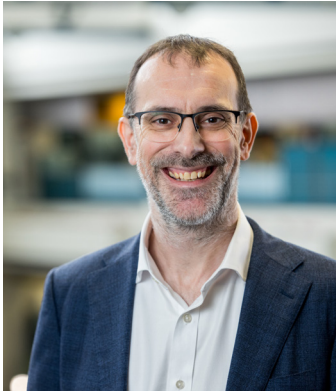


Foreword



Powerlink is dedicated to connecting Queenslanders to a world-class energy future by delivering safe, reliable, and cost-effective electricity services to our customers. As the energy market and customer expectations continue to evolve at pace, our Transmission Annual Planning Report (TAPR) remains central to our ongoing role in guiding the market in Queensland.

Navigating complexity and cost

Queensland's transmission system is facing increasing complexity:

- The integration of new generation and storage projects is accelerating.
- Large load customers are considering their long-term energy needs.
- The continued growth in rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) is reducing minimum demand, even as maximum demand continues to increase.

A key part of our response to this complexity, our Next Generation Network Operations (NGNO) program, delivered a major milestone this year with the modernisation of our real-time control room facility, improving our operational capability.

As Queensland's System Strength Service Provider, Powerlink completed a Regulatory Investment Test for Transmission (RIT-T) in June 2025, targeting system strength requirements for the short to medium term. We have commenced procurement of both network and non-network solutions to meet these needs.

Local and global demand for resources that are essential for transmission projects continues to put upward pressure on costs and extend equipment delivery timeframes.

To mitigate these pressures, Powerlink has:

- developed alternative supply options for critical equipment such as 275 kilovolt circuit breakers
- implemented alternative strategies to transmission line refits works to capture scale
- continued to refine transmission augmentations to drive value for customers.

Engaging with customers and communities

Powerlink is committed to effective engagement with customers, communities, First Nations Peoples and other stakeholders to share information and use feedback received to improve decision making.

Given transmission network infrastructure is typically in service for over 50 years, Powerlink is committed to fostering positive relationships and partnering with local communities to deliver lasting benefits.

In 2025, we refreshed our Community Engagement Approach to continue driving best-practice engagement and generating lasting benefits for communities.

By strengthening and increasing the capacity of our transmission network, Powerlink is ensuring a resilient supply of electricity to deliver wider economic benefits, meet future industrial energy needs and attract new businesses to Queensland.

Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap

Our planning and investment decisions are guided by the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap, released on 10 October 2025. The Energy Roadmap sets clear priorities for an affordable, reliable and sustainable energy future. Frameworks such as the Priority Transmission Investment framework and Regional Energy Hubs support us to deliver targeted, efficient network investments that maintain system security, support regional growth, and deliver value for customers.

We are committed to a pragmatic, whole-of-system approach that ensures every investment supports Queensland's evolving requirements. Our 2025 TAPR demonstrates this alignment in practice, with strategic projects and transmission augmentations shaped by the Energy Roadmap's priorities—including relieving congestion, better utilising existing infrastructure, and supporting the state's future energy needs.

Central Queensland: a strategic priority

The Central Queensland region is critical to Queensland's energy and economic landscape. In 2024/25, Powerlink advanced the Gladstone Project that will deliver essential network upgrades and reinforcements to maintain system security and reliability in the region. The timing of the Gladstone Project aligns with the recent notification of Gladstone Power Station's potential retirement in March 2029. A final assessment report was published in June, and the Energy Roadmap recognises the Gladstone Project as a critical transmission project for the 2025 to 2030 period. This work reflects our commitment to supporting regional communities and ensuring the transmission network evolves in step with Queensland's energy future.

Growing connections pipeline

Interest in new transmission network connections continues to grow. Powerlink has completed connection of 34 large-scale solar, wind farm and battery energy storage system projects in Queensland, adding 6,736 megawatts (MW) of generation and storage capacity to the grid since 2017.

A further 42,368MW of connection enquiries and applications for new generation and storage capacity have been received and are at varying stages of progress. Managing this scale of demand requires careful planning, streamlined processes, and ongoing engagement with proponents to ensure timely, cost-effective delivery of new connections that meet customer and market needs.

Looking Ahead

Powerlink's approach to asset management, 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.

We have worked closely with the Queensland Government on its Energy Roadmap, which outlines the state's future energy priorities and pathways.

These priorities inform our approach to transmission augmentations and line refit programs. We are also actively engaging with the Australian Energy Market Operator on the draft 2026 Integrated System Plan, due for release in December 2025. As policy and market signals evolve, we will continue to refine our investments to deliver safe, reliable and cost-effective transmission services for our customers.

We remain focused on building a resilient, future ready transmission network that supports Queensland's energy transition and delivers lasting value for our customers, communities, and the state.

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