

2026 Central Queensland Transmission Network Forum

Welcome



Acknowledgement

Powerlink acknowledges the Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng and Taribelang Bunda Peoples as the Traditional Owners and custodians of the lands and waters of this region.

We pay our respects to their Ancestors, Elders and knowledge holders and recognise their deep history and ongoing connection to Country.



Event showcase



Agenda

A message from our Shareholding Ministers

Opening Address with Dr Seán Mc Goldrick,
Chief Executive Powerlink Queensland

Central Queensland update with Ian Lowry,
Executive General Manager Powerlink Queensland

Panel discussion - Maximising local and Indigenous
participation and benefits for Central Queensland

Event showcase, networking and lunch



A message from our Shareholding Ministers

The Honourable David Janetzki MP

Treasurer and Minister for Energy and Home Ownership

The Honourable Ros Bates MP

Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training

2026 Central Queensland
Transmission Network Forum

Opening Address

Dr Seán Mc Goldrick
Chief Executive
Powerlink Queensland

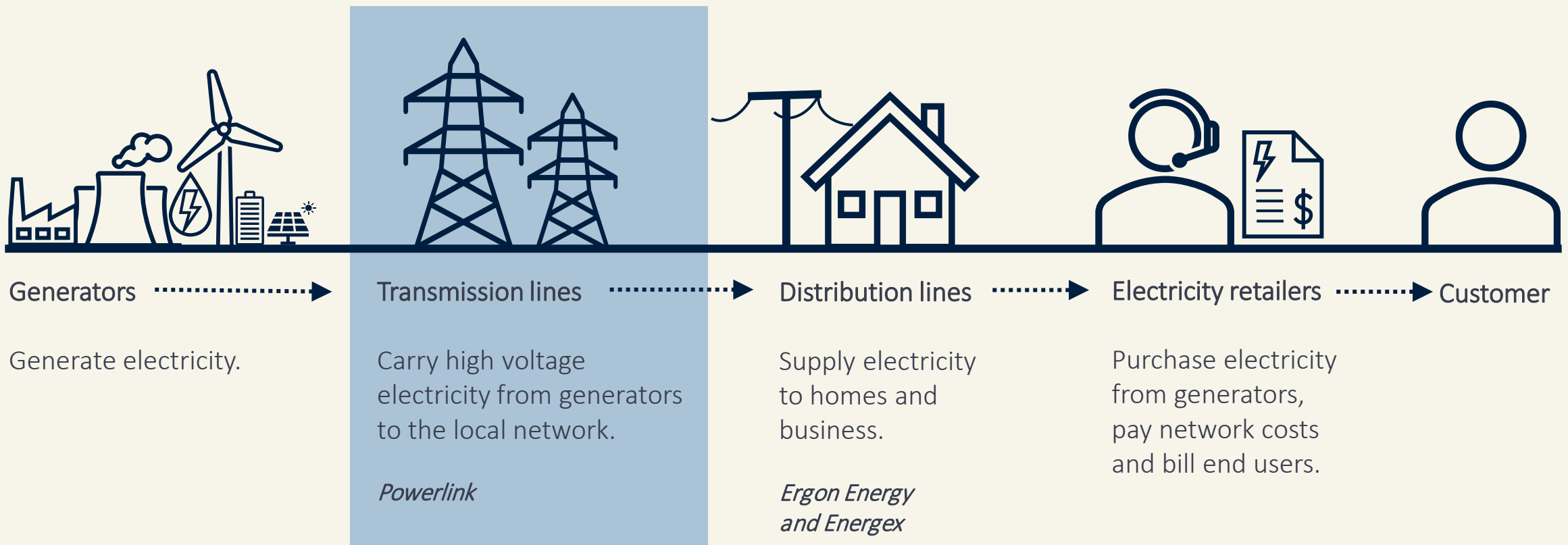




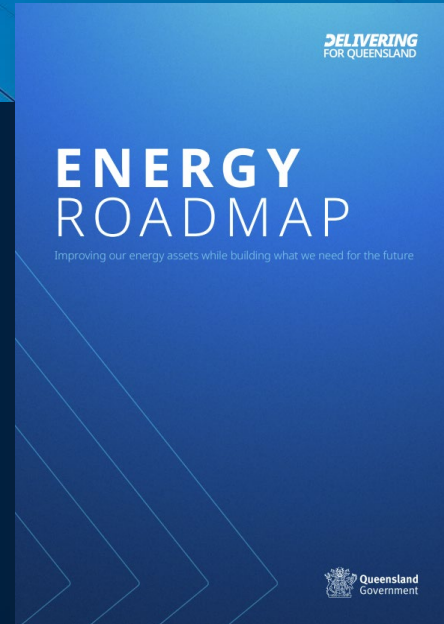
Powerlink Queensland

- **Queensland Government owned** – one of Australia's leading transmission network companies.
- We own, develop, operate and maintain the **high voltage transmission** network.
- We provide electricity to more than **five million Queenslanders** and **241,000 businesses**.
- Our network runs **1,700km** from north of Cairns to the New South Wales border.
- Comprises **15,559** circuit kilometres of transmission lines and **154** substations.

