz manufacturing. The impact of this additional load south of Townsville on the CQ-NQ grid section and possible network solutions to address these impacts is discussed in Section 7.3.

Potential solutions

LEIP has a possible load of up to 900MW within the 10-year outlook period. Supplying this precinct would involve establishing a 275/132kV substation (including lower voltage as required) at LEIP:

- by cutting into two of the existing 275kV circuits between Strathmore and Ross substations, and
- depending on load growth and timing, reinforcing supply via a second double circuit line from CopperString's most eastern substation (Reid River) to LEIP.

In the absence of new generation in northern Queensland, including appropriate levels of firming generation (load flexibility has the potential to reduce this reliance), the LEIP load may result in significant limitations across the CQ-NQ grid section. The resultant delivered load, which would need to be supplied from the CQ-NQ network, will be assessed against the capacity increases achieved by any targeted network augmentations between central and northern Queensland required to support the Energy Roadmap. The assessment will be conducted holistically, also considering the technical end of life drivers of the existing network assets. Further details are provided in Section 7.3.

7.2.4 Gladstone grid section

Powerlink is progressing the Gladstone Project to deliver essential network upgrades and reinforcements in central Queensland, ensuring ongoing system security and reliability in anticipation of the potential retirement of the Gladstone Power Station[6] in March 2029.

While there are currently no confirmed connection commitments from new direct connect customers in the Gladstone zone at the time of the publication of 2025 TAPR, Powerlink has received a significant number of enquiries for connection of new industrial processing loads. The magnitude and timing of these new loads is uncertain but could reach up to 1,372MW above the Central scenario forecast (refer to Table 2.1).

Depending on where new load growth occurs, limitations may emerge on the 275kV single circuits within the Gladstone area. Additional transmission capacity required to meet this growth will be considered in context of the main network supplying the Gladstone zone, and any downstream network limitations beyond the main transmission system will be assessed based on specific customer requirements.

Network augmentations will be assessed holistically, taking into account technical end of life driver considerations for existing transmission assets and their alignment with hosting energy generation.

---

4 A contingent project for reliability of supply in the Northern Bowen Basin (indicative capital cost $1,200 million) is included in Powerlink's Draft Revenue Proposal.

5 Townsville City Council, Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct.

6 As noted in Table 5.5, the Gladstone Project was included in the 2024 ISP as an actionable project, progressing under the Queensland Priority Transmission Investment framework. Further detail on the project is in Section 5.6.2, and Powerlink's Final Assessment Report (June 2025) for the project is on our website.

Potential solutions

The projects outlined in Powerlink's Final Assessment Report for the Gladstone Project represent the initial stages of proposed development. These upgrades will provide sufficient power transfer capability to reliably supply the forecast electrical load in the Gladstone area, in anticipation of the potential retirement of Gladstone Power Station and to support the initial electrification of major industries in the Gladstone area.

The initial transmission projects proposed include:

- building a new 275kV high-capacity double circuit line between Calvale and Calliope River substations and install a new 275/132kV transformer at Calliope River Substation
- rebuilding Bouldercombe to Larcom Creek transmission line as a 275kV high-capacity double circuit line
- switching both circuits at a new 275kV substation west of Gladstone.

The amount of additional load that can be supplied in the Gladstone zone following these works will depend on the relative distribution of the load between the Larcom Creek, Calliope River and Wurdong substations, as well as the location of new generation development. Further network augmentations may be required within the Gladstone zone as the load increases. Feasible network solutions could include:

- constructing a new high-capacity 275kV double circuit transmission line between Stanwell and Bouldercombe substations
- additional 275kV tie capacity between Calliope River and Larcom Creek substations
- additional 275kV tie capacity between Calliope River and Wurdong substations
- installation of a flow control device on the Calvale to Wurdong 275kV single circuit
- additional 275kV connections from the Gladstone West Substation to Calliope River and/or Larcom Creek substations.

Powerlink will consider emerging condition-based drivers as part of its planning and consultation processes to ensure cost-effective solutions are delivered for customers.

7.3 Central Queensland to North Queensland grid section

Based on Powerlink's Central scenario forecast and the existing and committed generation (refer to tables 6.1 and 6.2), network limitations impacting reliability are not forecast to occur within the 10-year outlook period.

