

Southern Queensland Transmission Update

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND

A message from our Chief Executive

I've been in the Chief Executive role for just over three months now, and I've really enjoyed getting out and about across Queensland to meet people and learn more about the communities we work in.

Visiting different parts of the state has been a great way to understand what makes each region unique, meet local stakeholders and hear about the industries and opportunities shaping their future.

While every region has its own character and priorities, our role at Powerlink is the same: connecting Queenslanders to safe, reliable and affordable electricity. It's important that we keep our customers and communities at the centre of our decisions, and I want this to remain a focus for me and my teams right across the state.

I've visited parts of Queensland's southern and south-west regions, widely recognised as the state's energy capital. With everything from gas and coal-fired power to solar and wind farms, batteries and new data centre developments, there's a lot happening. We need to keep pace with this growth and ensure our electricity network supports local communities and businesses.

I also had the opportunity to visit Cherbourg and meet First Nations leaders. I was grateful for the opportunity to understand the history and foundations of the Cherbourg community and the vision they have for their future.

I look forward to visiting more communities, meeting new people and hearing their stories as we continue working together to support Queensland's future.

In this edition:

- Message from Powerlink's CEO Seán Mc Goldrick
- Latest project updates
- Powerlink joins the conversation at regional energy events
- Our investment and support for Southern Queensland communities
- How to submit your questions about Queensland's transmission network



Seán attending Powerlink's Customer Panel in October 2026.

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.

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Our current projects

Powerlink is currently managing a number of projects in Southern Queensland, which are in different stages of progress.

Project	Update
Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project powerlink.com.au/bungaban	Powerlink has been engaged by the Bungaban Wind Energy Project (a joint venture between Windlab and Squadron Energy) to facilitate the connection of the proposed Bungaban Wind Farm to the transmission network. Powerlink is seeking planning approval for this project under the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) process, the pathway used for community-supporting infrastructure projects. We will soon be lodging our MID Proposal Report, followed by a formal consultation period in early 2027. We have also submitted preliminary documentation (PD) to the National Environmental Protection Agency under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Landholders, Traditional Owner groups, the community and other stakeholders will have opportunities to provide input throughout both approval processes. Since April, we have been undertaking a social impact assessment to deepen our understanding of how the project may affect the community and identify ways to maximise local benefits. This work has been informed by targeted interviews, community sessions and a public survey. We appreciate the time and local knowledge shared by everyone who took part. Your feedback is helping us understand how the project may affect the community and how we can maximise local benefits. We will keep the community updated as this work progresses.
Borumba Pumped Hydro Transmission Connections Project powerlink.com.au/borumbatransmission	Powerlink continues to work with Queensland Hydro to progress the transmission infrastructure needed to connect the proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project to the electricity grid. Queensland Hydro is currently working to develop a refreshed business case aligned with the Queensland Government's Energy Roadmap and future energy needs.
Tangkam and Oakey Substations Secondary Systems Replacement powerlink.com.au/tangkam-oakey	Major secondary systems replacement works are continuing at Powerlink's Tangkam and Oakey substations, located approximately two hours west of Brisbane. Secondary systems are the complex network of equipment and circuits used to monitor, control and protect high voltage primary equipment. These upgrades are essential as existing equipment reaches the end of its technical service life. Civil works commenced in August 2025 and were completed in June 2026, including new control building installations and associated site infrastructure works. The project has now progressed into the staged implementation and commissioning phase, with more than half of the planned upgrade stages completed. Testing and commissioning activities are continuing across both sites, with final commissioning scheduled for Q3 2027.
Redbank Plains Substation Upgrade Project powerlink.com.au/redbank	The Redbank Plains Substation, located around 27km south-west of Brisbane, was established in 1985 and supplies electricity to Energex's local distribution network. It also provides additional switching capability for alternative power transfer between our Blackstone and Goodna substations. Both transformers, along with a range of ageing equipment in the substation, were nearing the end of their technical service life and required replacement to maintain ongoing safe, reliable and cost effective supply of electricity into the future. Works to install new equipment commenced in February 2025 and were completed in August 2026.
Tangkam BESS Connection Project powerlink.com.au/tangkam-bess	Powerlink is delivering the transmission connection for Shinhan's 100MW BESS at Tangkam, west of Toowoomba. Powerlink's work includes establishing a new 110kV feeder bay at Tangkam Substation and connecting the transmission line to customer-owned infrastructure. The design phase has been completed, and civil construction is nearing completion. Powerlink's works are scheduled for commissioning in Q2 2027.