The role of **transmission** in the electricity supply chain



Focused on
delivering a **safe,**
affordable, reliable
and sustainable
network for our
customers



EXISTING AND COMMITTED GENERATION CONNECTED TO THE TRANSMISSION NETWORK



QUEENSLAND Connection pipeline

Since 2018

As at July 2026:

- **40** generation connection projects **operational** with combined maximum output of **~8,897MW**
- **14** generation connection projects **under construction** with combined maximum output of **~4,075MW**
- **110 connection applications** are being processed representing **~44GW**
- **86** projects at the **enquiry stage** with combined max output of **~42GW**

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

Connection pipeline

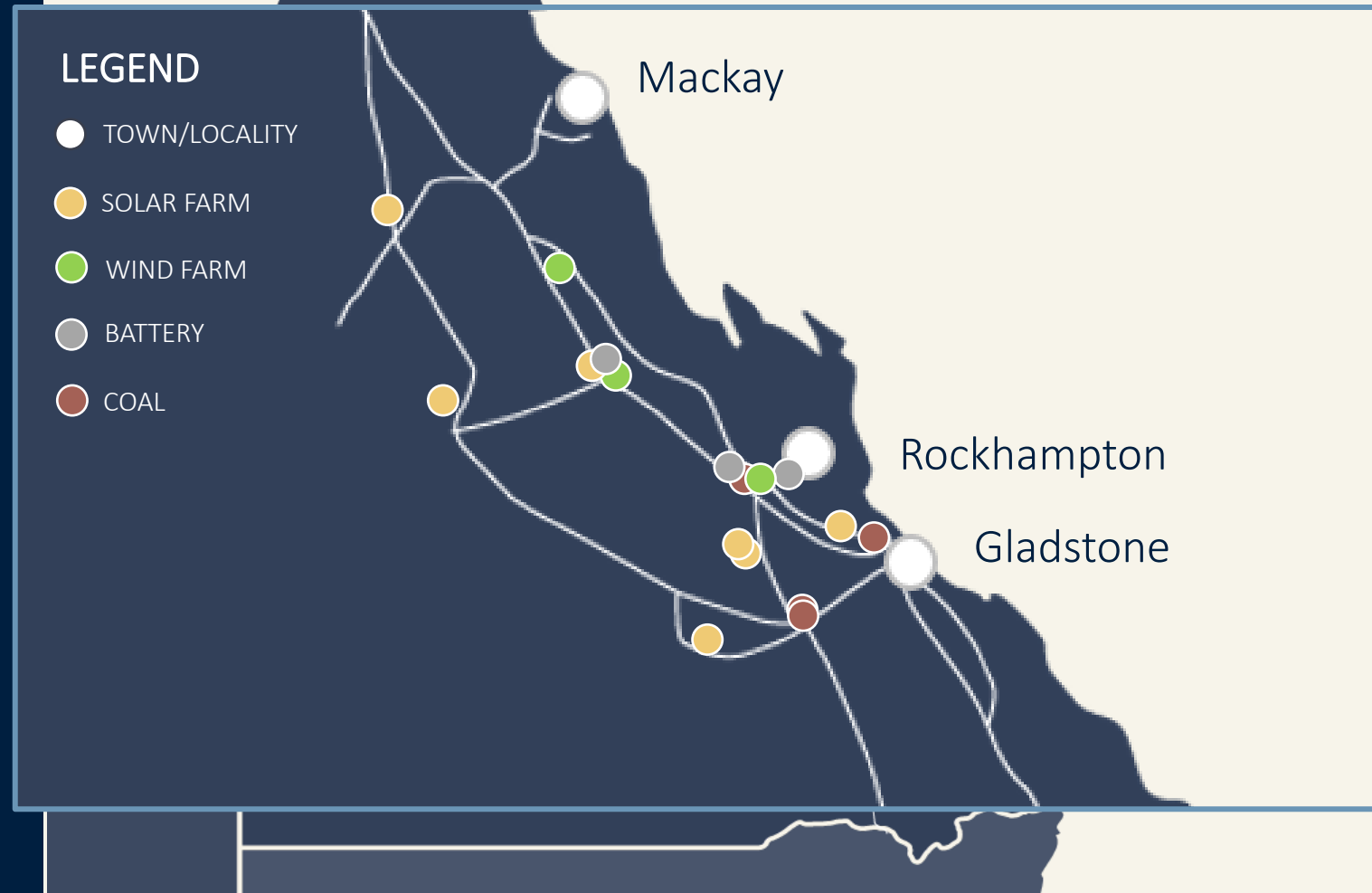
30 projects in connection **enquiry** stage representing ~15GW