However, as discussed above, there is the possibility of significant additional load in northern Queensland from new and expanded mines and electrification of existing mining operations in the Northern Bowen Basin, the connection of the North West Minerals Province (NWMP) to the National Electricity Market through CopperString, and development of new load within the LEIP. These loads could increase northern Queensland demand by up to 1,500MW (excluding the NWMP).

Network limitations on the CQ-NQ grid section may arise even if some of these new loads proceed. Power transfer capability into northern Queensland is limited by thermal ratings, voltage and transient stability. The emergence and materiality of network congestion depends on several factors:

- The profile and flexibility of new loads. Historically, southerly power transfers coincide with high solar generation in northern Queensland (refer to Figure 6.14), allowing greater loads to be accommodated during the daylight hours within the existing network capacity.
- Commitment and profile of new generation in northern Queensland. As shown in Figure 6.13, power transfer levels are shifting from northerly to southerly. As more generation connects, more load in northern Queensland can be supported. The adequacy of the CQ-NQ transmission system needs to consider the mix of generation and whether the required firming is sourced from outside northern Queensland.

Emergence of congestion in a northerly direction would first be managed by dispatching additional, out of merit order generation in northern Queensland. As generation costs are higher in northern Queensland due to reliance on liquid fuels, it may be economic to advance the timing of network augmentation to deliver positive net market benefits.

Network augmentation may also be needed as southerly power transfers from northern to central Queensland continue to grow. As shown in Figure 6.13 these power transfers in the southerly direction have steadily increased over time and have historically coincided with high solar generation in northern Queensland (refer to Figure 6.14). As committed generation in northern Queensland enters commercial operation (refer to tables 6.1 and 6.2), this reversal of power flow is expected to increase further.

The CQ-NQ network can host greater generation in northern Queensland if its operation is aligned with high load periods. Notwithstanding the current available transmission headroom, the southerly network capacity between northern and central Queensland may be exceeded in the future. This is largely underpinned by construction of the Eastern Link of CopperString and the associated hosting of new generation within the Flinders region and other anticipated generation development in northern Queensland.

As outlined in Section 7.2.1, CopperString will enable connection of high-quality wind resources in the Flinders region. These wind resources, influenced by equatorial trade winds, exhibit a strong correlation with winter evening peak load periods, a time when other wind resources in central and southern Queensland tend to be less available. This diversity will improve the overall resilience and performance of Queensland's energy mix.

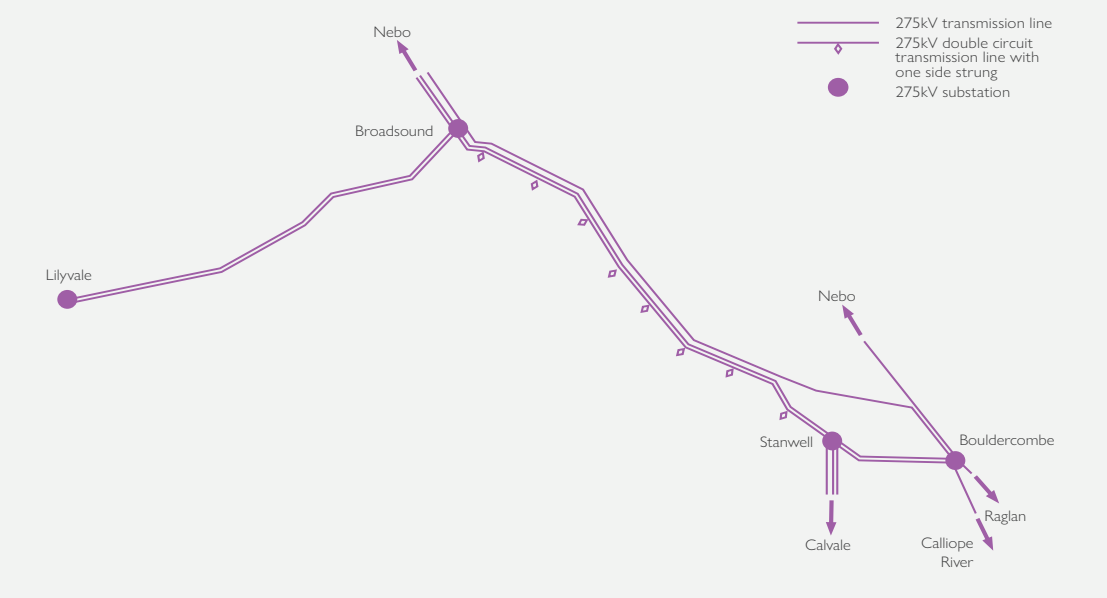
CopperString was modelled as an anticipated project in the 2024 ISP, which identified future projects between northern and central Queensland that deliver net market benefits to customers though they may not be needed until later in the planning horizon. The earliest upgrades, between Bouldercombe, Stanwell and Broadsound, could be needed as early as 2033/34[7]. The Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap also identified that these upgrades increase transfer capacity from north to central Queensland and support new generation connections in north Queensland.

