Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project

Application Number: **03256** Commencement Date: **05/12/2025** Status: **Locked**

1. About the project

1.1 Project details

1.1.1 Project title *

Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project

1.1.2 Project industry type *

Energy Generation and Supply (non-renewable)

1.1.3 Project industry sub-type

Transmission Line

1.1.4 Estimated start date *

04/01/2027

1.1.4 Estimated end date *

01/01/2029

1.2 Proposed Action details

1.2.1 Provide an overview of the proposed action, including all proposed activities. *

Proposed action overview

Powerlink Queensland (Powerlink)*, a transmission entity under the *Electricity Act 1994* has been engaged by Windlab Developments Pty Ltd (Windlab), to provide a connection for the Bungaban Wind Farm to the transmission network. The Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project (the proposed action) is located within the Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC) local government area (LGA), Queensland, approximately 10 kilometres (km) south of Wandoan.

The proposed action comprises the following key infrastructure components:

- A new 275 kilovolt (kV) substation (known as Warranna Substation), located adjacent to the site of the Bungaban Wind Farm. The substation footprint encompasses a total area of 25 hectares (ha)
- A new double-circuit 275 kV transmission line, extending approximately 83 km south-west from the proposed Warranna Substation to the existing Wandoan South Substation. The proposed transmission line will be positioned within a new 60 metre (m) wide easement
- Ancillary infrastructure to support construction, including access tracks and temporary work areas.

Approvals for the proposed action are expected to be completed by Q1, 2027. Subject to approvals, construction of the proposed action is proposed to commence in Q1, 2027 and be completed in Q1, 2029. Typically, transmission lines are designed for a 50-year in-service life and substation equipment for a service life in excess of 40 years with refurbishment scheduled every 15 years. The service life of transmission lines and substations are very reliable under most conditions. Powerlink will decide in the future whether to decommission and remove all infrastructure, or replace the existing infrastructure with new infrastructure.

*Powerlink Queensland is the registered business name of the Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited (ABN: 82 078 849 233).

Purpose of the proposed action

Powerlink develops and operates Queensland’s high-voltage transmission network, as well as providing transmission services to facilitate the connection of major industries and electricity generators. As the Transmission Network Service Provider (TNSP) for Queensland under the National Electricity Rules, Powerlink is required to connect eligible proponents, including generation projects, that comply with the relevant technical and regulatory standards. The Bungaban Wind Farm has met these specified criteria, and Powerlink will proceed with its connection onto the transmission network.

The Bungaban Wind Farm received development approval from the Queensland Government in March 2025 (State Assessment and Referral Agency Reference: 2410-43110 SDA). The Bungaban Wind Farm has been referred separately under the EPBC Act (EPBC Reference: 2024/09768) and is also included within the Federal Government National Renewable Energy Priority List.

The connection of the Bungaban Wind Farm onto the transmission network is anticipated to contribute to Queensland’s clean energy targets by facilitating the generation of renewable energy. Additionally, the proposed action will create jobs in construction and operation, support local sourcing where possible, including promotion of regional training and business growth.

Proposed action activities

Activities involved in undertaking the proposed action include:

Overhead transmission line construction activities:

- Site survey and set out
- Pre-clearance ecological and cultural heritage surveys
- Site establishment, including creation of access tracks and temporary work areas
- Installation of gates, grids and wash-down bays
- Vegetation clearing and mulching

- Tower site benching
- Foundation excavation and installation
- Structure assembly and erection
- Conductor and earth wire/optical ground wire (OPGW) stringing
- Road and watercourse crossings
- Site rehabilitation and demobilisation.

Warranna Substation construction activities:

- Site survey and set out
- Pre-clearance ecological and cultural heritage surveys
- Site establishment, including creation of access tracks/temporary work areas
- Installation of gates, grids and wash-down bays
- Vegetation clearing and mulching
- Civil works, including drainage and foundation excavation/installation
- Installation of substation equipment
- Site rehabilitation and demobilisation.

Additional details describing the proposed action are provided in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 2, Pages 20 - 31**.

Direct and indirect impacts

The following terminology is used throughout this referral package to describe the proposed action:

Project Area

The Project Area has been delineated through Powerlink's Transmission Easement Engagement Process (TEEP), utilising the 83 km long final corridor, which is presented in the Final Corridor Selection Report (Powerlink Queensland, 2025). The Project Area is typically 1 km in width, but has been adjusted in certain sections to mitigate potential conflicts with existing or proposed infrastructure. The Project Area covers a total area of 7,493.0 ha (the difference between this value and the value generated in section 2.1 is due to a spatial system projection issue).

Survey Area

Contained within the Project Area, the Survey Area is the area where ecological field surveys have been undertaken (either directly or indirectly), comprising a 200 m buffer applied either side of the transmission centreline to an approximate total width of 400 m.

Disturbance Footprint

Contained within both the Project Area and Survey Area, the Disturbance Footprint is the area where permanent and temporary ground disturbance will occur from the proposed action (through construction, operation and maintenance phases). It includes:

Permanent infrastructure:

- Access tracks (up to 6 m wide)
- Warranna Substation (approximately 25 ha)
- 83 km long transmission line corridor (60 m wide easement)
- 180 transmission structures and associated tower pads (50 m x 50 m).

Temporary infrastructure:

- Access tracks (up to 12 m wide)
- Laydown areas - three laydown areas have been selected for the storage of materials, site offices and temporary concrete batching plants. The locations of the laydown areas are summarised below:
    - Lot 41 on SP137907, adjacent to the proposed Warranna Substation

    - Lot 24 on FT36
    - Lot 20 on FT190 and Lot on 59 FT105
- Conductor brake and winch sites (50 m x 50 m).

The Disturbance Footprint covers an area of approximately 710.6 ha (the difference between this value and the value generated in section 2.1 is due to a spatial system projection issue).

The potential for direct and indirect impacts to Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) resulting from Powerlink undertaking the proposed action has been addressed through this referral package. Activities associated with the proposed action resulting in direct impacts include clearing of vegetation, earthworks and vehicle/machinery interactions. Indirect impacts from the proposed action include fragmentation of habitat and edge effects, soil erosion and sedimentation of waterways, dust generation, noise generation and spread of invasive species.

Land tenure arrangements

The Project Area is predominantly zoned as ‘rural’ under the Western Downs Planning Scheme 2017 (Planning Scheme), supporting grazing, cropping and other primary production, with electricity infrastructure identified as a consistent use within the rural zone. The majority of land parcels within the Project Area are freehold tenure, apart from Lot 3 on SP347105 (profit à prendre), Lot 2 on FT210 (lands lease – rail corridor) and Lot 188 on FTY1362 (Mundell State Forest). Several easements are also present within the Project Area, which are primarily associated with water infrastructure and high-pressure petroleum pipelines. Powerlink will register a new easement to accommodate the 83 km long transmission line corridor and substation under the *Land Act 1994*.

Supporting documents to this referral

The following supporting documents are included as part of this referral:

- Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report: includes the main body of the terrestrial ecological assessment report
- Att_1.2 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices A-D: includes database searches, quaternary data, species lists and field-verified likelihood of occurrence assessments
- Att_1.3 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E1: includes threatened species habitat mapping
- Att_1.4 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E2: includes threatened species habitat mapping
- Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I: includes Powerlink's Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project Environmental Management Plan (Project EMP), targeted ecology survey report for *Adclarkia* spp., microbat echolocation call analysis and significant impact assessments
- Att_2 Powerlink HSE Policy: Powerlink's health, safety and environment (HSE) policy.

1.2.2 Is the project action part of a staged development or related to other actions or proposals in the region?

Yes

1.2.3 Is the proposed action the first stage of a staged development (or a larger project)?

No

1.2.4 Related referral(s)

EPBC Number	Project Title
2024/09768	Bungaban Wind Farm

1.2.5 Provide information about the staged development (or relevant larger project).

The double-circuit 275 kV transmission line and Warranna Substation, which is the subject of this referral, is one of two separate actions required for development and delivery of the Bungaban Wind Farm.

The proposed action is required to connect the Bungaban Wind Farm to the existing transmission network. The Bungaban Wind Farm has been referred separately by Windlab under the EPBC Act (EPBC Reference: 2024/09768).

On 20 May 2024, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) determined that the Bungaban Wind Farm is a controlled action, requiring further assessment and approval under EPBC Act before it can proceed. This further assessment and approval under the EPBC Act will be undertaken separately by Windlab (i.e. the works do not form part of this action).

1.2.6 What Commonwealth or state legislation, planning frameworks or policy documents are relevant to the proposed action, and how are they relevant? *

Commonwealth Legislation

Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act)

MNES are protected under the EPBC Act. It is recognised that where a proposed action could impact a MNES, it needs to be referred to the DCCEEW for assessment in accordance with the *Commonwealth Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – MNES* (Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, 2013). Assessments (desktop and field) of MNES values within the Project Area indicate the presence of the following MNES:

- Listed threatened species and communities
- Listed migratory species.

A significant impact assessment for these matters has been included as part of this referral package.

Native Title Act 1993 (NT Act)

The Project Area traverses small areas subject to native title. Within land over which native title rights do exist, Powerlink must comply with the requirements of the NT Act to secure an easement for the transmission line. Construction of Powerlink's electricity transmission lines is covered by the process under section 24KA of the NT Act. Under section 24KA, native title is not extinguished, but is 'suppressed' while the easement remains in place.

Queensland Legislation

State land use approval for the proposed action is being sought via the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) process under chapter 2, part 5 of the *Planning Act 2016* (Planning Act). Through the MID process, the proposed action will be assessed against the applicable State interests and constraints ordinarily made assessable under the Planning Act. For infrastructure designations under the Planning Act (section 36) the Minister must be satisfied that adequate environmental assessment, including adequate consultation has been carried out in relation to the proposed action.

Other State legislation relevant to the proposed action includes:

- *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* (ACH Act): A search of the Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships and Multiculturalism (DWATISPM) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultural Heritage (ATSICH) Database and Register has identified ten Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the Project Area and two Aboriginal cultural heritage sites within the Disturbance Footprint. Under the ACH Act, Powerlink is required to exercise a duty of care to take all reasonable and practical measures to avoid harming Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage.
- *Biosecurity Act 2014* (Biosecurity Act): The proposed action will be required to meet the general biosecurity obligation under the Biosecurity Act, managed through the general requirements for biosecurity matters.
- *Electricity Act 1994* (Electricity Act): As a transmission entity, Powerlink is required to promote a safe, efficient and reliable supply and use of electricity while also properly considering the environmental effects of its activities under the transmission authority.
- *Electricity Safety Act 2002* (Electricity Safety Act): As a transmission entity Powerlink must seek to prevent death, injury and destruction that can be caused by electricity.
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EP Act)/Environmental Protection Regulation 2019 (EP Regulation): Powerlink will comply with the general environmental duty in the EP Act, particularly when undertaking activities with the potential to cause environmental harm.
- *Fisheries Act 1994* (Fisheries Act): Potential fisheries habitat (e.g. waterways) protected under the Fisheries Act are present within the Project Area. Powerlink will seek to minimise impacts to waterways and carry out works in accordance with the *Accepted Development requirements for operational work that is constructing or raising waterway barrier works* (Department of Primary Industries, 2025). Where not possible, appropriate development approvals will be sought.