Project	Update
Western Downs BESS Stage 3 powerlink.com.au/westerndownsbess	Powerlink has been engaged by Neoen to support the connection of its 285MW Western Downs Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) Stage 3 located at the Western Downs Green Power Hub, south-east of Chinchilla. Powerlink's scope of work focuses on leveraging existing connection infrastructure at Powerlink's Western Downs Substation, including upgrades to the transmission network to accommodate the increased BESS capacity. Design is complete, with construction commencing in Q4 2026, and commissioning expected in Q1 2027. Once complete, total capacity of the BESS will reach more than 600MW, strengthening system performance by improving firming, flexibility, and reliability as more generation connects in the region.
Brigalow Gas Peaking Power Station Connection powerlink.com.au/brigalowpeakingpowerplant	Powerlink has been engaged by CS Energy to connect its new 400MW Brigalow Gas Peaking Power Station to the transmission network, east of Powerlink's Banana Bridge Substation at the existing Kogan Creek Power Station site. Powerlink's scope of work includes constructing a new 2km 275kV transmission line and upgrading Banana Bridge Substation to support a safe and reliable connection. Construction is well underway and the project is expected to be completed and energised by Q4 2027. Once operational in 2028, the power station will be capable of reaching full output within five minutes, providing fast, reliable energy to support more than 150,000 Queensland homes during periods of peak electricity demand.
Brendale Supernode BESS Stage 3 powerlink.com.au/southpinebess	Powerlink has been engaged by Quinbrook Infrastructure Partners to connect Stage 3 of the Supernode BESS to the transmission network at South Pine. Stage 3 is a 260MW, four-hour battery system. The connection marks another key milestone for the Supernode project, following the successful energisation of stages 1 and 2. Powerlink's scope includes upgrading the South Pine Substation with a new 275kV feeder and coupler bay, as well as installing a 530-metre underground cable to connect the battery system to the transmission network. Construction is underway and is expected to be completed by Q2 2027.
Mt England Substation Secondary Systems Replacement powerlink.com.au/mtenglandsubstation	Mt England Substation connects CleanCo's Wivenhoe Pumped Hydro Power Station to the electricity grid and transfers energy from Tarong Power Station into the greater Brisbane transmission network via 275kV feeders. Its secondary systems are nearing the end of their technical service life and require replacement. A long term project is underway to replace the secondary systems. Works will resume in Q1 2027, with construction scheduled to start in Q2 2027 and commissioning completed by Q4 2027. Wivenhoe operations have continued without interruption throughout the project. This has been supported by coordination within Powerlink teams such as design, field and asset management, outage management, and commissioning teams. Powerlink also has a strong working relationship with CleanCo and works with them to align activities with the power station's outage and maintenance schedules to minimise customer impacts.

POWERLINK QUEENSLAND'S TRANSMISSION NETWORK IN SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND - NOVEMBER 2026

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Legend

- Existing Powerlink Substation
- Coal Fired Power Station
- Gas Turbine
- Borumba Pumped Hydro Transmission Connections Project
- Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project
- Existing Powerlink Transmission Line
- Highway
- Operating Renewable Energy Projects (non Powerlink)

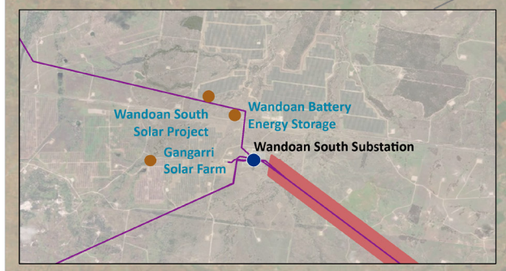
Data sourced from the Queensland Treasury Electricity Generation Map for projects connected to Powerlink's network. https://electricity-generation-map.treasury.qld.gov.au/#

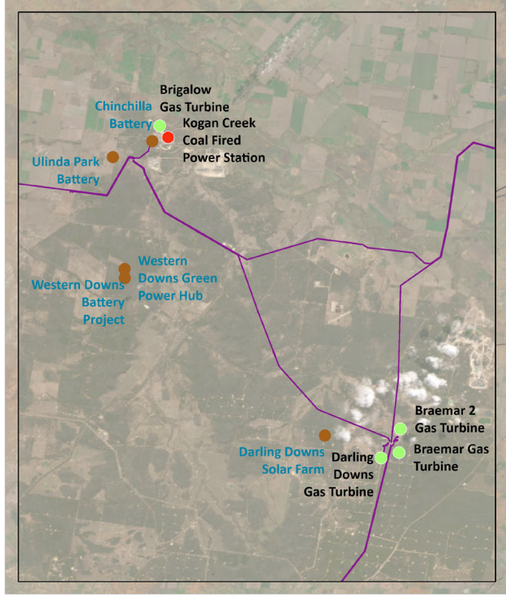
Potential generation and storage projects (non-Powerlink)

Projects included are at connection application stage. Location of renewable energy projects is indicative and not to scale. Project related data has been sourced from either the proponents' website (public domain) or the AEMO KCI Quarterly Report: bit.ly/AEMO-NEM-generation.
Potential renewable energy projects shown on the map are currently in their planning and approvals stage.