To ensure the CQ-NQ network can efficiently support the development of northern Queensland load and generation expansion requires market modelling across a range of scenarios. Powerlink will continue to work with AEMO (2026 ISP) and QIC to assess whether targeted transmission upgrades will deliver net market benefits. These assessments will consider any emerging condition-based drivers as part of the longer-term planning process and in conjunction with the ISP and Energy Roadmap.

Possible solutions

In 2002, Powerlink constructed a 275kV double circuit transmission line from Stanwell to Broadsound with only one circuit strung (refer to Figure 7.1). A feasible network solution to increase the power transfer capability to northern Queensland is to string the second side of this transmission line. No new easement is required for this scope of work.

Figure 7.1 Stanwell/Broadsound area transmission network



As discussed in Table 5.12 and Appendix E, there are condition-based factors driving reinvestment on the following circuits between central and northern Queensland:

- Bouldercombe and Nebo – reinvestment within 10 years
- Bouldercombe and Broadsound – reinvestment within 10 years.

[7] AEMO 2024 Step Change scenario forecast.

To address network capacity constraints, Powerlink and AEMO (through the ISP) will assess whether it is prudent and efficient to advance the staged rebuild of these lines as higher capacity double circuit 275kV lines[8]. This could involve:

- constructing a 275kV high-capacity double ciruit line between Bouldercombe and Broadsound substations (via Stanwell)
- constructing a double circuit 275kV high-capacity line between Broadsound and Nebo substations
- decommissioning or make safe the individual circuits identified above.

Powerlink will consider these investments holistically, ensuring alignment with technical asset life, network hosting requirements, and cost-effective outcomes for customers.

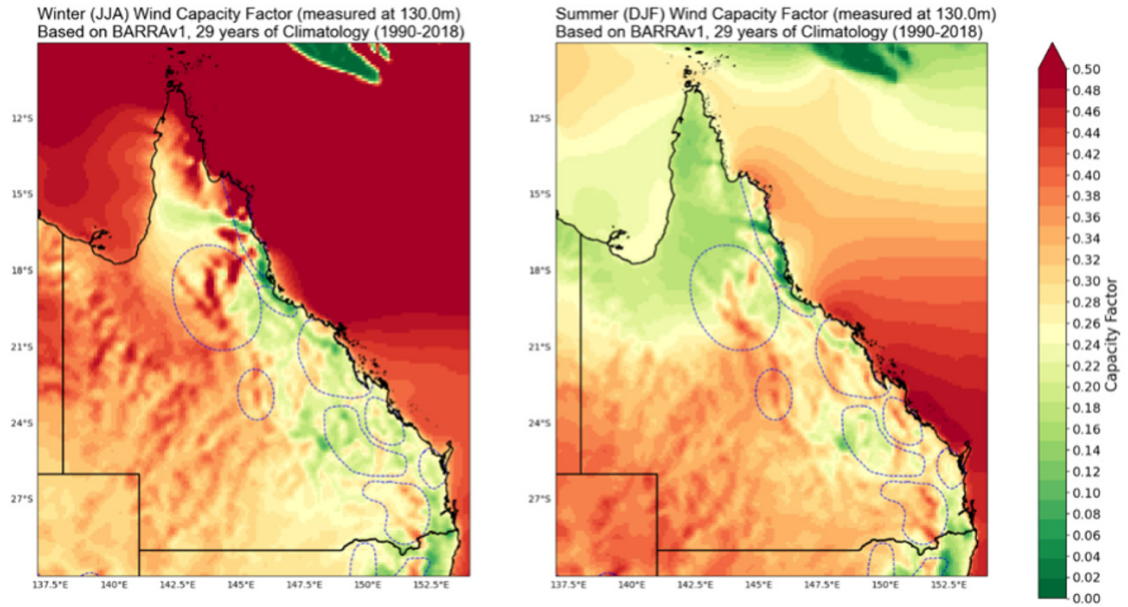
7.4 Central Queensland to South Queensland grid section

The central Queensland to South Queensland (CQ-SQ) corridor is recognised as a key enabler for the energy system in AEMO's 2024 ISP. The 2024 ISP identifies and actionable project for a new coastal 500kV transmission line connecting the Borumba PHES project from Powerlink's Halys Substation through into central Queensland (refer to Table 5.5).