- *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NC Act): The NC Act provides for the creation and management of protected areas, the protection of native wildlife and regulates the clearing of protected plants. The proposed action will require Species Management Programs (low-risk and high-risk) to protect and manage animal breeding places.
- *Queensland Heritage Act 1992* (QH Act): In accordance with part 1 of the QH Act, historical cultural heritage is provided conservation for the benefit of the community and future generations. Under parts 4 and 11 of the QH Act, historical cultural heritage places considered to hold State significance are entered in the Queensland Heritage Register, while places of local heritage significance may be listed by local governments in their respective local heritage register and/or planning schemes. A search the Queensland Heritage Register, local heritage register, as well as the Planning Scheme did not identify any heritage places within the Project Area. Should the proposed action unearth an archaeological artefact that is an important source of information about an aspect of Queensland history, it must be reported to the Department of the Environment, Tourism, Science and Innovation (DETSI).
- *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* (TI Act): The TI Act provides a regime that allows for and encourages effective integrated planning and efficient management of a system of transport infrastructure. The proposed action may require road permits to facilitate construction.
- *Vegetation Management Act 1999* (VM Act): The VM Act regulates and manages the process and impacts of native vegetation clearing (regulated vegetation). The proposed action will require the removal of regulated vegetation under the VM Act. Powerlink is afforded some exemptions under the VM Act given the proposed action is for electricity infrastructure associated with a MID.
- *Water Act 2000* (Water Act): The Water Act provides a framework to deliver sustainable water planning, allocation, management and supply processes to provide for the improved security of water resources in Queensland. Where required, Powerlink will obtain the relevant water licenses and permits required to take or interfere with water associated with the proposed action.

Also relevant to the proposed action is the State Planning Policy (SPP). The SPP outlines State interests that serve as the overarching policy for regional and local planning schemes. The MID process will consider the SPP against the proposed action.

Local

The key instrument used by local governments to regulate development within local government areas are planning schemes (local planning instruments). Generally, planning schemes guide the growth and development within a local government area by identifying a preferred settlement pattern for a local government area, regulating development and providing for the preservation of important local environmental and community values. The Western Downs Planning Scheme 2017 (Planning Scheme) is applicable to the proposed action.

A range of secondary approvals may also be required under the Planning Scheme and Planning Act (e.g. relating to access tracks and concrete batching plants). Secondary approvals for the proposed action will be determined during the detailed design phase.

1.2.7 Describe any public consultation that has been, is being or will be undertaken regarding the project area, including with Indigenous stakeholders. Attach any completed consultation documentations, if relevant. *

Engagement strategy

Powerlink is committed to effective and genuine engagement practices with landholders, Traditional Owner groups, the wider community and other stakeholders.

Powerlink's activities are guided by their Stakeholder Engagement Framework (Powerlink Queensland, 2021), which is underpinned by the key principles of integrity, openness, responsiveness, accountability and inclusiveness. Powerlink's approach to community engagement seeks to remain focused on undertaking respectful and transparent engagement across all stages of our infrastructure lifecycle.

Project-specific consultation:

Powerlink has been engaging with local and regional communities and stakeholders on the project since July 2024. There is a dedicated Project Engagement Team and Landholder Relations Team in place within Powerlink to form effective relationships, proactively provide relevant information and manage any enquiries. Engagement was undertaken in accordance with Powerlink's TEEP. To date, project-specific engagement has focused on:

- Introducing the project and transmission line study area
- Understanding key issues, concerns, priorities and interests
- Understanding land use in detail
- Updating landholders, Traditional Owner groups, community members and other stakeholders on project milestones and progress, including the release of the Study Area Report - July 2024, Corridor Options Report - November 2024, Recommended Corridor Report - April 2025 and generating awareness of the Final Corridor Selection Report - July 2025
- Targeted engagement with landholders along the final corridor and key stakeholders.

Powerlink has identified the following key stakeholder groups for the project:

- Elected State and Federal representatives
- Local councils
- Landholders
- Traditional Owner groups
- General public
- Local community groups, including business groups, environment groups, volunteer groups and recreation groups.

Engagement outline

<u>Stage 1</u>

In July 2024, Powerlink released a high-level study area. Engagement activities included:

- Project webpage established
- Feedback form, open between 22 July 2024 to 1 September 2024
- Community information drop-in sessions in Chinchilla, Miles, Wandoan, and Taroom, attended by 49 participants
- An interactive mapping tool (Social Pinpoint) that received 30 individual comments
- Distribution of 500 project newsletters and feedback cards
- Direct communications with landholders, including 56 letters, 26 phone calls and 60 emails
- Engagement with Traditional Owner groups and briefings with elected representatives
- Podcast raising awareness about the project, study area and how to provide input
- Advertisements on two local commercial radio stations and in two local papers.

Community priorities derived from the feedback form, in order of priority were:

- Farming operations
- Property values

- Proximity to houses
- Biosecurity
- Protected/high-risk flora and fauna, local infrastructure
- Visual amenity
- Bushfire
- Housing and accommodation
- Community benefits
- Protected areas.

Feedback also highlighted the need for clear communication regarding the project scope and implications.

Stage 2

Based on initial feedback, two 1 km wide corridors were identified and published in a Corridor Options Report in November 2024. Engagement focused on testing and refining corridor options with stakeholders and gathering more detailed information.

Engagement activities included:

- Feedback form, open between 8 November 2024 and 15 December 2024
- Letters and telephone calls to landholders
- Stakeholder briefings
- Community information drop-in sessions at Taroom and Wandoan
- Social media posts
- Distribution of project newsletter
- Emails to the project database gathered during study area engagement
- Feedback form open between 8 November 2024 and 15 December 2024
- Online webinar for those not able to attend face to face information sessions.

After receiving feedback following the November 2024 and December 2024 engagement sessions, Powerlink delayed the release of the Recommended Corridor Report to further investigate the section of corridor near the Middle Creek area. Based on discussions and feedback, it was identified that a realignment of the corridor in this area may be required to consider existing land use activities/farming operations and proposed renewable energy infrastructure and seek to explore possible co-location opportunities. Further engagement occurred in March 2025 specifically within this area. Considering all feedback received, land uses, known constraints, improvements and future development plans, two realignments and one deviation was made to the recommended corridor.

Stage 3

A Recommended Corridor Report was released by Powerlink in April 2025.

Powerlink engaged with stakeholders within the 1 km-wide recommended corridor between April 2025 and June 2025 to obtain direct feedback. Engagement activities included:

- One-on-one meetings
- Feedback form open between 17 April 2025 to 18 May 2025
- Community information drop-in sessions
- Interactive map of the recommended corridor
- Phone calls, emails and letters to landholders
- Stakeholder briefings
- Social media posts
- Distribution of project newsletter
- Webinar.

Based on the feedback and consideration of matters raised by the community, five realignments were made to the recommended corridor which culminated in the creation of the final corridor.

A Final Corridor Report was released in July 2025 and further engagement involved:

- Telephone calls and letters to landholders
- Briefings of State and Federal Members and councils
- Distribution of a project update newsletter email to project database
- Informal briefings with key stakeholders.

These engagement activities have been further supported with a dedicated project telephone number, email and project webpage (https://engage.powerlink.com.au/bungaban), which is updated regularly, and links to a community hub where people can ask questions or register for updates.

Traditional Owner consultation

Powerlink has dedicated team members for engaging with Traditional Owner groups about legislative cultural heritage requirements, as well as engagement on project milestones and other partnering opportunities. The following Traditional Owner groups are also the cultural heritage parties for the area where the proposed action is located, as per section 35 of the ACH Act:

- Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation – the registered native title body corporate holding both the Iman People #2 (QCD2016/005) and Iman People #4 (QCD2024/015) native title rights and interests in trust.

Powerlink's Indigenous Partnerships Team maintains ongoing, regular engagement with the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation about the following:

- Project scope, schedule and design
- Cultural heritage assessment and management strategies over the Project Area.

Below is a list of key consultation milestones with the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation, as well as the Iman People #4 native title applicant group to date:

- 30 September 2024: Initial project engagement meeting by Powerlink with the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation (Rockhampton)
- 8 November 2024: Powerlink provided a Corridor Options Report to the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation for review and feedback
- 23 April 2025: Powerlink provided a Recommended Corridor Report to the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation for review and feedback
- 14 July 2025: Powerlink provided a Final Corridor Report to the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation for review and feedback
- 24 July 2025: Project engagement/cultural heritage assessment meeting by Powerlink with the Iman People #4 Native Title Applicant Group (Brisbane)
    - All parties were satisfied with the information provided to date, and agreed to proceed with preparing a Cultural Heritage Management Agreement (CHMA) for the project
- 21 August 2025: Project engagement and cultural heritage assessment meeting by Powerlink with the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation (Brisbane)
    - All parties were satisfied with the information provided to date, and agreed to proceed with preparing a CHMA for the project.

Further engagement

Powerlink is committed to ongoing community engagement throughout the life cycle of the proposed action to strengthen and leverage relationships with all stakeholders. As such, Powerlink continues its direct engagement activities with landholders, Traditional Owner groups, the community and other stakeholders via face-to-face meetings, presence at community events and regular project newsletter updates/emails.

1.3.1 Identity: Referring party

Privacy Notice:

Personal information means information or an opinion about an identified individual, or an individual who is reasonably identifiable.

By completing and submitting this form, you consent to the collection of all personal information contained in this form. If you are providing the personal information of other individuals in this form, please ensure you have their consent before doing so.

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) collects your personal information (as defined by the Privacy Act 1988) through this platform for the purposes of enabling the department to consider your submission and contact you in relation to your submission. If you fail to provide some or all of the personal information requested on this platform (name and email address), the department will be unable to contact you to seek further information (if required) and subsequently may impact the consideration given to your submission.

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Alternatively, email us at privacy@dcceew.gov.au.

☑ **Confirm that you have read and understand this Privacy Notice ***

1.3.1.1 Is Referring party an organisation or business? *

Yes

Referring party organisation details

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

Referring party details

Name	Samantha Pintara
Job title	Senior Environmental Advisor
Phone	0473 501 432
Email	samantha.pintara@powerlink.com.au
Address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

1.3.2 Identity: Person proposing to take the action

1.3.2.1 Are the Person proposing to take the action details the same as the Referring party details? *

Yes

Person proposing to take the action organisation details

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

Person proposing to take the action details

Name	Samantha Pintara
Job title	Senior Environmental Advisor
Phone	0473 501 432
Email	samantha.pintara@powerlink.com.au
Address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

1.3.2.14 Are you proposing the action as part of a Joint Venture? *

No

1.3.2.15 Are you proposing the action as part of a Trust? *

No

1.3.2.17 Describe the Person proposing the action's history of responsible environmental management including details of any proceedings under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources against the Person proposing to take the action. *

Powerlink is a Queensland Government Owned Corporation that owns, develops, operates and maintains the high-voltage electricity transmission network in Queensland. Powerlink's network extends 1,700 km from Cairns to the New South Wales border, comprising 15,449 circuit km of transmission lines and 152 substations.