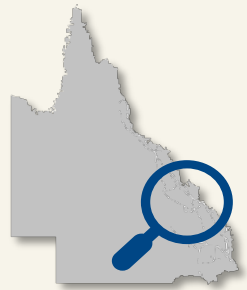
38 projects in connection **application** stage representing ~15GW

Not all applications and enquiries proceed to delivery

4 projects **under construction** representing a combined maximum output of ~1,097MW

12 projects now **operational** representing a combined maximum output of ~5,686MW





Central Queensland is the heart of our transmission network



20-25%

of Queensland's electricity supply is from the Gladstone region



Four

major transmission projects currently progressing across Central Queensland



50 years

since Powerlink's first network expansion in Gladstone, facilitating the Gladstone Power Station connection

\$4 million

Central Queensland Community and Social Investment Program



Priority investment



Housing and accommodation



Education, training and workforce development



Health and community wellbeing

Next steps

Draw on findings from the Social Impact Assessment to determine investment scheme

Regional Stakeholder Engagement Workshop in Q3 to co-design Central Queensland approach



Thank you

2026 Central Queensland
Transmission Network Forum

Central Queensland update

Ian Lowry
Executive General Manager Major Projects
Powerlink Queensland



Central Queensland projects



Transmission
reinforcement



System
strength



Generator
connections

Major project pipeline

Types of investment



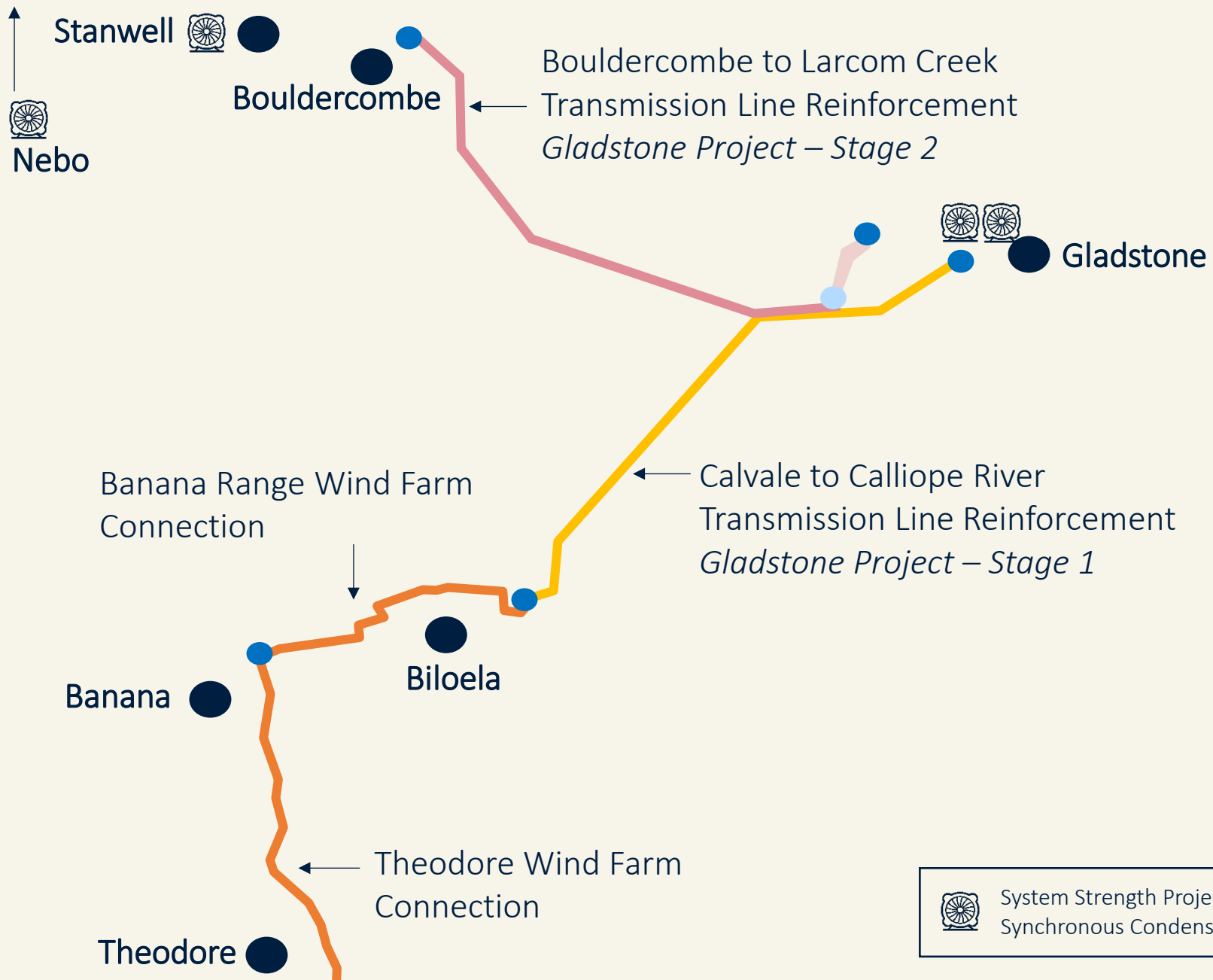