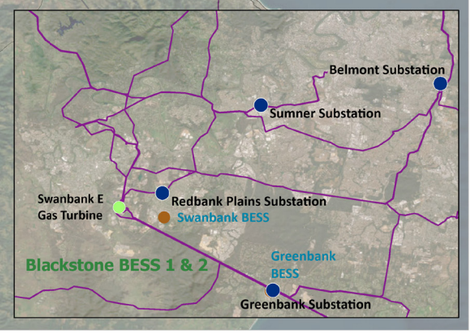
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Monto
BUNDABERG
Burnett Highway
Bruce Highway
Leichhardt Highway
Mt Rawdon Pump Hydro
North Burnett Renewable Hub 1
Golden Fleece Solar Farm & BESS
Ticoba Solar Farm
Taroom
Gayndah
Fraser Coast Solar Park
Teebar BESS
Bungaban Wind Farm
Fitzgerald Energy Park
Wandoan Battery Energy Storage
Wandoan South Substation
Gangarri Solar Farm
Jackson North Wind Farm
Lower Wonga Solar Farm & BESS
Wooloogo Solar Farm
Hookey Creek Hybrid Project
Wooloogo BESS
Wooloogo Substation
GYMPIE
Woonga Creek BESS
Burnett Highway
Tewantin
Pleasant Hills Solar Farm
ROMA
Roma Gas Turbine
Columboola BESS
Columboola Solar Farm
Blue Grass Solar Farm
Baking Board Solar Farm
Kingaroy
Borumba Pumped Hydro
Wambo Wind Farm Stage 1 & 2
Coopers Gap Wind Farm
Tarong West Wind Farm
Pacific Green Kingswell Energy Park
Tarong North Coal Fired Power Station
Diamondy Substation
Miles South Solar Farm & BESS
Halys Substation
South Burnett BESS
Tarong BESS
Oaky Creek BESS
Tarong Coal Fired Power Station
CALOUNDRA
Everleigh Solar Farm & BESS
Belah BESS
Ulinda Park Battery
Chinchilla Battery
Edenvale Solar Park
Kogan Creek Coal Fired Power Station
Sixteen Mile Solar Farm & BESS
Tuckeroo BESS
Tumuruu Solar Farm & BESS
Western Downs Green Power Hub
Hopeland Solar Farm & BESS
Braemar 2 Gas Turbine
Braemar Gas Turbine
Darling Downs Solar Farm
Darling Downs Gas Turbine
CABOOLTURE
Cressbrook Pumped Hydro Energy Storage Project
Brendale Supernode & BESS Stage 1 &2
Brendale Supernode & BESS Stage 3-5
Wivenhoe
Oakey Power Station
Oakey
Tangkam Substation
Tangkam BESS
Abermain BESS
Sumner Substation
Belmont Substation
Swanbank E Gas Turbine
Redbank Plains Substation
Swanbank BESS
Greenbank Substation
TOOWOOMBA
Noblevale BESS
Blackstone BESS 1 & 2
Greenbank BESS
Cattle Creek Wind Farm & BESS
Moonie Highway
Leichhardt Highway
Dunmore Solar Farm & BESS
Flinton
Punchs Creek Renewable Energy 2
Millmerran Coal Fired Power Station
Bulli Creek Energy Project
Tummaville Solar & BESS
Punchs Creek Solar Farm
Gore Highway
Karara BESS
MacIntyre Wind Farm
Warwick
Yelarbon Solar Farm & BESS
Barwon Highway
Herries Range Wind Farm
STANTHORPE
Beebo Solar Farm & BESS
Pikedale Wind Farm
New England Highway

Powerlink's 2026 Community Grants

Applications for Powerlink's latest round of community grants closed on 21 September 2026. The program supports local community groups, clubs and not-for-profit organisations across Queensland.

In Southern Queensland alone, we received 49 applications from groups in the Gympie, South Burnett, Somerset, Toowoomba, and Western Downs local government areas. Thanks to everyone who applied. We're now assessing applications and will contact successful applicants by the end of November.

We're proud to back the communities we work in. To stay up to date on our community grants program, visit powerlink.com.au/community-grants.

Powerlink joins the conversation at regional energy events

Powerlink has been out and about across Southern Queensland, joining important conversations about the region's energy future.

In August, we were proud to sponsor and attend the 2026 Surat Basin Energy Summit in Dalby. Hosted by Toowoomba and Surat Basin Enterprise, the event brought together more than 250 people to explore how coal, gas, wind, solar and batteries can work side by side. A key focus was that transmission is vital to delivering our energy future.

Also in August, we joined more than 80 community members at Coexistence Queensland's Community Energy Forum in Inglewood. Powerlink's General Manager Energy Markets and Planning Daniel Andersen spoke on a panel about Queensland's changing energy landscape, while our team chatted with locals throughout the day.