Powerlink has a strong record of responsible environmental management. There are no past or current legal proceedings against Powerlink under a Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

Powerlink has previously referred the following actions to the DCCEEW (note: this is not an exhaustive list):

- 2025/10328: Theodore Wind Farm Connection Project
- 2025/10326: Bulli Creek Substation Expansion
- 2025/10316: Tuckeroo Battery Connection Project
- 2025/10314: Banana Range Wind Farm Connection Project
- 2025/10128: Borumba to Halys Transmission Connection Project
- 2025/10246: Gawara Baya Wind Farm Connection Project
- 2024/10044: Calvale to Calliope River Transmission Line Reinforcement Project
- 2024/10065: Reid River to Hughenden 500 kV Transmission Line
- 2021/9060: Genex Kidston Connection Project
- 2011/5801: Paynes Road, Ebenezer – Construction of a Linesman Training Facility
- 2010/5615: Springdale to Blackwall Transmission Line Project
- 2010/5346: 275/132kVTransmission Line Replacement Project
- 2009/5229: Construction of Calliope River 275kV and 132kV Bulk Supply Substation
- 2009/4840: 275 kV Double-Circuit Transmission Line – Woolooga Substation and New Substation
- 2008/4479: Larapinta to Algester Transmission Line and Larapinta Substation
- 2008/4390: 275kV Transmission Line from Ross Substation to Strathmore Substation
- 2007/3230: Spring Gully to Braemar High Voltage Transmission Line Development.

1.3.2.18 If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

Powerlink's health, safety and environment policy is provided in **Att_2 Powerlink HSE Policy.**

Powerlink's environmental management framework addresses all phases of asset lifecycle.

Powerlink activities must be undertaken in accordance with all relevant Commonwealth, State and local government legislation. Any commitments and requirements identified within a MID report, referral under the EPBC Act, or any other approval process and resultant conditions, must be followed and undertaken. All approval commitments and requirements must be documented within Powerlink's Centralised Document Management System for Asset Specific (Functional Location) Environmental Information for referencing purposes, along with any relevant geospatial data recording.

Powerlink's environmental management framework involves the following:

Step 1: Acquisition of approvals

Powerlink's Project EMP (refer **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**) is included as a supporting document for acquisition of Commonwealth and State development approvals. The environmental controls contained within this EMP specify Powerlink's minimum requirements for the management of environmental aspects relevant to activities undertaken by Powerlink and its Contractors.

Step 2: Contract document development

Powerlink's Environment and Sustainability Specification is issued as part of contractual engagement documents. This specification defines Powerlink's environmental management requirements relating to Work Under Contract (WUC) for a project. An Environmental Annexure is also developed and issued as part of contractor engagement. The Environmental Annexure details Project-specific environmental management requirements related to WUC. Environmental Work Plans (EWPs) provide a geospatial representation of key land and water- based data sets, which are of relevance to Powerlink's assets. EWPs are used by Powerlink staff, contractors, relevant sub-contractors and relevant management service providers (MSPs) for the identification of key environmental features and/or constraints, which have been highlighted to enable works to be undertaken on, or in association with, a Powerlink asset.

Step 3: Project delivery

The contractor is required to develop, and implement through project delivery, a CEMP. The CEMP must, at a minimum, meet the requirements as outlined within the Environment and Sustainability Specification and Environmental Annexure and all relevant legislative requirements. Roles and responsibilities must be nominated in the contractor's CEMP including timing/frequency for undertaking environmental management activities where applicable.

Step 4: Operation and maintenance

Activities undertaken by Powerlink and contractors during the operation and maintenance phase are managed in accordance with Powerlink's Environmental Management System documentation, including the EMP. EWPs are also used by Powerlink staff, contractors, relevant sub-contractors, and relevant MSPs for the identification of key environmental features and/or constraints which have been highlighted to enable works to be undertaken on, or in association with, a Powerlink asset.

Step 5: Decommissioning

Activities undertaken by Powerlink and contractors during the decommissioning phase are managed in accordance with steps 2 and 3 above. As the operational life of a transmission line and substation is typically 50 years, specific measures relating to decommissioning (removal and replacement of an asset) have not been included in the EMP. Environmental regulations, understanding of environmental impacts and community expectations will have changed over this length of time and will need to be considered as part of the environmental assessment process current at the time of decommissioning. Any agreements,

requirements or conditions relating to an asset removal or replacement (e.g. conditions of a development approval) will be retained within the relevant Objective site folder, to ensure that such measures are not overlooked at the end of the asset's life.

Environmental audits, against the EMP or other requirements (e.g. Project Environmental Annexure requirements, permits, approval conditions), may be conducted by a Powerlink Environmental Representative at any given time throughout the project. The frequency of environmental inspections is dependent on the environmental risk determined for the work.

Independent audits may be required as a condition of project approvals or at the request of the regulator. The frequency of external auditions will be undertaken in accordance with relevant project approval conditions, or as directed by the regulator.

The identification of non-conformance may be a result of an environmental incident, inspections/audits/monitoring against the EMP, or other requirements (e.g. Project Environmental Annexure requirements, permits, approval conditions).

Powerlink's Corporate Health, Safety and Environment Management System include processes and procedures for responding to environmental incidents or non-conformances, including notification requirements and implementation of corrective actions.

1.3.3 Identity: Proposed designated proponent

1.3.3.1 Are the Proposed designated proponent details the same as the Person proposing to take the action? *

No

1.3.3.2 Is Proposed designated proponent an organisation or business? *

Yes

Proposed designated proponent organisation details

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

Proposed designated proponent details

Name	Ariane Ponting
Job title	Manager Environment
Phone	0400 707 475
Email	ariane.ponting@powerlink.com.au
Address	33 Harold Street Virginia 4014 QLD

1.3.4 Identity: Summary of allocation

Confirmed Referring party's identity

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014
Representative's name	Samantha Pintara
Representative's job title	Senior Environmental Advisor
Phone	0473 501 432
Email	samantha.pintara@powerlink.com.au
Address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

Confirmed Person proposing to take the action's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

Confirmed Proposed designated proponent's identity

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014
Representative's name	Ariane Ponting
Representative's job title	Manager Environment
Phone	0400 707 475
Email	ariane.ponting@powerlink.com.au

Address 33 Harold Street Virginia 4014 QLD

1.4 Payment details: Payment exemption and fee waiver

1.4.1 Do you qualify for an exemption from fees under EPBC Regulation 5.23 (1) (a)? *

No

1.4.3 Have you applied for or been granted a waiver for full or partial fees under Regulation 5.21A? *

No

1.4.5 Are you going to apply for a waiver of full or partial fees under EPBC Regulation 5.21A?

No

1.4.7 Has the department issued you with a credit note? *

No

1.4.9 Would you like to add a purchase order number to your invoice? *

Yes

1.4.10 Enter purchase order number *

2125961

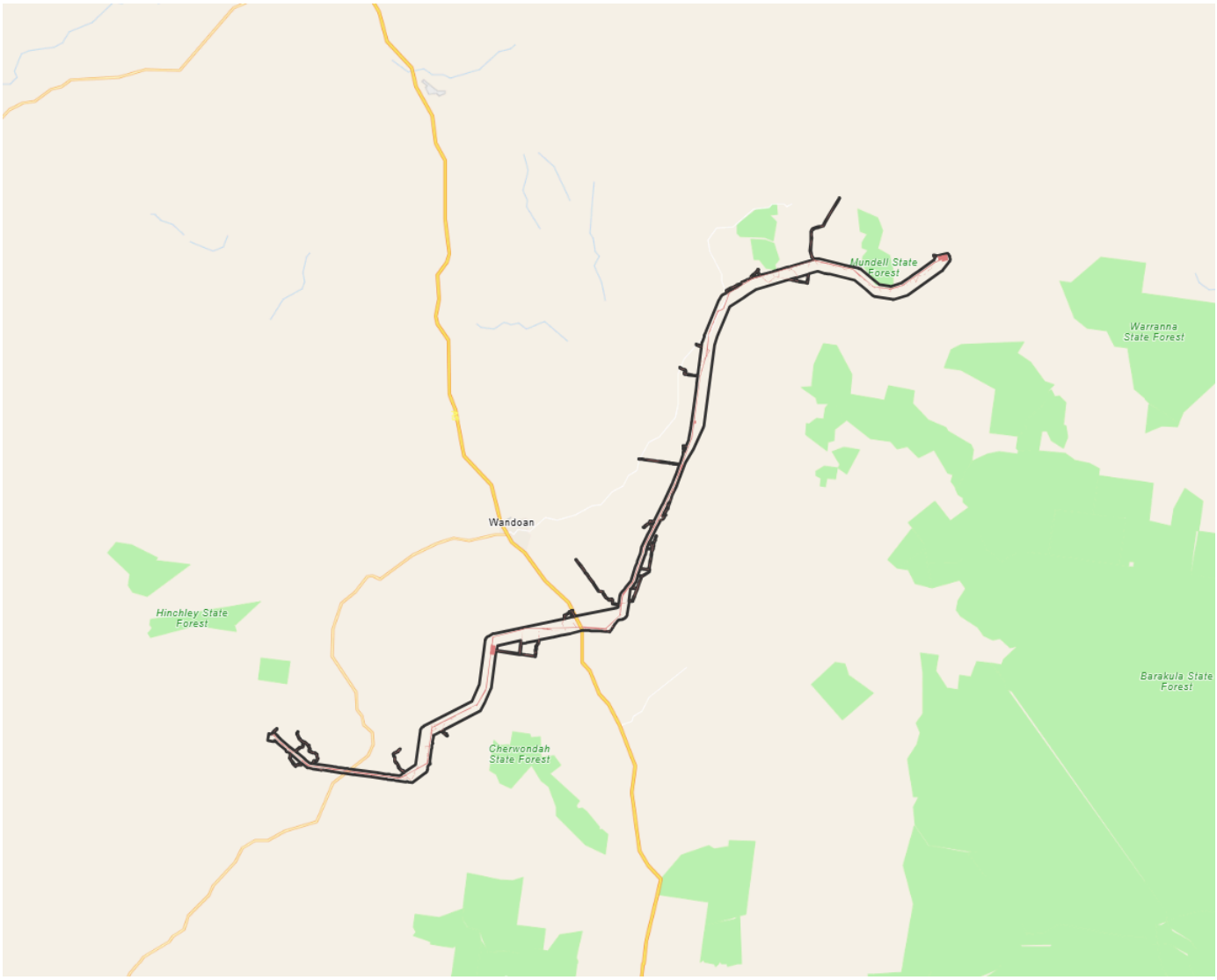
1.4 Payment details: Payment allocation

1.4.11 Who would you like to allocate as the entity responsible for payment? *

Referring party

2. Location

2.1 Project footprint



Project Area: 7497.17 Ha **Disturbance Footprint:** 711.45 Ha

2.2 Footprint details

2.2.1 What is the address of the proposed action? *

433 Bocks Road, Bungaban QLD 4419 (Lot 41 on SP137907)

2.2.2 Where is the primary jurisdiction of the proposed action? *

Queensland

2.2.3 Is there a secondary jurisdiction for this proposed action? *

No

2.2.5 What is the tenure of the action area relevant to the project area? *

Details of the properties and named roads intersected by the Disturbance Footprint are summarised below (from north to south):

- Lot 41 on SP137907 (freehold)
- Bocks Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 2 on FT986 (freehold)
- Knudsens Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Big Valley Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 3 on SP347105 (freehold)
- Bungaban Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 22 on RP847424 (freehold)
- Lot 8 on FT343 (freehold)
- Lot 13 on FT35 (freehold)
- Lot 24 on FT36 (freehold)
- Roche Creek Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 23 on FT36 (freehold)
- Lot 27 on FT36 (freehold)
- Lot 14 on FT100 (freehold)
- Lot 12 on FT99 (freehold)
- Middle Creek Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 24 on FT98 (freehold)
- Lot 11 on FT98 (freehold)
- Lot 10 on FT90 (freehold)
- Lot 27 on FT130 (freehold)
- Leichardt Highway, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 57 on FT695 (freehold)
- Lot 2 on FT210 (lands lease)
- Lot 3 on FT695 (freehold)
- Lot 4 on FT105 (freehold)
- Burunga Lane, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 59 on FT105 (freehold)
- Lot 20 on FT190 (freehold)
- Peakes Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 19 on FT676 (freehold)
- Hansens Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 47 on FT221 (freehold)
- Lot 55 on FT170 (freehold)
- Giligulgul Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 46 on FT103 (freehold)
- Lot 49 on SP237297 (freehold)
- Jackson Wandoan Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- 1 SP254444 (freehold)
- Lot 2 on SP254444 (freehold)
- Gadsbys Road, road parcel (road reserve)
- Lot 21 on SP243383 (freehold)
- Lot 20 on SP243383 (freehold).