Transmission reinforcement



System strength projects



Generator connections



Gladstone Project

STAGE 1

Completion date March 2029

Calvale to Calliope River Transmission Line Reinforcement Project

 87km high-capacity transmission line

 Calvale and Calliope River substation upgrades

 Co-located transmission line infrastructure, reducing social, environmental and economic impacts

PROJECT STATUS



Essential network reinforcement to ensure **secure electricity supply**



Federal and State approvals:
Federal environmental (EPBC) approval granted
State planning (MID) approvals granted



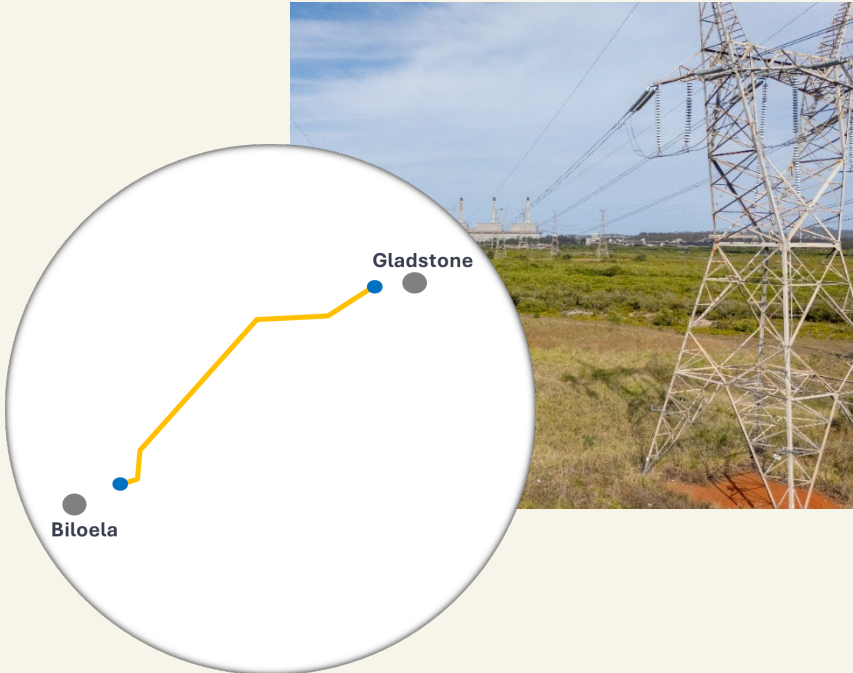
Indigenous partnership and cultural heritage agreements in place



Clearing and access contract awarded to BMD – mobilising this week



Two **main works contracts** being **progressively awarded** up to the end of August



Gladstone Project

STAGE 1

Completion date March 2029

Calvale to Calliope River Transmission Line Reinforcement Project



87km high-capacity transmission line



Calvale and Calliope River substation upgrades



Co-located transmission line infrastructure, reducing social, environmental and economic impacts



188
towers



51,850
insulators



202km
access tracks



1,200km
of 275kV conductor



8000 tonnes
of tower steel

Gladstone Project

STAGE 2

 Essential network reinforcement to increase capacity and reliability in this area

