



# Australian Jobs Act 2013

AIP Plan reference code: GJ3Q8R9R

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## Australian Industry Participation Plan Summary - Project Phase

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**Nominated project proponent:** QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

### Project details

Name: CopperString 2032

Location: Mount Isa to South of Townsville in the Burdekin region

Type: Electricity facility

Purpose: Establish new facility

Capital expenditure: \$2 billion - \$5 billion

Description: The Powerlink-led CopperString 2032 project, formerly known as CopperString 2.0, initially involves building 840km of new electricity transmission line from just south of Townsville in the Burdekin region to Mount Isa to connect Queensland's North West Minerals Province (NWMP) to the National Electricity Market. Approximately 200km of additional transmission line will also potentially be required to connect new renewable generators to the grid. Powerlink will build and own CopperString 2032, delivering on the Queensland Government's commitments in the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan after taking ownership of the project from Townsville-based CuString Pty Ltd in March 2023. The overall expanded project has a budget of \$5 billion and includes:

- 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission line from just south of Townsville to Hughenden
- 330kV transmission line from Hughenden to Cloncurry
- 220kV transmission line from Cloncurry to Mount Isa

• up to six new substation sites. Powerlink is progressing early works on the project in 2023 ahead of construction commencing in 2024. The project is expected to be completed by 2029. The Project traverses seven local government areas: Mount Isa City, Cloncurry Shire, McKinlay Shire, Richmond Shire, Flinders Shire, Charters Towers Regional, Burdekin Shire and Townsville City LGA located adjacent to the project. The transmission line forms an essential part of the new Queensland SuperGrid transmission backbone to be delivered under the \$62 billion Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan. To date, work has focused on progressing the transmission line design, statutory approvals and engagement with landholders, Traditional Owners (TO), local communities and other key stakeholders along the proposed alignment. The project was declared a 'coordinated project' by the Queensland Coordinator-General in April 2019 and a controlled action under the Australian Government's Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC Act) in May 2019.

Completion date: 30 Dec 2029

## Key goods and services

Indicative list of key goods and services to be acquired for the project:

Key goods and services	Opportunities for Australian entities*	Opportunities for non-Australian entities	Explanation for no opportunities for Australian entities
Air Core Reactors (1PH) 138kV 1150 ohm (NER)	Yes	Yes	
Auxiliary Transformers	Yes	Yes	
Capacitor Banks 500/330/220kV	Yes	Yes	
Civil Construction: Camps, Roads, Substations and Towers	Yes	No	
Earth Wire Poles	Yes	Yes	
Filter Banks 500/330/220kV	Yes	Yes	
HV Circuit Breakers	Yes	Yes	
HV Current transformers	Yes	Yes	
HV Disconnectors	Yes	Yes	
HV Line Traps	Yes	Yes	
HV Post Insulators	Yes	Yes	
HV Surge Arresters	Yes	Yes	
HV Voltage Transformers	Yes	Yes	
Lighting	Yes	Yes	
Oil Reactors 500/330/275kV	Yes	Yes	
Power Transformers	Yes	Yes	
Power Voltage Transformers	Yes	Yes	
Rigid and Strung Fittings	Yes	Yes	
Substation Steel Structure	Yes	Yes	
SVC / STATCOM	Yes	Yes	
TL Conductor Orange & Sulphur AAAC 1120	Yes	Yes	
TL Insulators	Yes	Yes	
TL Line Fittings	Yes	Yes	
TL Optical Ground Wire (OPGW)	Yes	Yes	
TL OPGW Fiber Splicing	Yes	No	
TL Steel Poles	Yes	Yes	
TL Steel Towers	Yes	Yes	
TL - Tower Earthing Materials Supply	Yes	Yes	
TL - Tower Number Plates and Signs Supply	Yes	Yes	

\* An Australian entity is an entity with an ABN or ACN

Project standards:

Australian  
International

## Supplier information and communication

Project proponent's contact person for supplier enquiries:

**Contact person name** Rachael Maundrell  
**Contact person position** Team Leader - Project Engagement NQ  
**Phone number** 0738984462  
**E-mail** rachael.maundrell@powerlink.com.au

Project proponent website: <https://www.powerlink.com.au/projects/copperstring-2032>