The Disturbance Footprint intersects several unnamed roads, which are excluded from the list above. All traversed land parcels are freehold tenure except for:

- Lot 2 on FT210 (lands lease tenure, comprising the Wandoan Branch Railway)
- Lot 3 on SP347105 (profit à prendre tenure).

Thirteen land parcels contain easements, primarily associated with water infrastructure and high-pressure petroleum pipelines. The Disturbance Footprint intersects two state-controlled roads (the Leichhardt Highway and Jackson-Wandoan Road) and several local roads, including private access tracks. In the southern portion of the Project Area, the Disturbance Footprint is co-located within the existing Columboola–Wandoan South transmission line easement for approximately 10.9 km.

A search of the DWATISPM ATSICH Database and Register (August 2025) identified the following cultural heritage parties for the Project Area:

- Iman People #4
- Iman People #2
- Iman People #4 Part A.

The relevant cultural heritage body is Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC. There are no current native title claims over the Project Area. Native title determinations relevant to the Project Area include:

- Iman People #2 (QCD2016/005): in-effect, finalised, native title extinguished
- Iman People #2 (QCD2016/005): in-effect, finalised, native title exists (11 November 2016)
- Iman People #4 (QCD2024/015): in-effect, finalised, native title exists (17 September 2024).

The Disturbance Footprint intersects several resource interests, including permits for exploration, information, infrastructure (petroleum pipelines and CSG bores) and production. A key resource area transport route also crosses the northern part of the Project Area.

3. Existing environment

3.1 Physical description

3.1.1 Describe the current condition of the project area's environment.

Location

The Project Area is located approximately 10 km south of Wandoan and 47 km south of Taroom within the WDRC LGA in Queensland. It lies in a rural inland setting roughly 275 km from the Queensland coastline and is characterised by a subtropical climate (as per the Koppen classification system). Nearby population centres include Wandoan, Guluguba, Taroom and Miles.

Zoning and land use

Under the Planning Scheme, the Project Area and its surrounds are predominantly zoned rural, intended for activities such as cropping, intensive horticulture, intensive animal industries, animal husbandry, animal keeping and other primary production activities. The rural zone also accommodates non-rural uses that are compatible with agricultural and environmental values. Major electricity infrastructure and substations are identified as consistent uses within the rural zone.

The Project Area also intersects a narrow parcel (30 m wide), which is zoned community facilities, comprising lands lease tenure associated with the Wandoan Branch Railway corridor. No changes to the existing zoning are required to facilitate the proposed action. As outlined in Section 1.2.6 of this referral, Powerlink will use the MID pathway under the Planning Act to obtain the necessary land use approval.

Land use within the Project Area is dominated by cleared agricultural land used primarily for pastoral activities and livestock grazing. Coal seam gas extraction occurs in the north and south-west. Other land uses include native forest production, cropping, intensive animal husbandry, transport, communication, residential areas and small water storage areas (reservoir/dam). Mundell State Forest lies partially within the Project Area but is not affected by the Disturbance Footprint.

Access

The Disturbance Footprint will be accessed via existing State-controlled roads, including the Leichhardt Highway and Jackson-Wandoan Road, as well as local road networks. Existing road crossings and on-property access tracks will be utilised where possible. Some upgrades and the development of new access tracks will be required during construction. Powerlink will work with WDRC to identify any external road dedications or upgrades needed to support construction.

Current condition

Most of the Project Area comprises Class A agricultural land (highly suitable for cropping), with the northern section of the Disturbance Footprint crossing Class C agricultural land (used for grazing). The Disturbance Footprint also intersects existing linear infrastructure, including distribution lines and local roads, and co-locates with Powerlink's existing Columboola–Wandoan South transmission line easement for approximately 10.9 km.

The landscape has been extensively cleared for agriculture and grazing, resulting in a predominance of exotic and native grasslands with patches of Acacia and Eucalyptus regrowth and small, isolated pockets of remnant vegetation.

3.1.2 Describe any existing or proposed uses for the project area.

Existing land uses

The broader region is characterised by rural agricultural holdings, small townships, native vegetation, and the Mundell State Forest. Existing land uses within and surrounding the Project Area include:

- Predominantly grazing-based agricultural land
- Discrete areas of cropping
- Native vegetation and watercourses
- Scattered rural residences and outbuildings
- Minor local roads linking small townships to regional centres
- The Leichhardt Highway, a designated tourist route
- High-voltage Ergon distribution lines and the 275 kV Powerlink Columboola–Wandoan transmission line
- The Wandoan Branch Railway corridor
- Mundell State Forest to the north of the Project Area
- Rural airstrips
- Coal seam gas wells and associated infrastructure
- A transport route linked to the Auburn (hard rock) key resource area
- Existing renewable energy infrastructure.

Existing land uses within the Project Area are expected to continue during the operation and decommissioning phases of the proposed action.

Proposed land uses

The proposed transmission line and substation will introduce new large-scale infrastructure into an area that currently contains limited comparable structures and may influence the local rural character and visual amenity. However, the region is undergoing a broader transition to support renewable energy generation. Several major renewable energy projects are proposed in the vicinity, including the Bungaban Wind Farm, Wandoan South Solar 2, Middle Creek Energy Hub (wind farm and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)) and Wandoan Wind Farm.

The alignment and siting of the proposed action have been designed to maximise co-location with existing and proposed infrastructure to reduce impacts on private landholders and maintain land use compatibility. In addition to supporting the Bungaban Wind Farm, the proposed action is consistent with and not incompatible with the future renewable energy land uses anticipated for the region.

3.1.3 Describe any outstanding natural features and/or any other important or unique values that applies to the project area.

Protected areas

The Disturbance Footprint does not affect any protected areas or outstanding natural features, however; the Project Area is located adjacent to the Mundell State Forest and roughly 10 km from Juandah, Cherwondah and Cooaga State Forests. These State Forests are protected under the *Forestry Act 1959*.

Remnant vegetation

Thirteen remnant field verified regional ecosystems are represented across the Survey Area, with an additional five regional ecosystems occurring as high value regrowth ecosystems. Detailed descriptions and distributions of each vegetation community or regional ecosystem are presented in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 6.1, Pages 90 - 131**. None of the field-verified regional ecosystems are present on the site of the proposed Warranna Substation.

Key notes on the dominant field verified vegetation communities within the Survey Area include:

- Most of the Survey Area (93%) has been cleared for pasture grassland with scattered areas of Acacia, Eucalyptus, Casuarina and shrubby regrowth
- Within the regrowth and remnant vegetation communities, woodlands dominated by Poplar Box (*Eucalyptus populnea*) (RE 11.3.2) and Silver-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus melanophloia*) (RE 11.3.6) were common within the alluvial plains
- River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) woodlands (RE 11.3.2b) were associated with drainage lines
- Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*) and Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus fibrosa*) woodlands (RE 11.7.4), Silver-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus melanophloia*) woodland (RE 11.9.2), Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla)* and Belah (*Casuarina cristata*) woodland (RE 11.9.5 and HVR 11.9.5) were commonly found near sandstone and duricrust
- Small, isolated patches of Semi-evergreen Vine Thicket were also present and restricted to one area within the Survey Area (on Lot 47 on FT221), which comprised of scattered patches that have been subjected to previous clearing events.

Aquatic values

The Project Area lies within the Upper Dawson River Catchment in the southern Fitzroy Basin, which is generally in good condition (Grade B), indicating a mix of good and fair water quality and biological health indicators (Fitzroy Partnership, 2024).

The Project Area intersects multiple watercourses, including thirteen third-order or higher streams. Major watercourses traversed by the Disturbance Footprint include Bungaban Creek (South Branch), Bottle Tree Creek, Juandah Gully, Roche Creek, Weringa Creek, Downfall Creek, Juandah Creek, Conloi Creek, Woleebee Creek, Ogle Creek and three unnamed creeks.

Most watercourses are intermittent, typically flowing during the wet season (November to April) and reverting to base flow or ceasing to flow during winter. These systems provide aquatic habitat and support semi-aquatic fauna, birds and some mammals.

Several waterways within the Project Area are mapped as waterways for waterway barrier works under the Fisheries Act, classified as:

- Moderate impact (amber): Sheep Station Creek, Four Mile Creek and Juandah Gully (Main Branch)
- High impact (red): Ogle Creek, Weringa Creek, Juandah Gully and Bottle Tree Creek
- Major impact (purple): Woleebee Creek, Conloi Creek, Downfall Creek, Juandah Creek, Roche Creek and Bungaban Creek (South Branch).

Mapped wetland areas also occur within the Project Area, primarily along Woleebee Creek, Conloi Creek, Weringa Creek, Juandah Creek, Downfall Creek, and Roche Creek. These wetland areas comprise lacustrine, palustrine and riverine types.

3.1.4 Describe the gradient (or depth range if action is to be taken in a marine area) relevant to the project area.

The Disturbance Footprint ranges in elevation from approximately 260 m AHD on the alluvial plains to about 373 m AHD at the hilltop location of the site of the proposed Warranna Substation. The landscape of the Project Area is characterised by undulating landforms with scattered knolls and areas of varied topography, often contain waterways bordered by remnant and regrowth vegetation.

From the site of the proposed Warranna Substation, the proposed transmission line descends southwest from 373 m AHD to approximately 285 m AHD as it skirts the southern boundary of Mundell State Forest. It then trends west alongside Bungaban Creek before turning south-southwest, crossing Roche Creek and the Leichhardt Highway at roughly 270 m AHD. The proposed transmission line threads between two knolls, including Mount Lawton (331 m AHD), before co-locating with the existing Columboola–Wandoan South transmission line. The proposed transmission line then descends over Woleebee Creek and rises again to approximately 325 m AHD before terminating at the existing Wandoan South Substation.

3.2 Flora and fauna

3.2.1 Describe the flora and fauna within the affected area and attach any investigations of surveys if applicable.

To inform the assessment of the proposed action, a comprehensive desktop analysis and ecological field surveys were undertaken. The desktop assessment involved a review of relevant literature and interrogation of publicly available datasets and online mapping to characterise the Project Area and identify MNES that may occur. Field surveys were then conducted across most of the Survey Area to ground-truth the desktop findings, confirm the presence or absence of MNES and identify those MNES potentially at risk from Project-related impacts.