Since the release of AEMO's 2024 ISP, Powerlink analysis has shown inland wind resources offer consistently higher capacity factors than those along the coast for both summer and winter seasons (refer to Figure 7.2). This finding has been further supported by market engagement.

In response, Powerlink has broadened its focus to a more inland transmission route. The inland CQ-SQ transmission development can be staged and paced to align with interest from new generation connections. The shift has also enabled the connection of the Borumba PHES to be reassessed. If Borumba PHES proceeds, it will now be connected at 275kV.

Figure 7.2 Seasonal wind capacity factor data



Note:

(1) Source: Bureau of Meteorology.

Ongoing investment in the existing coastal transmission lines remains essential to maintain reliability of supply and efficient power transfer. As outlined in Section 5.7.1, the coastal corridor of the CQ-SQ grid section was constructed in the 1970s and 1980s. It consists of single circuit 275kV transmission lines between Calliope River and South Pine substations. These coastal network assets are expected to reach the end of their technical service life within the next 20 years. A key consideration is that this corridor is comprised solely of single circuit 275kV towers that may make cost-effective refit strategies less viable compared to double circuit tower rebuilds.

Overlaying these emerging condition drivers is the enduring need to deliver a CQ-SQ transmission network with sufficient power transfer capacity to support efficient market outcomes.

[8] A contingent project for CQ-NQ augmentation (indicative capital cost $1,900 million) is included in Powerlink's Draft Revenue Proposal.

Accordingly, Powerlink is actively progressing a holistic planning approach for the coastal 275kV CQ-SQ corridor, recognising its strategic importance in accommodating emerging generation interests such as the Mt Rawdon PHES project.

Central to this strategy is ongoing condition monitoring of the existing single circuit lines, with plans to upgrade thermal capacity and progressively rebuild sections as high-capacity double circuit 275kV high temperature conductor (HTC) lines, when it is economic to do so. The commitment of Mt Rawdon PHES may be a key trigger for this augmentation.

Powerlink continues to assess congestion risks and operational constraints across both inland and coastal corridors, ensuring that connection options, such as cut-ins, are evaluated for technical feasibility, long-term system security and market benefit. This integrated approach enables Powerlink to align infrastructure upgrades with broader energy system priorities, ensuring the CQ-SQ network remains resilient and capable of supporting both firming assets and other new generation sources.

7.5 Unlocking generation expansion in Darling Downs and Surat areas

Powerlink is taking a prudent, options-led approach to future CQ–SQ transmission upgrades, informed by system needs, market conditions and stakeholder input. The strategic shift to consider a more westerly inland corridor for future CQ-SQ transmission capability upgrades is pivotal to unlocking new generation potential in the Darling Downs and Surat regions. This inland corridor enables efficient management of congestion forecast to emerge within the 275kV Surat network as generation projects in these areas progress.

Potential solutions

A 275kV corridor between the Wandoan South Substation and a future mid-point switching substation on the existing Calvale to Halys 275kV double circuit line near Auburn River would unlock generation hosting capacity in the Darling Downs and Surat areas.

The primary trigger for progressing such development would be the emergence of congestion on the Surat 275kV network. Powerlink is committed to evaluating a range of infrastructure solutions, including establishing a 275kV connection to the inland CQ-SQ corridor, to ensure efficient utilisation of the existing assets between Halys, Calvale and Gladstone. The strategy enables increased intra-regional power transfer and supports a staged development of transmission infrastructure to respond flexibly to market conditions and the progress of new generation projects. The staged inland CQ-SQ development could include:

- constructing a new high-capacity double circuit transmission line between Auburn River and Calvale substations
- constructing a new high-capacity double circuit transmission line between Auburn River and Halys substations.

These potential developments are designed to meet growing load in southern Queensland and the Gladstone areas. The expansion of hosting capacity in the Darling Downs and Surat zones is aligned with supporting Queensland's energy transition and industrial growth in Gladstone. The infrastructure will support scenarios involving large-scale electrification and industrial transformation. Powerlink is investigating land for substations and easements.