In September, we supported the RE-Alliance Regional Leaders Summit in Toowoomba, helping council staff and community representatives attend. Delegates took part in workshops and toured Acciona's MacIntyre Wind Farm.

Across all three events, one message stood out. Communities want to see real local benefits, from jobs to work for local businesses.



Powerlink staff at Coexistence Queensland's Community Energy Forum

Connections Guarantee

The Crisafulli Government has introduced a new Connections Guarantee for Powerlink and Energy Queensland as a key deliverable under the Energy Roadmap.

For Powerlink, it focuses on connection applications for large-scale generation, storage and loads connected to the transmission network. We will report annually against clear performance targets.

As Queensland's energy system evolves, new generation and storage projects will need to connect to the grid to support an affordable, sustainable and reliable supply of electricity.

As the Transmission Network Service Provider for Queensland, Powerlink complies with the connection process outlined by the National Electricity Rules.

Our goal is to work collaboratively with proponents to minimise the cost and time involved in the network connection process. For more information, visit powerlink.com.au/connections-guarantee.

Connecting First Nations students with future opportunities

Powerlink joined more than 20 employers, universities and training providers at the Murra Pathways First Nations Student Expo in Brisbane in August, connecting with more than 200 First Nations students to explore future career opportunities.

As an industry partner of Murra Pathways, we're proud to support its work in helping Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students explore pathways into employment, training and further education.

Murra Pathways is an Indigenous-owned and operated organisation that helps students take the next step towards their goals, with ongoing support to help them build their skills, confidence and future careers.



Powerlink staff at Murra Pathways careers event in Brisbane

Inspiring the next generation of energy experts

Across the winter and spring holidays, 18 high school students spent a week with us in our Work Experience Program, our largest cohort ever. They rotated through a range of teams, met Powerlink experts and took part in hands-on activities. By the end of the week, they had a real appreciation of what it takes to keep the lights on for Queenslanders.

In September, we also hosted girls in Years 9 to 11 for the UQ Women in Engineering Industry Day. Students tried hands-on activities, including our Network Simulator, and heard from a panel of our women engineers about their career journeys.

Both programs are part of our Student Engagement Strategy. They give students a first-hand look at what energy professionals really do and help them make more confident career choices.



Participants attend a live substation to learn about our primary and secondary plant in real-time

Powerlink helps turn the page

Powerlink is proud to be a founding partner of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library across the Western Downs, helping local children develop a love of reading from an early age.

The program provides eligible children with a free, age-appropriate book delivered to their home every month, from birth until they start school. More than just books, each delivery gives families an opportunity to share stories, spark imaginations and build a strong foundation for lifelong learning. Together, we're helping young minds grow and giving more children the chance to discover the joy of reading.

To know more, visit westerndownslibraries.com/dolly-partons-imagination-library/



Proud partners of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program

Modernising Powerlink's telecommunications network

Reliable telecommunications play an important role in operating and maintaining Powerlink's transmission network. Since 2021, Powerlink has been progressively modernising our telecommunications infrastructure to strengthen network reliability, resilience and security, while supporting the ongoing needs of our operations.

This initial program of work involves upgrading telecommunications infrastructure across 22 Powerlink sites and 12 customer sites, with completion expected by December 2026.

Delivering these upgrades has involved around 60 people across more than 20 teams within Powerlink, including Systems Integration, Works Control, Cyber Security, Construction and Commissioning, together with other internal specialists.

The project is also giving older equipment a second life. Decommissioned hardware is returned to our head office in Virginia, where it is dismantled and assessed for spare parts. Selected components are also made available to Energy Queensland. There are future stages to our telecommunications network modernisation program. This program will ultimately upgrade infrastructure across more than 200 substations and customer connection sites across Queensland.

About Powerlink

Powerlink is a leading Australian provider of electricity transmission services, focused on delivering a safe, cost-effective and reliable network for our customers. Our network extends 1,700km from Cairns to the New South Wales border and comprises 15,697 circuit km of transmission lines and 156 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. As well as connecting large generators to end-use customers through the distribution networks owned locally by Energex and Ergon Energy, we also provide electricity directly to large industrial customers such as rail companies, mines and mineral processing facilities.

Got a question about our transmission network?

Have a question or just curious about something? Reach out to us via our website, email or phone. We'd love to hear from you. Your questions help us share the stories and information that matter most to your community.

Further information

Stay connected with Powerlink's activities across the region. 'Follow' our Southern Queensland Community Hub for the latest updates.

Web: engage.powerlink.com.au/southern-queensland

Email: sqprojects@powerlink.com.au

Phone: 1800 635 369 (Monday to Friday, 7.30am–5pm).

Landholders of our current projects are also welcome to contact their Landholder Relations Advisor.