Within the Survey Area, 558 ha (17%) could not be field-verified due to land access constraints. Vegetation in these areas was assigned a regional ecosystem or non-remnant community designation through desktop extrapolation informed by adjacent field-verified areas and Queensland Herbarium regional ecosystem mapping. A conservative, precautionary approach was applied when mapping potential TECs, threatened flora, and threatened and/or migratory values and calculating impact areas. As these classifications are based on desktop assessment, some variation from actual on-ground conditions may occur. All areas proposed to be impacted will be field-verified once land access is available.

Field surveys were conducted between 13 May 2025 and 9 October 2025 across three separate survey events. Surveys were undertaken in accordance with relevant Commonwealth and Queensland Government guidelines where practicable; however, some were completed outside the peak activity periods for certain threatened and migratory species due to seasonal constraints. Additional surveys are planned for the 2026 wet season to capture optimal survey conditions for these species.

Further information on the terrestrial ecological assessment methodology is provided in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 4, Pages 34 - 83**.

Further information on the desktop assessment findings is provided in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 5, Pages 84 - 89**.

Further information on the field survey results is provided in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 6, Pages 90 - 206**.

The field-verified likelihood of occurrence assessment is provided in **Att_1.2 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices A-D, Appendix D**.

Flora

A total of 277 flora species were recorded within the Survey Area during the field surveys, including 220 native and 57 introduced species. No threatened flora species listed under the EPBC Act were recorded during the flora surveys within the Survey Area. No threatened flora species were recorded during field surveys. Belson's Panic (*Homopholis belsonii*) was determined to have a moderate likelihood of occurrence within the Project Area, but was not confirmed present during field verification surveys.

The Survey Area is dominated by previously cleared, non-remnant grasslands (93%), but also supports small, isolated pockets of remnant and high value regrowth ecosystems (7%). The condition of the remnant and regrowth ecosystems varied according to grazing pressure, with only a few small, isolated pockets retaining moderate ecological integrity.

Three restricted invasive plants listed under the Biosecurity Act were recorded within the Survey Area, including two species that are also listed as Weeds of National Significance (WoNS).

Fauna

A total of 122 fauna species were recorded within the Survey Area, including six amphibians, 71 birds, 32 mammals (including 14 species of microbat identified from microbat call analysis) and 13 reptiles.

Four Greater Gliders (*Petauroides volans volans*) (endangered under the EPBC Act) were recorded within or immediately adjacent to an area of regional ecosystem RE 11.3.25 during field surveys in May 2025.

The Anabat surveys recorded Nyctophilus species during both May and September 2025 deployments. Corben's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*) (vulnerable under the EPBC Act) is unable to be distinguished though acoustic call analysis to other Nyctophilus species. This is due to overlapping call characteristics between all Nyctophilus species, and therefore species identification beyond genus level can only be undertaken in hand via harp trapping or other bat capture methods. The Nyctophilus recordings therefore may belong to three species that are known to occur within the region - Corben's Long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*), Lesser Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus geoffroyi*), or Gould's Long-eared Bat (*Nyctophilus gouldi*) (Churchill, 2022). Both the Lesser Long-eared Bat and Gould's Long-eared Bat are not listed under the EPBC Act, and therefore are not included within this assessment.

The desktop assessment identified an additional 14 threatened and/or migratory fauna species listed under the EPBC Act that were assessed as having a high or moderate likelihood of occurrence within the Project Area:

Recorded

- *Petauroides volans volans* (Greater Glider (southern and central)) – endangered.

High likelihood of occurrence

- *Grantiella picta* (Painted Honeyeater) – vulnerable
- *Hirundapus caudacutus* (White-throated Needletail) – vulnerable, migratory
- *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Koala (combined Qld, NSW, ACT)) – endangered.

Moderate likelihood of occurrence

- *Aphelocephala leucopsis* (Southern Whiteface) – vulnerable
- *Apus pacificus* (Fork-tailed Swift) – migratory
- *Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami* (Glossy Black-cockatoo (south-eastern)) – vulnerable
- *Falco hypoleucos* (Grey Falcon) – vulnerable
- *Geohaps scripta scripta* (Squatter Pigeon (southern subspecies)) – vulnerable
- *Stagonopleura guttata* (Diamond Firetail) – vulnerable
- *Nyctophilus corbeni* (Corben's Long-eared Bat) – vulnerable
- *Petaurus australis australis* (Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)) – vulnerable
- *Egernia rugosa* (Yakka Skink) – vulnerable
- *Furina dunmalli* (Dunmall's Snake) – vulnerable
- *Hemiaspis damelii* (Grey Snake) – endangered.

Seven invasive pest animal species were recorded in the Survey Area, including Cane Toad, Indian Myna, European Hare, Rabbit, Dingo, Feral Pig and Red Fox. Additionally, feral cats have a high likelihood of occurring within the Survey Area.

Habitat modelling for Belson's Panic, Southern Whiteface, White-throated Needletail, Diamond Firetail, Glossy Black Cockatoo, Grey Falcon and Painted Honeyeater is provided in **Att_1.3 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E1**.

Habitat modelling for Squatter Pigeon, Corben's Long-eared Bat, Greater Glider, Yellow-bellied Glider, Koala, Yakka Skink, Dunmall's Snake and Grey Snake is provided in **Att_1.4 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E2**.

Habitat modelling is based on publicly available information on Queensland Herbarium mapped regional ecosystems, species known habitat requirements and field verification of fauna habitat suitability within the Survey Area.

3.2.2 Describe the vegetation (including the status of native vegetation and soil) within the project area.

Vegetation communities

Field verification surveys confirmed five distinct land zones mapped by the Queensland Herbarium as present within the Survey Area:

- Land zone 3: recent Quaternary alluvial systems, including closed depressions, paleo-estuarine deposits currently under freshwater influence, inland lakes and associated wave-built lunettes.
- Land zone 5: Tertiary-early Quaternary loamy and sandy plains and plateaus
- Land zone 7: Cainozoic duricrusts
- Land zone 9: fine grained sedimentary rocks
- Land zone 10: coarse grained sedimentary rocks.

Within these five land zones, thirteen remnant regional ecosystems were represented across the Survey Area, with an additional five regional ecosystems occurring as high value regrowth ecosystems. The field verified vegetation communities and regional ecosystems did not vary significantly from the mapped regional ecosystems by Queensland Herbarium. However, some small areas of unmapped regional ecosystems were field verified due to differences in species dominance and composition, and geological features identified within the Survey Area. Additionally, areas of regional ecosystems mapped by Queensland Herbarium were field verified as non-remnant habitats, due to vegetation clearing and incorrect mapping of drainage lines as vegetated watercourses.

Some areas mapped as non-remnant according to the Queensland Herbarium met the required age to be categorized as mapping were field verified as high-value regrowth (Category C, over 15 years). These areas were mapped as remnant (Category B) where they reach more than 50% of the undisturbed predominant canopy cover and more than 70% of the regional ecosystem's undisturbed height, as per *Guidelines for determining category C areas* (DNRMMRRD, 2025) and corresponding regional ecosystem technical descriptions (Queensland Herbarium, 2022).

Most of the Survey Area (93 %) has been previously cleared for agriculture and grazing leaving a landscape dominated by non-remnant pasture grassland with scattered native trees bordering drainage lines and regrowth. The condition of remnant vegetation communities was highly variable, ranging from poor to very good, with some areas intact, and others subject to edge effects including the invasion of pasture grasses, particularly *Cenchrus ciliaris*, and trampling and grazing by livestock. Tramping by livestock has caused significant degradation of soil and ground level vegetation within areas of remnant vegetation communities.

Of the Survey Area, a total of 558.0 ha (17%) was not field verified due to land access constraints. Vegetation in these areas was assigned a regional ecosystem or non-remnant community designation through desktop extrapolation informed by adjacent field-verified areas and Queensland Herbarium regional ecosystem mapping. A conservative, precautionary approach was applied when mapping potential TECs, threatened flora, and threatened and/or migratory values and calculating impact areas.

Within the regrowth and remnant vegetation communities, woodlands dominated by Poplar Box (*Eucalyptus populnea*) (RE 11.3.2) and Silver-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus melanophloia*) (RE 11.3.6), were common on the alluvial plains. River Red Gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*) were associated with drainage lines. Woodlands associated with Narrow-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus crebra*), Red Ironbark (*Eucalyptus fibrosa*), Silver-leaved Ironbark (*Eucalyptus melanophloia*), Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla*) and Belah (*Casuarina cristata*) were commonly found on sandstone and duricrust. Small patches of semi-evergreen vine thicket were also scattered throughout the Survey Area, present mainly as isolated patches.

The desktop assessment identified seven Threatened Ecological Communities (TEC) that may occur within 50 km of the Project Area. Of these seven TECs, only three correspond to the field verified regional ecosystems within the Survey Area, namely:

- Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla* dominant and co-dominant) TEC, confirmed as present with 70.6 ha (verified) and 15.3 ha (unverified) (85.9 ha total) within in the Survey Area

- Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains TEC, confirmed as present with 15.0 ha verified within the Survey Area
- Semi-evergreen vine thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregion TEC, confirmed as present with 12.0 ha (verified) and 2.0 (unverified) (14.0 ha total) within the Survey Area.

The other four TECs revealed by the PMST are not present within the Survey Area, as no field verified vegetation present corresponding with these TECs, as listed by their Conservation Advice, were recorded within the Survey Area.

Further information on the field-verified likelihood of occurrence assessment for TECs is provided in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 6.8.1, Page 203**.

Soil

A desktop review identified a diversity of mapped soil types across the Project Area, including:

- Dermosols - well-structured clay to clay loam soils, generally suitable for earthworks, non-dispersive, prone to compaction.
- Chromosols - moderate agricultural potential, susceptible to soil acidification and soil structure decline
- Vertosols - clay-rich soils, high soil fertility, large water holding capacity, potential for strong cracking and salinity
- Sodosols - texture contrast soils with impenetrable subsoils, low agricultural potential commonly used for grazing, vulnerable to erosion and dryland salinity when vegetation removed.

Soils at the site of the proposed Warranna Substation are mapped as dermosols.

There is a low to extremely low probability of the Project Area containing acid sulfate soils, as the general topography of the Project Area is above 100 m AHD.

3.3 Heritage

3.3.1 Describe any Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas or other places recognised as having heritage values that apply to the project area.

A comprehensive search of all relevant Commonwealth, State and local cultural heritage databases was undertaken for the proposed action, including:

- The World Heritage List (UNESCO)
- The Commonwealth Heritage List (Commonwealth)
- The National Heritage List (Commonwealth)
- The Queensland Heritage Register (Queensland)
- The Western Downs Planning Scheme 2017 (Cultural Heritage Overlay Map) (Local).

There are no World Heritage, Commonwealth Heritage, National Heritage, Queensland Heritage or Local Heritage places identified within the Project Area.

3.3.2 Describe any Indigenous heritage values that apply to the project area.

A search of the DWATISPM ATSICH Database and Register (August 2025) identified the following cultural heritage parties for the Project Area:

- Iman People #2
- Iman People #4
- Iman People #4 Part A.