Bouldercombe to Larcom Creek Transmission Line Reinforcement Project



Gladstone West Substation



~95km high-capacity transmission line

Completion date June 2029

Completion date H2 2030

PROJECT STATUS



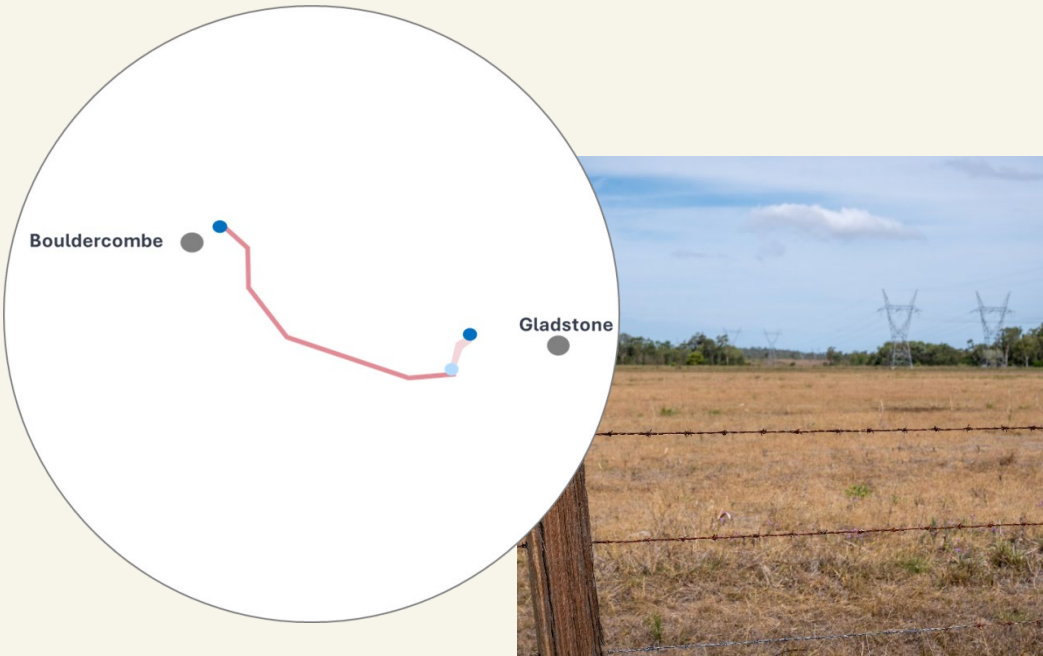
Landholder and community engagement underway



Corridor selection and validation reports completed, informed by stakeholder feedback and technical studies



Preparation of **Federal environmental (EPBC) approvals underway** for referral in late 2026



System Strength Project

*System strength is the transmission network's ability to **maintain stable voltage** during normal operation and through network disturbances.*

Powerlink is the **System Strength Service Provider** for Queensland

Synchronous condensers

To meet system strength requirements, Powerlink will complete delivery of **4 synchronous condensers** in Central Queensland by 2029.