7.6 Unlocking generation expansion in Southern Downs area

Powerlink is closely monitoring the new generation commitments within the Southern Downs and the Queensland to New South Wales Interconnector (QNI) corridor, particularly following the completion of the QNI Minor Project. This upgrade has increased the transfer capacity between northern New South Wales (NSW) and southern Queensland, with inter-network testing almost completed to release its full designed capacity, 950MW from northern NSW to southern Queensland and 1,450MW in the reverse direction.

While this increased inter-regional power transfer capability supports energy and reserve sharing, it also increases the risk of congestion between Southern Downs and South East Queensland.

Potential solutions

AEMO's 2024 ISP identified that under the Step Change scenario, a future transmission project may be required around 2034/35 to alleviate congestion. To address congestion and drive efficient market outcomes, both network and non-network responses are being considered:

- replace 330/275kV T4 transformer at Middle Ridge Substation with a larger transformer (1,650MVA)
- install additional 330/275kV transformer capacity at Braemar Substation with or without joining the Braemar 275kV switchyard buses (and addressing any associated fault level limitations)

- install phase shifting transformers at Tummaville Substation (with and without the T4 transformer replacement at Middle Ridge Substation)
- generation tripping or runback paired with a generation response Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) in South East Queensland
- System splitting scheme, together with any required additional system strength (could also be paired with a BESS response in South East Queensland).

In the 2024 ISP, AEMO identified a QNI Connect Project as an actionable ISP project. Powerlink's consideration of technically feasible options will, in addition to delivering increased inter-regional power transfer capability, investigate whether unlocking more generation hosting capacity in the Southern Downs and QNI areas is also efficient.

7.7 Addressing limitations between western and northern Brisbane

There are emerging network limitations between Blackwall and South Pine substations. Limitations may occur following outages of either the Tarong to South Pine or Mt England to South Pine 275kV circuits. System conditions leading to this congestion include high loads in Moreton north and lower generation levels in central and northern Queensland.

A future transmission project may be required by the early 2030s to address this limitation. To address congestion and drive efficient market outcomes, a network response could include:

- constructing a new 3.4km double circuit 275kV transmission line on the spare easement between Blackwall and Karana Downs substations. This includes rearranging the circuits to establish a double circuit between Blackwall and South Pine substations and as well as a double circuit between Blackwall and Rocklea substations.

7.8 QNI Connect

The QNI Connect project was identified as an actionable project in the 2024 ISP. The indicative timing for the project under AEMO's Step Change scenario was 2032/33.

Powerlink and Transgrid are jointly responsible for progressing QNI Connect through the Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission process. This includes publishing the Project Assessment Draft Report by 25 June 2026.

The candidate ISP project was a 330kV double circuit line from New England to Dumaresq, Bulli Creek, and Braemar (western route), with estimated benefits of $190 million and a capital cost of $1.66 billion (2023) excluding risk and contingency[9].

Since the 2024 ISP, AEMO has identified real cost increases of 25–55% for overhead transmission lines and 10–35% increases for substations, compared to 2024 ISP estimates[10]. These higher costs, along with extended lead times, will be factored into AEMO's 2026 ISP to reassess the possible timing and status of ISP projects. AEMO will publish a Draft 2026 ISP in December 2025.

7.9 Easement acquisition activities

Powerlink is committed to early and meaningful engagement with stakeholders impacted by our network development activities. This includes introducing more structured processes for ensuring ongoing community and landholder engagement in corridor selection and easement acquisition processes. It can mean projects take longer to deliver, but ongoing engagement is important as part of the broader focus on ensuring community benefit and social value can be delivered as part of our program of works.

Powerlink's aim is to ensure an appropriate balance between achieving strong social performance outcomes critical for ongoing delivery of new transmission network infrastructure, and timely delivery of strategic project investment.

Robust planning and the early initiation of targeted easement acquisition activities is therefore an important factor in ensuring strategic projects can be delivered within potential timeframes, should the need arise. Equally important is strong engagement with customers, market participants and communities on Powerlink's longer-term plans for easement acquisition.

Over the coming months, Powerlink will continue to shape and refine its approach to identifying priority easement activities that are needed to support the timely and socially responsible delivery of future transmission projects.

[9] A contingent project for QNI Connect (indicative capital cost $1,500 million for the Queensland component) is included in Powerlink's Draft Revenue Proposal.

[10] AEMO, 2025 Electricity Network Options Report, July 2025, page 31.