The cultural heritage body for the Project Area is the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation RNTBC.

The DWATISPM ATSICH Database and Register also identified ten cultural heritage site points within the Project Area and two cultural heritage site points within the Disturbance Footprint. No Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage polygons, designated landscape areas, registered cultural heritage study areas, or national heritage areas were recorded within the Project Area.

Powerlink commenced consultation with the identified cultural heritage parties in September 2024, in accordance with the ACH Act. As the Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation is the registered native title body corporate holding both the Iman People #2 (QCD2016/005) and Iman People #4 (QCD2024/015) native title rights and interests in trust, Powerlink intends to draft and execute a CHMA for the Project Area in 2026.

Once executed, the CHMA will:

- Be recognized as ‘another agreement’ under part 3, section 23(3) of the ACH Act
- Set out approved processes and terms for managing cultural heritage, so Powerlink can meet its ‘cultural heritage duty of care’.

The agreement is anticipated to include a comprehensive cultural heritage survey and management plan, with recommendations provided by Wardingarri Aboriginal Corporation’s cultural heritage specialist advisor.

3.4 Hydrology

3.4.1 Describe the hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area and attach any hydrological investigations or surveys if applicable. *

Surface water

The Project Area is located in the Dawson River drainage sub-basin of the Fitzroy River Basin and intersects 13 third order (or higher) streams. Juandah Creek, Conloi Creek and Woleebee Creek are the only watercourses gazetted as a watercourse under the *Water Act 2000* (Water Act).

Impacts to hydrology and water quality of existing watercourses from constructing the new transmission line is expected to be low, as the infrastructure can be designed to span over constraints without the need to clear or disturb beds or banks.

While there are watercourses within the Project Area that are mapped as being waterways for waterway barrier works, transmission line infrastructure will be placed to span waterways. However, waterway crossings may be required to allow for vehicle access. Access tracks will cross fish passage waterways in approximately 62 locations, including 3 crossings of purple waterways, 6 red,13 amber, and 40 green. Activities will be managed in accordance with Powerlink's Project EMP (refer **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**).

Flooding

Stream flow in the Project Area is highly variable and seasonal, with many watercourses being intermittent. The largest contribution to annual stream flow occurs during the wet season (November to April). According to the Planning Scheme, the Project Area intersects two potential flood hazard areas, as the proposed transmission line traverses across Juandah Creek and Woleebee Creek. No other floodplain areas are mapped within the Project Area. Because the Disturbance Footprint crosses upper catchment creeks with small catchments, out-of-bank flows are infrequent.

Water plans

Water plans under the Water Act outline requirements for water availability and entitlements, including priorities and mechanisms for future allocation. The Project Area falls within the Fitzroy Basin Water Plan Area.

Groundwater

Queensland Globe’s Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem (GDE) mapping identifies terrestrial and subterranean GDEs and potential GDEs based on aquifers. No known GDEs occur within the Project Area; most are classified as “potential GDE aquifer: no identified aquifer.” Potential GDE aquifers include consolidated and unconsolidated sedimentary aquifers, with small areas near Juandah Creek mapped as terrestrial GDEs.

Several registered groundwater bores occur within and adjacent to the Project Area. Historical monitoring indicates groundwater may be present at depths of approximately 2.4 m below ground level (RN 44380). Excavation for transmission tower foundations may cause short-term, localised groundwater interference. Impacts are expected to be minimal and will be managed in accordance with Powerlink’s Project EMP (refer **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**).

4. Impacts and mitigation

4.1 Impact details

Potential Matters of National Environmental Significance (MNES) relevant to your proposed action area.

EPBC Act section	Controlling provision	Impacted	Reviewed
S12	World Heritage	No	Yes
S15B	National Heritage	No	Yes
S16	Ramsar Wetland	No	Yes
S18	Threatened Species and Ecological Communities	Yes	Yes
S20	Migratory Species	Yes	Yes
S21	Nuclear	No	Yes
S23	Commonwealth Marine Area	No	Yes
S24B	Great Barrier Reef	No	Yes
S24D	Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas	No	Yes
S26	Commonwealth Land	No	Yes
S27B	Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas	No	Yes
S28	Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency	No	Yes

4.1.1 World Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.1.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.1.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action is not located directly within or in proximity to a World Heritage site. The proposed action is not considered to have direct and/or indirect impacts to World Heritage sites.

4.1.2 National Heritage

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.2.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.2.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action is not located directly within or in proximity to a National Heritage site. The proposed action is not considered to have direct and/or indirect impacts to National Heritage sites.

4.1.3 Ramsar Wetland

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.3.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.3.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action is not located within or in proximity to a Ramsar Wetland site. No direct or indirect impacts are expected to Ramsar Wetland sites, due to their substantial distance from the proposed action (i.e. located over 250 km away).

Further, the implementation of construction environmental management measures will also reduce the risk and potential for harm on the receiving environment from the proposed action (i.e. Powerlink's Project EMP and CEMP, including Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP)).

Powerlink's Project EMP is provided in **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**.

4.1.4 Threatened Species and Ecological Communities

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Threatened species

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Acacia curranii	Curly-bark Wattle
No	No	Adclarkia cameroni	Brigalow Woodland Snail
No	No	Adclarkia dulacca	Dulacca Woodland Snail
No	No	Anomalopus mackayi	Five-clawed Worm-skink, Long-legged Worm-skink
Yes	Yes	Aphelocephala leucopsis	Southern Whiteface
No	No	Arthraxon hispidus	Hairy-joint Grass
No	No	Cadellia pentastylis	Ooline
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
Yes	Yes	Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami	South-eastern Glossy Black-Cockatoo
No	No	Chalinolobus dwyeri	Large-eared Pied Bat, Large Pied Bat
No	No	Climacteris picumnus victoriae	Brown Treecreeper (south-eastern)
No	No	Dasyurus hallucatus	Northern Quoll, Digul [Gogo-Yimidir], Wijingadda [Dambimangari], Wiminji [Martu]
No	No	Delma torquata	Adorned Delma, Collared Delma
No	No	Dichanthium queenslandicum	King Blue-grass
No	No	Dichanthium setosum	bluegrass
Yes	Yes	Egernia rugosa	Yakka Skink
No	No	Elseya albagula	Southern Snapping Turtle, White-throated Snapping Turtle
No	No	Erythrotriorchis radiatus	Red Goshawk
Yes	Yes	Falco hypoleucos	Grey Falcon

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
Yes	Yes	Furina dunmalli	Dunmall's Snake
No	No	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
Yes	Yes	Geophaps scripta scripta	Squatter Pigeon (southern)
Yes	Yes	Grantiella picta	Painted Honeyeater
Yes	Yes	Hemiaspis damelii	Grey Snake
Yes	Yes	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail
Yes	Yes	Homopholis belsonii	Belson's Panic
No	No	Lepidium monoplocoides	Winged Pepper-cress
No	No	Neochmia ruficauda ruficauda	Star Finch (eastern), Star Finch (southern)
Yes	Yes	Nyctophilus corbeni	Corben's Long-eared Bat, South-eastern Long-eared Bat
Yes	Yes	Petauroides volans	Greater Glider (southern and central)
Yes	Yes	Petaurus australis australis	Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern)
Yes	Yes	Phascolarctos cinereus (combined populations of Qld, NSW and the ACT)	Koala (combined populations of Queensland, New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory)
No	No	Polianthion minutiflorum	
No	No	Pteropus poliocephalus	Grey-headed Flying-fox
No	No	Rheodytes leukops	Fitzroy River Turtle, Fitzroy Tortoise, Fitzroy Turtle, White-eyed River Diver
No	No	Rostratula australis	Australian Painted Snipe
Yes	Yes	Stagonopleura guttata	Diamond Firetail
No	No	Thesium australe	Austral Toadflax, Toadflax
No	No	Turnix melanogaster	Black-breasted Button-quail
No	No	Vincetoxicum forsteri	
No	No	Xerothamnella herbacea	

Ecological communities

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Ecological community
Yes	Yes	Brigalow (Acacia harpophylla dominant and co-dominant)
No	No	Coolibah - Black Box Woodlands of the Darling Riverine Plains and the Brigalow Belt South Bioregions
Yes	Yes	Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains
Yes	Yes	Semi-evergreen vine thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregions
No	No	Weeping Myall Woodlands

4.1.4.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.4.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

The greatest risk of potential impacts on threatened species and ecological communities from the proposed action will occur during the construction phase. The construction activities to support the installation of the substation, transmission towers, associated lines, access tracks and temporary work areas will involve vegetation clearing, excavation and ground reinstatement.

The worst-case scenario extent of direct and indirect impacts to each MNES assessed (identified as recorded, or having a moderate or high likelihood of occurrence within the Project Area) is detailed below. This assessment is based on full clearing within the Disturbance Footprint, which has been carefully designed to avoid and minimise potential impacts on MNES, but is likely an over-representation of the clearing required for the proposed action due to its conservative delineation. Potential MNES habitats have been mapped conservatively to ensure a precautionary approach. Opportunities to further minimise direct and indirect impacts through detailed design and mitigation are discussed in Section 4.1.4.10 of this referral.

Direct impacts

Direct impacts to threatened species and ecological communities are summarised below and described further in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 7.3, Pages 208 - 216**.

Threatened ecological communities

Clearing or loss of the following TECs listed under the EPBC Act:

Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla* dominant or co-dominant) – recorded

- 5.2 ha of TEC, consisting of:
    - 3.3 ha verified TEC
    - 1.8 ha of unverified TEC
    - 0.1 ha of functionally lost TEC.

Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains – recorded

- 1.5 ha of TEC, consisting of:
    - 1.0 ha verified TEC
    - 0.5 ha of functionally lost TEC.

Semi-evergreen Vine Thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregions – recorded

- 4.8 ha of verified TEC.

Other direct impacts to TECs listed above include vegetation clearing requirements that may induce further fragmentation of the community within the Project Area.

Threatened flora species

Clearing or loss of the following threatened flora species under the EPBC Act:

Belson's Panic (*Homopholis belsonii*) – moderate likelihood

- 2.2 ha of modelled suitable habitat.

Other direct impacts consist of habitat fragmentation.

Threatened fauna species

Clearing or loss of the following habitat for threatened fauna species listed under the EPBC Act:

Southern Whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*) – moderate likelihood

- 9.7 ha of modelled breeding and foraging habitat (8.9 ha verified, 0.8 ha unverified).

Glossy Black-cockatoo (south-eastern) (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*) – moderate likelihood

- 3.8 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 2.5 ha of breeding habitat
    - 1.3 ha of foraging habitat (0.5 ha verified, 0.8 ha unverified).

Grey Falcon (*Falco hypoleucos*) – moderate likelihood

- 63.8 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 2.5 ha of breeding habitat
    - 61.3 ha of foraging habitat (59.4 ha verified, 1.9 ha unverified).

Squatter Pigeon (southern subspecies) (*Geohaps scripta scripta*) – moderate likelihood

- 595.3 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 13.0 ha of breeding habitat (12.0 ha verified, 1.0 ha unverified)
    - 9.6 ha of foraging and roosting habitat
    - 572.7 ha of dispersal habitat (466.5 ha verified, 106.2 ha unverified).

Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*) – high likelihood

- 6.8 ha of modelled breeding and foraging habitat (5.8 ha verified, 1.0 ha unverified).

White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) – high likelihood

- 1.4 ha of modelled roosting habitat.

Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*) – moderate likelihood

- 10.4 ha of modelled breeding and foraging habitat (9.4 ha verified, 1.0 ha unverified).

Corben's Long-eared bat (*Nyctophilus corbeni*) – moderate likelihood

- 15.0 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 1.4 ha of roosting habit
    - 13.6 ha of foraging habitat.

Greater Glider (southern and central) (*Petauroides volans volans*) – recorded

- 4.9 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 3.5 ha of denning and foraging habitat
    - 1.5 ha of dispersal habitat.

Yellow-bellied Glider (south-eastern) (*Petaurus australis australis*) – moderate likelihood

- 4.9 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 3.5 ha of denning and foraging habitat
    - 1.5 ha of dispersal habitat.

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) – high likelihood

- 594.0 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 10.8 ha of climate refugia (dry season habitat)
    - 21.3 ha of potential breeding and foraging habitat (21.1 ha of verified, 0.3 ha of unverified)
    - 561.9 ha of dispersal habitat (456.1 verified, 105.8 unverified).

Yakka Skink (*Egernia rugosa*) – moderate likelihood

- 9.5 ha of modelled breeding, sheltering and foraging habitat.

Dunmall's Snake (*Furina dunmalli*) – moderate likelihood

- 25.4 ha of breeding, sheltering and foraging habitat.

Grey Snake (*Hemiaspis damelii*) – moderate likelihood

- 24.0 ha of modelled habitat, consisting of:
    - 12.2 ha of breeding and sheltering habitat
    - 11.8 ha of foraging habitat.

Other direct impacts include vegetation removal, interactions with vehicles and machinery and reducing wildlife corridors and connectivity.

Impacts during operation, which consisted of potential collision with transmission lines, were assessed for:

- Southern Whiteface (*Aphelocephala leucopsis*)
- Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*)
- Glossy Black-cockatoo (south-eastern) (*Calyptorhynchus lathami lathami*)
- Grey Falcon (*Falco hypoleucos*)
- Painted Honeyeater (*Grantiella picta*)
- White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)
- Diamond Firetail (*Stagonopleura guttata*).

Indirect impacts

Potential indirect impacts that may result from construction and/or operational phase of the Project to the threatened fauna species and TECs listed above include:

- Weed invasion, colonization and edge effects
- Dispersal of pest animals
- Reduced water quality
- Soil erosion and sedimentation
- Disruption of pollination cycle from dust generation
- Displacement of native fauna from noise and light generation.

Further information on indirect impacts is provided in **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report, Section 7.4, Pages 216 - 218**.

4.1.4.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

Yes

4.1.4.5 Describe why you consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

A Significant Impact Assessment (SIA) (refer **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix I**) was completed for the threatened species and ecological communities identified as recorded, or having a moderate or high likelihood of occurrence within the Project Area. The SIAs were undertaken using the precautionary principle and in accordance with the *Commonwealth Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – MNES* (Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, 2013).

Significant impact likely

Brigalow (*Acacia harpophylla* dominant and co-dominant)

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to reduce the extent of the ecological community
- Potential to fragment or increase fragmentation of the ecological community
- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the ecological community.

Semi-evergreen Vine Thickets of the Brigalow Belt (North and South) and Nandewar Bioregions

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to reduce the extent of the ecological community
- Potential to fragment or increase fragmentation of the ecological community
- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the ecological community
- Potential to cause a substantial change in the species composition of an occurrence of the ecological community, including causing a decline or loss of functionally important species
- Potential to cause a substantial reduction in the quality or integrity of the ecological community.

Poplar Box Grassy Woodland on Alluvial Plains

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to reduce the extent of the ecological community
- Potential to fragment or increase fragmentation of the ecological community
- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the ecological community.

Koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*)

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the species.

Greater Glider (southern and central) (*Petauroides volans*)

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to lead to a long-term decrease in the size of the population
- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the species
- Potential to disrupt the breeding cycle of the population
- Potential to fragment an existing population into two or more populations.

Yakka Skink (*Egernia rugosa*)

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to fragment an existing important population into two or more populations
- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of the species
- Likely to disrupt the breeding cycle of an important population.

Dunmall's Snake (*Furina dunmalli*)

The SIA concluded that the proposed action is likely to have a significant impact due to:

- Potential to reduce the area of occupancy of an important population
- Potential to adversely affect habitat critical to the survival of a species.

Significant impact unlikely

The proposed action is unlikely to have a significant impact on the remaining threatened species (flora and fauna) assessed.

4.1.4.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

Yes

4.1.4.8 Please elaborate why you think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

The proposed action has been assessed against the EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, which identified that it is likely to have a significant impact on four threatened fauna species and three TECs. As such, the proposed action is anticipated to be a controlled action. Further details are provided in section 4.1.4.5 of this referral.

4.1.4.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Powerlink has implemented the TEEP to guide the selection of transmission alignments. The TEEP is a structured impact avoidance and minimisation framework that begins with a strategic assessment of social, environmental, and economic constraints between substation connection points. This assessment considers constraints at Commonwealth, State and local government levels and defines a broad investigation area for subsequent detailed analysis.

Within this investigation area, further assessments are undertaken in consultation with local communities and stakeholders to establish corridor selection criteria. Based on technical desktop studies and community input, multiple corridor options are identified. These options are designed to reflect community preferences while avoiding areas of high environmental value. The proposed corridors are then presented to landholders, Traditional Owners, the broader community, and other stakeholders for feedback. This engagement process informs the identification of a recommended corridor and, ultimately, a final corridor. Subsequent assessment and consultation within the final corridor focuses on minimising social, economic and environmental impacts. Through an iterative process involving landholder engagement, engineering design requirements, and biodiversity constraint assessment, a 60 m wide transmission line easement alignment is selected that achieves an appropriate balance of these factors. Once confirmed, further detailed engineering design is undertaken to refine tower locations and heights, further reducing potential impacts.

Future mitigation measures will include a refinement of the design, which allows for micro sitting of structural components and infrastructure to avoid sensitive areas (specially including MNES) entirely or minimise the impacts upon these. This may be achieved by tower placement along the alignment and adjusting tower heights which may reduce the amount of vegetation clearing required for the proposed action.

Powerlink has developed an industry standard Project EMP, which will be refined to include project specific biodiversity mitigation measures during construction and operations (refer **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**).

4.1.4.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

Where required, Powerlink is committed to providing suitable offsets for activities that result in significant impacts to MNES. A Draft Offsets Framework will be developed for the proposed action to address significant impacts.

4.1.5 Migratory Species

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

Direct impact	Indirect impact	Species	Common name
No	No	Actitis hypoleucos	Common Sandpiper
No	Yes	Apus pacificus	Fork-tailed Swift
No	No	Calidris acuminata	Sharp-tailed Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris ferruginea	Curlew Sandpiper
No	No	Calidris melanotos	Pectoral Sandpiper
No	No	Cuculus optatus	Oriental Cuckoo, Horsfield's Cuckoo
No	No	Gallinago hardwickii	Latham's Snipe, Japanese Snipe
Yes	Yes	Hirundapus caudacutus	White-throated Needletail
No	No	Motacilla flava	Yellow Wagtail
No	No	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey

4.1.5.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

Yes

4.1.5.2 Briefly describe why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on these protected matters. *

White-throated Needletail (*Hirundapus caudacutus*) – high likelihood

Direct impacts

While the White-throated Needletail (vulnerable, marine and migratory under the EPBC Act) was not observed during surveys, the species has a high likelihood of occurrence within the Project Area. This species is predominantly aerial but may utilise the airspace above the Survey Area for foraging and may roost in trees within the Survey Area at night. There have been records of the White-throated Needletail as part of surveys for adjacent developments within 10 km of Survey Area, including Cubico Wind Farm and Bungaban Wind Farm (Attexo, 2024; Umwelt, 2024).

A total of 6.6 ha of habitat is present within the Survey Area, with 1.4 ha of remnant riparian eucalypt open forest habitat being present within the Disturbance Footprint. This may provide potential roosting habitat for the White-throated Needletail.

The potential risk of collision with overhead transmission lines, as mentioned in the *Referral Guidelines for 14 birds listed as migratory* (Department of Environment, 2015) are known to cause mortalities of migrating birds, as they are flying through unfamiliar habitat, sometimes in conditions of poor visibility or at night.

Indirect impacts

Indirect impacts occur when activities associated with the proposed action affect vegetation or habitat in a manner other than a direct loss or clearing. Potential indirect impacts that may result from construction and/or operational phase of the proposed action to the White-throated Needletail include:

- Dispersal of pest animals
- Displacement from noise and light generation.

Fork-tailed Swift (*Apus pacificus*) – moderate likelihood

Direct impacts

The Fork-tailed Swift is almost exclusively aerial, and the habitats impacted by the proposed action do not constitute ‘important habitat’ for the species. As such, there are no direct impacts to this species during construction.

However, during the operation phase of the proposed action, the potential risk of collision with overhead transmission lines, as mentioned in the Referral Guidelines for 14 birds listed as migratory (Department of Environment, 2015) are known to cause mortalities of migrating birds, as they are flying through unfamiliar habitat, sometimes in conditions of poor visibility or at night.

Indirect impacts

Potential indirect impacts that may result from construction and/or operational phase of the proposed action to the Fork-tailed Swift include:

- Dispersal of pest animals
- Displacement from noise and light generation.

4.1.5.4 Do you consider this likely direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact? *

No

4.1.5.6 Describe why you do not consider this to be a Significant Impact. *

A SIA (refer **Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix I**) was completed for the migratory species identified as recorded, or having a moderate or high likelihood of occurrence within the Project Area. The SIAs were undertaken using the precautionary principle and in accordance with the *Commonwealth Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1 – MNES* (Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts, 2013). The SIA and survey effort also considered the Draft referral guideline for the 14 birds listed migratory under the EPBC Act (Department of the Environment, 2015).

The proposed action will impact 1.4 ha of potential roosting habitat for White-throated Needletail, which is 21 % of the available habitat within the Survey Area. However, given the species does not breed in Australia, the 1.4 ha of vegetation impacts are unlikely to affect aerial foraging and/or roosting habitat given the overall abundance of similar vegetation in the surrounding landscape. The risk of collision with overhead transmission lines for this species is unlikely to result in annual mortality rates or affect breeding cycles of individuals meeting or exceeding the national thresholds for the species identified in the guidelines (Department of Environment, 2015). Therefore, the proposed action will not result in a significant impact within the meaning of the EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines.

The Fork-tailed Swift is exclusively aerial, does not breed in Australia, and no 'important habitat' for the species will be impacted by the proposed action. Furthermore, any impacts associated with the proposed action are not expected to disrupt the species' lifecycle. Therefore, the proposed action will not result in a significant impact on the Fork-tailed Swift within the meaning of the EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines.

4.1.5.7 Do you think your proposed action is a controlled action? *

No

4.1.5.9 Please elaborate why you do not think your proposed action is a controlled action. *

The proposed action has been assessed against the EPBC Act Significant Impact Guidelines 1.1, which identified that it is unlikely to have a significant impact on migratory species. Further details are provided in section 4.1.5.6 of this referral.