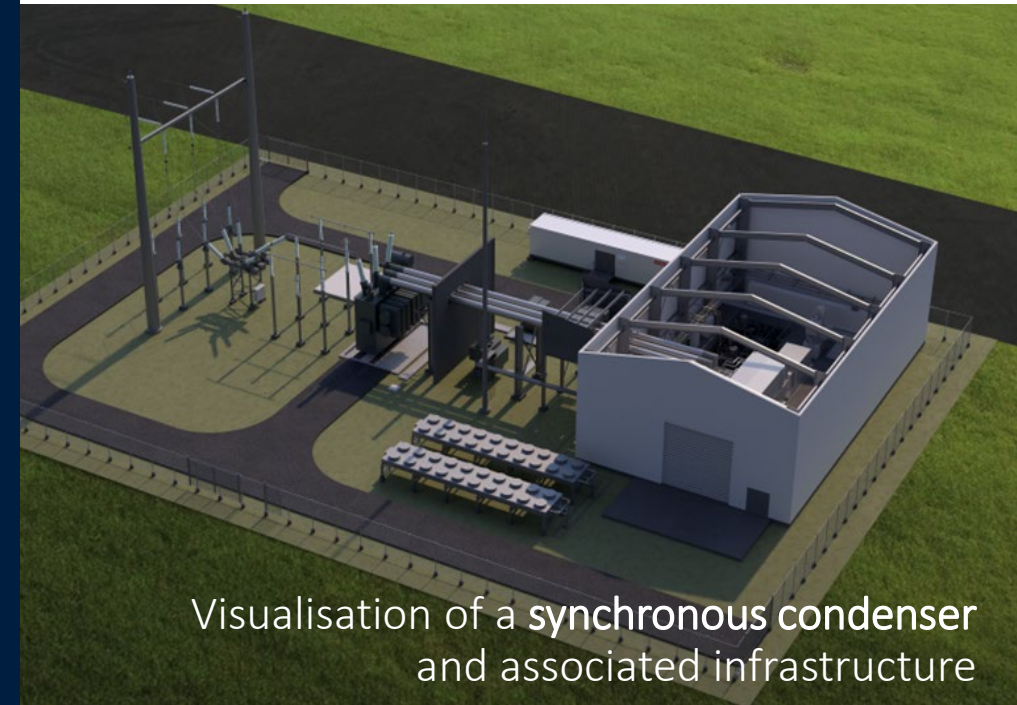
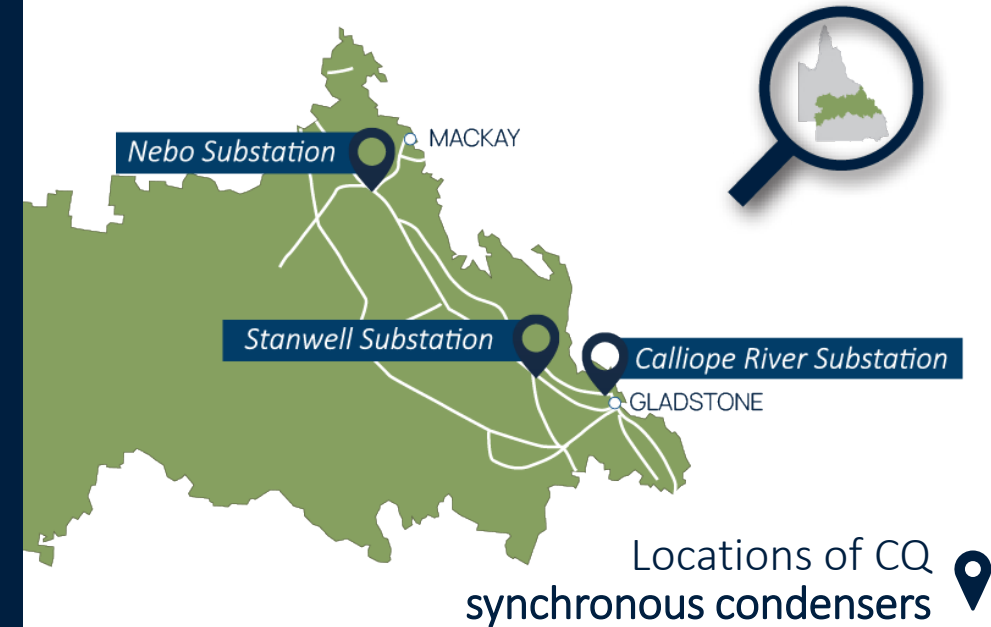
Large rotating machines that act like shock absorbers for fluctuations in the grid



Will maintain system strength as the **energy generation** mix in Queensland evolves



A detailed **network analysis** has identified the **optimal locations** near existing high voltage substations



Visualisation of a **synchronous condenser** and associated infrastructure

CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

Network connections

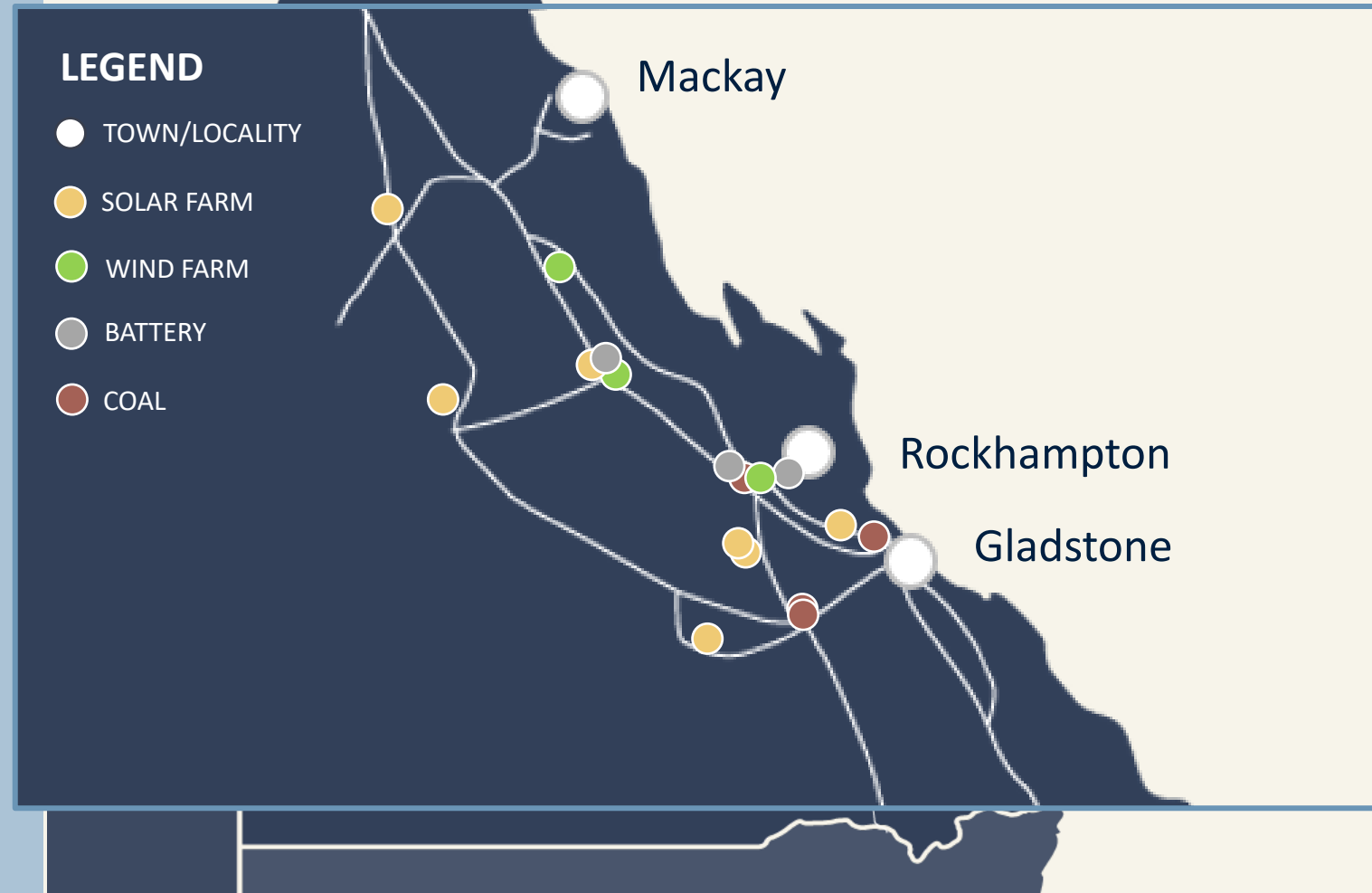
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Existing transmission lines
near Biloela

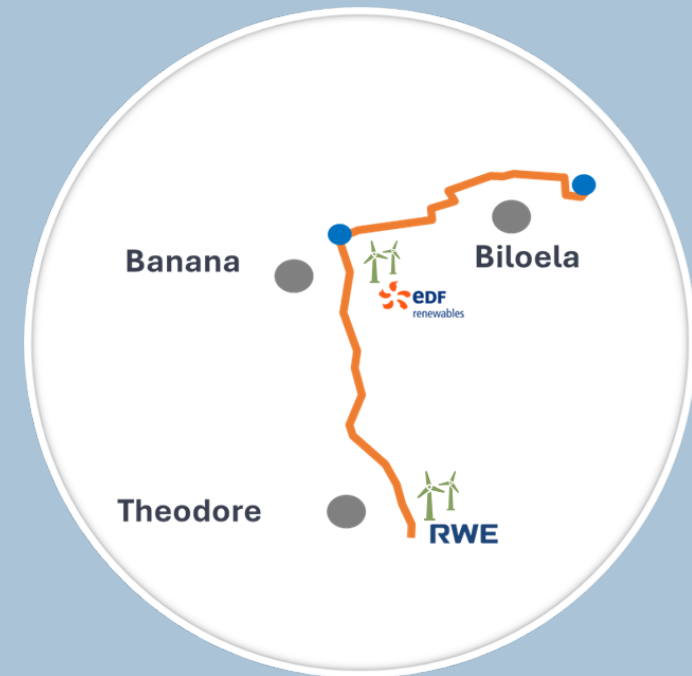


Calvale Substation *near
Callide Power Station*

Callide connections

Banana Range Wind Farm
Connection Project

Theodore Wind Farm
Connection Project



Existing transmission lines
in Central Queensland



Stanwell Substation
and Stanwell BESS



Generator connections

Powerlink is **delivering three transmission connections**

Smoky Creek Solar Power Station

+

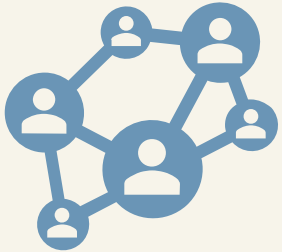
Guthrie's Gap Solar Power Station
Connection Project