4.1.5.10 Please describe any avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action and attach any supporting documentation for these avoidance and mitigation measures. *

Powerlink has implemented the TEEP to guide the selection of transmission alignments. The TEEP is a structured impact avoidance and minimisation framework that begins with a strategic assessment of social, environmental, and economic constraints between substation connection points. This assessment considers constraints at Commonwealth, State and local government levels and defines a broad investigation area for subsequent detailed analysis.

Within this investigation area, further assessments are undertaken in consultation with local communities and stakeholders to establish corridor selection criteria. Based on technical desktop studies and community input, multiple corridor options are identified. These options are designed to reflect community preferences while avoiding areas of high environmental value. The proposed corridors are then presented to landholders, Traditional Owners, the broader community, and other stakeholders for feedback. This engagement process informs the identification of a recommended corridor and, ultimately, a final corridor. Subsequent assessment and consultation within the final corridor focuses on minimising social, economic and environmental impacts. Through an iterative process involving landholder engagement, engineering design requirements, and biodiversity constraint assessment, a 60 m wide transmission line easement alignment is selected that achieves an appropriate balance of these factors. Once confirmed, further detailed engineering design is undertaken to refine tower locations and heights, further reducing potential impacts.

Future mitigation measures will include a refinement of the design, which allows for micro sitting of structural components and infrastructure to avoid sensitive areas (specially including MNES) entirely or minimise the impacts upon these. This may be achieved by tower placement along the alignment and adjusting tower heights which may reduce the amount of vegetation clearing required for the proposed action.

Powerlink has developed an industry standard Project EMP, which will be refined to include project specific biodiversity mitigation measures during construction and operations (refer **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**).

4.1.5.11 Please describe any proposed offsets and attach any supporting documentation relevant to these measures. *

No offset is proposed as the significant impact assessment concluded that the proposed action is unlikely to have a significant impact on migratory species.

4.1.6 Nuclear

4.1.6.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.6.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action does not involve or include nuclear actions.

4.1.7 Commonwealth Marine Area

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.7.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.7.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action is not directly located within Commonwealth Marine areas.

4.1.8 Great Barrier Reef

4.1.8.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.8.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action is not located within, adjoining, or nearby the Great Barrier Reef, which lies approximately 250 km north-east of the project area. The proposed action is therefore unlikely to result in direct or indirect impacts to the Great Barrier Reef.

Further, the implementation of construction environmental management measures will also reduce the risk and potential for harm on the receiving environment from the proposed action (i.e. Powerlink's Project EMP, CEMP, including Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP)).

Powerlink's Project EMP is provided in **Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I, Appendix F**.

4.1.9 Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas

4.1.9.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on this protected matter? *

No

4.1.9.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action will not involve coal seam gas developments or large coal mining developments.

4.1.10 Commonwealth Land

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.10.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.10.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action will not be located on Commonwealth land.

4.1.11 Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas

You have identified your proposed action will likely directly and/or indirectly impact the following protected matters.

A direct impact is a direct consequence of an action taken – for example, clearing of habitat for a threatened species or permanent shading on an ecological community as the result of installing solar panels.

An indirect impact is an 'indirect consequence' such as a downstream impact or a facilitated third-party action.

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4.1.11.1 Is the proposed action likely to have any direct and/or indirect impact on any of these protected matters? *

No

4.1.11.3 Briefly describe why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact. *

The proposed action is not located on a Commonwealth heritage place overseas.

4.1.12 Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency

4.1.12.1 Is the proposed action to be taken by the Commonwealth or a Commonwealth Agency? *

No

4.2 Impact summary

Conclusion on the likelihood of significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will likely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- Threatened Species and Ecological Communities (S18)

Conclusion on the likelihood of unlikely significant impacts

You have indicated that the proposed action will unlikely have a significant impact on the following Matters of National Environmental Significance:

- World Heritage (S12)
- National Heritage (S15B)
- Ramsar Wetland (S16)
- Migratory Species (S20)
- Nuclear (S21)
- Commonwealth Marine Area (S23)
- Great Barrier Reef (S24B)
- Water resource in relation to large coal mining development or coal seam gas (S24D)
- Commonwealth Land (S26)
- Commonwealth Heritage Places Overseas (S27B)
- Commonwealth or Commonwealth Agency (S28)

4.3 Alternatives

4.3.1 Do you have any possible alternatives for your proposed action to be considered as part of your referral? *

No

4.3.8 Describe why alternatives for your proposed action were not possible. *

Strategic objectives

Powerlink has been engaged by Windlab to evaluate options for connecting the Bungaban Wind Farm to the transmission network. An assessment of the existing transmission network in the local area was undertaken, considering multiple connection scenarios for the proposed wind farm. Based on the anticipated generation capacity at the Bungaban Wind Farm, the project will require the development of a new 275 kV substation and a double-circuit 275 kV transmission line. This initiative is aligned with both Commonwealth and Queensland Government objectives to reduce emissions and facilitate the transition to clean energy generation.

Corridor selection and design process

The selection process for the transmission line corridor incorporated comprehensive technical analysis and extensive stakeholder engagement, including consultations with landholders, Traditional Owners and the wider community. Following several rounds of consultation and technical evaluation, a final 1 km-wide corridor was selected, within which a 60 m transmission line easement was established. The selection process prioritised minimising impacts on agricultural activities, residential properties, biosecurity and promoted co-location with other infrastructure (specifically, Columboola to Wandoan South). Five significant realignments were made in response to feedback, resulting in reduced impacts on strategic cropping land and resource interests, while increasing spatial separation from residential properties and supporting shared land use.

Environmental and heritage considerations played a central role, with the final corridor intersecting limited areas of regulated vegetation and heritage sites; efforts were made to avoid or minimise these impacts through further design refinements. Compliance with federal and state legislation, including the EPBC Act, Planning Act, and ACH Act is required, and additional studies are planned to address detailed ecological, heritage, social and geotechnical matters.

Powerlink remains committed to ongoing engagement and transparency, with future project phases dedicated to refining the easement alignment, securing necessary approvals and maintaining collaboration with stakeholders to optimise social, environmental and economic outcomes for the region.

Conclusion

In summary, there are no feasible alternatives to the proposed action. The proposed layout achieves an appropriate balance between environmental values, local communities and the technical requirements necessary to deliver robust transmission infrastructure. The co-location of transmission assets is preferred as it avoids and minimises potential impacts on environmental values wherever possible.

5. Lodgement

5.1 Attachments

1.2.1 Overview of the proposed action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2_Powerlink HSE Policy.pdf Powerlink Queensland health, safety and environment policy.	31/07/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - main body of the report.	05/12/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Att_1.2 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices A-D.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices A to D.	05/12/2025	No	High
#4.	Document	Att_1.3 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E1.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendix E1.	18/12/2025	No	High
#5.	Document	Att_1.4 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E2.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendix E2.	18/12/2025	No	High
#6.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	05/12/2025	No	High

1.2.7 Public consultation regarding the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Link	Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project			High

https://engage.powerlink.com.au/bungaban			
#2.	Link	Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project Corridor Options Report https://www.powerlink.com.au/sites/default/files..	High
#3.	Link	Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project Final Corridor Report https://www.powerlink.com.au/sites/default/files..	High
#4.	Link	Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project Recommended Corridor Report https://www.powerlink.com.au/sites/default/files..	High
#5.	Link	Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project Study Area Report https://www.powerlink.com.au/sites/default/files..	High
#6.	Link	Stakeholder Engagement Framework https://www.powerlink.com.au/sites/default/files..	High

1.3.2.18 (Person proposing to take the action) If the person proposing to take the action is a corporation, provide details of the corporation's environmental policy and planning framework

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att 2_Powerlink HSE Policy.pdf Powerlink Queensland health, safety and environment policy.	30/07/2024	No	High
#2.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

3.1.3 Natural features, important or unique values that applies to the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national	04/12/2025	No	High

environmental significance - main body
of the report.

3.2.1 Flora and fauna within the affected area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - main body of the report.	04/12/2025	No	High
#2.	Document	Att_1.2 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices A-D.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices A to D.	04/12/2025	No	High
#3.	Document	Att_1.3 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E1.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendix E1.	17/12/2025	No	High
#4.	Document	Att_1.4 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendix E2.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendix E2.	17/12/2025	No	High

3.2.2 Vegetation within the project area

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - main body of the report.	04/12/2025	No	High

3.4.1 Hydrology characteristics that apply to the project area

Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence	
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

4.1.3.3 (Ramsar Wetland) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

4.1.4.2 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why your action has a direct and/or indirect impact on the identified protected matters

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.1 Terrestrial MNES Report - Main Report.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - main body of the report.	04/12/2025	No	High

4.1.4.5 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Why you consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

4.1.4.10 (Threatened Species and Ecological Communities) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf	04/12/2025	No	High

Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.

4.1.5.6 (Migratory Species) Why you do not consider the direct and/or indirect impact to be a Significant Impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

4.1.5.10 (Migratory Species) Avoidance or mitigation measures proposed for this action

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

4.1.8.3 (Great Barrier Reef) Why your action is unlikely to have a direct and/or indirect impact

	Type	Name	Date	Sensitivity	Confidence
#1.	Document	Att_1.5 Terrestrial MNES Report - Appendices F-I.pdf Terrestrial ecological assessment for the Bungaban Wind Farm Connection Project on matters of national environmental significance - appendices F to I.	04/12/2025	No	High

5.2 Declarations

Completed Referring party's declaration

The Referring party is the person preparing the information in this referral.

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014
Representative's name	Samantha Pintara
Representative's job title	Senior Environmental Advisor
Phone	0473 501 432
Email	samantha.pintara@powerlink.com.au
Address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014

☑ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☑ Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

☑ By checking this box, I, **Samantha Pintara of QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to this EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.

Completed Person proposing to take the action's declaration

The Person proposing to take the action is the individual, business, government agency or trustee that will be responsible for the proposed action.

Same as Referring party information.

☑ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☑ Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

☑ I, **Samantha Pintara of QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**, declare that to the best of my knowledge the information I have given on, or attached to the EPBC Act Referral is complete, current and correct. I understand that giving false or misleading information is a serious offence. I declare that I am not taking the action on behalf or for the benefit of any other person or entity. *

☑ I, **Samantha Pintara of QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**, the Person proposing the action, consent to the designation of **Ariane Ponting of QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED** as the Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.

✔ Completed Proposed designated proponent's declaration

The Proposed designated proponent is the individual or organisation proposed to be responsible for meeting the requirements of the EPBC Act during the assessment process, if the Minister decides that this project is a controlled action.

ABN/ACN	82078849233
Organisation name	QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
Organisation address	33 HAROLD STREET VIRGINIA QLD 4014
Representative's name	Ariane Ponting
Representative's job title	Manager Environment
Phone	0400 707 475
Email	ariane.ponting@powerlink.com.au
Address	33 Harold Street Virginia 4014 QLD

☑ Check this box to indicate you have read the referral form. *

☑ Check this box to confirm these are the correct identification details. *

☑ I, **Ariane Ponting of QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED**, the Proposed designated proponent, consent to the designation of myself as the

Proposed designated proponent for the purposes of the action described in this EPBC Act Referral. *

You may receive automated notifications that aim to assist you in tracking the progress of your project. You can opt out of these notifications by updating your communication preferences on your profile.