Lotus Creek Wind Farm
Connection Project

Boulder Creek Wind Farm
Connection Project

Central Queensland projects

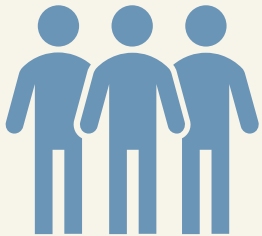
Early market engagement and registrations of interest



57 works packages released
1,498 registrations of interest



806 businesses registered
18.8% locally based



Indigenous-owned businesses
represent **11%** of supplier
registrations



Of the Indigenous-owned
businesses registered,
10 are locally based

Local and Indigenous participation is key to the success of our projects

* Information correct as at July 2026.

Supplier opportunities



10
OPEN WORK
PACKAGES

Where are we now



Gladstone Project – Stage 1

Tendering – final stages

- Initial clearing and access works – BMD, commenced July
- Main construction works – anticipated contract awards August



Callide Connections

Tendering now underway



System Strength Project

Tendering now underway

Procurement opportunities

Calvale to Calliope River Transmission Reinforcement Project

EARLY WORKS CLEARING AND ACCESS PACKAGE

- Specialist clearing - arborist
- Geotechnical testing
- Fencing and gates
- Crane hire
- Landscaping
- Plant hire
- Supply of steel reinforcement
- Permanent site signage
- Supply of cattle grids
- Transport
- Traffic management
- Service locations
- Vehicle hire
- Labour hire

To register interest or seek further information,
contact: C2Cprocurement@bmd.com.au



Supporting Queensland communities



Social Impact Assessment

FINDINGS

Positive and negative social impacts were identified across five key areas of the SIA

HOW WE WILL RESPOND



Community and stakeholder engagement

- ✓ Local points of contact
- ✓ Regular project updates
- ✓ Implement engagement plans
- ✓ Direct landholder engagement
- ✓ Open feedback and complaints channels



Health and community wellbeing

- ✓ Traffic, safety and environmental controls
- ✓ Support local services
- ✓ Workforce codes of conduct
- ✓ Support landholders
- ✓ Protect cultural heritage



Housing and accommodation

- ✓ Plan workforce accommodation early
- ✓ Dedicated worker accommodation
- ✓ Limit private rentals
- ✓ Support local employment
- ✓ Monitor housing with councils



Local business and procurement

- ✓ Promote opportunities early
- ✓ Simplify procurement pathways
- ✓ Build supplier capability
- ✓ Support First Nations businesses
- ✓ Prioritise local suppliers
- ✓ Manage agricultural impacts



Workforce management

- ✓ Maximise local and First Nations jobs
- ✓ Training and apprenticeships
- ✓ Coordinate with training providers
- ✓ Plan workforce needs
- ✓ Manage biosecurity and land access
- ✓ Wellbeing programs

Community benefit and social value

Community and social investment



\$4M community and social investment funding announced

\$125K in community grants to date

33 community organisations supported through grants

14 local community events supported

People and place-based initiatives



1,585ha secured for offset purposes

Indigenous Relationship Agreements in place with Traditional Owners

Neighbour payments for near neighbours within 1km – an Australian transmission-sector first

4 Community and Landholder Relations Advisors based in Central Queensland

Economic participation and development



\$17M spent in Central Queensland, FY26 (pre-construction)

56 participants in supplier capability workshops to date

Local businesses supported across the region

Local and Indigenous participation embedded in project contracts

Questions



Panel | Maximising local and Indigenous participation and benefits for Central Queensland



Matthew Cooke
Chairman
First Nations Chamber of
Commerce and Industry



Andrew Johnson
Chief Executive Officer
Gladstone Ports
Corporation



Denva Poyntz
General Manager
Energy
Rio Tinto



Patrick Hastings
Chief Executive Officer
Gladstone Engineering
Alliance



Ian Lowry
Executive General Manager
Major Projects
Powerlink Queensland



Panel discussion

Maximising local and Indigenous participation and benefits for Central Queensland

Thank you for
being part of our
Central Queensland
Transmission Network Forum



HAVE YOUR SAY



Scan the QR code to
share your feedback
and help us shape
future forums

bit.ly/CQForumFeedback



Event showcase