Project opportunities website: [https://gateway.icn.org.au/projects/8452/pg-8452?scroll\\_pos=250](https://gateway.icn.org.au/projects/8452/pg-8452?scroll_pos=250)

Supplier engagement and communication actions :

- Promote project opportunities through industry associations
- Engage with vendor identification agencies on project opportunities and bid processes
- Conduct supplier information briefings on project opportunities and bid processes
- Issue media releases or ASX announcements on project developments and opportunities
- Develop and distribute a supplier information guide for the project
- Directly contact suppliers with information on project opportunities and bid processes
- Direct stakeholder engagement regarding project opportunities

## Building Australian industry capability

Supplier capability development actions:

- Recommend suppliers undertake training and/or accreditation
- Provide market intelligence to suppliers
- Transfer new product and process technology to suppliers
- Encourage joint ventures and alliances between suppliers
- Support supplier development initiatives of industry associations or governments

Global supply chain integration actions:

- Introduce suppliers to global supply chain partners
- Support suppliers to register with global supplier databases
- Facilitate strategic partnering and joint ventures between Australian and international suppliers
- Recommend suppliers undertake export readiness training or international accreditation
- Support supplier export and global integration initiatives of industry associations or governments
- Provide references for high performing suppliers

Feedback process for unsuccessful bidders:

CopperString 2032 is required to provide feedback to all suppliers, both successful and unsuccessful. Furthermore, Powerlink expects that all suppliers engaged throughout the CopperString 2032 supply chain are provided detailed and constructive feedback in regard to their performance. The higher the quality of feedback CopperString 2032 provides the market, the quicker that suppliers can be developed and therefore pass on their productivity, capability, and capacity gains to CopperString 2032. Powerlink and the Contractor will incorporate feedback mechanisms for both successful and unsuccessful bidders into their procurement processes and as a general obligation as part of the project's Local Economic Participation Plan (LEPP) and Indigenous Participation Plan (IPP) Information relating to the project standards required and expectation of suppliers will be communicated via the channels previously detailed. The feedback process will also include unsuccessful letters as issued via either email, or if part of the procurement process, then through the Felix system. Suppliers will be provided feedback in a timely manner and to detail that is sufficient to ensure suppliers are 'work ready' and able to respond to future opportunities. Feedback criteria may include: 1. Quality, 2. Cost, 3. Capability, 4. Capacity, 5. Financial security, 6. Mobilisation ability, 7. Management of supplier's supply chain, 8. Health, Safety, Environment and Compliance records, plan, and systems, 9. Local Content, 10. Indigenous participation, 11. Local performance, and 12. Recommendations of relevant training, skills, capability, and capacity development. More informally, suppliers will also have the opportunity to attend business capability and capacity workshops where they will be provided the opportunity to receive feedback on their current operations and pathways to improve and other identified barriers to growth.

# Australian Industry Participation Plan Summary - Operations Phase

**Nominated facility operator:** QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

## Facility details

Name: CopperString 2032

Location: Mount Isa to South of Townsville in the Burdekin region

Type: Electricity facility

## Key goods and services

Indicative list of key goods and services to be acquired for the new facility:

<b>Key goods and services</b>	<b>Opportunities for Australian entities*</b>	<b>Opportunities for non-Australian entities</b>	<b>Explanation for no opportunities for Australian entities</b>
Accommodation Services	Yes	No	
High voltage electrical maintenance goods and services	Yes	No	
Stringing tools, equipment and maintenance services	Yes	No	
Labour TL	Yes	No	
Fencing repairs and maintenance	Yes	No	
Road repairs and maintenance	Yes	No	
Landscaping, weed removal and other ground maintenance goods and services	Yes	No	
High voltage electrical maintenance goods	Yes	Yes	
Stringing tools and equipment	Yes	No	

\*An Australian entity is an entity with an ABN or ACN

Facility standards:

- Australian
- International

## Supplier information and communication

Facility operator's contact person for supplier enquiries:

**Contact person name** Rachael Maundrell  
**Contact person position** Team Leader - Project Engagement NQ  
**Phone number** 0738984462  
**E-mail** rachael.maundrell@powerlink.com.au

Facility operator website: <https://www.powerlink.com.au/projects/copperstring-2032>

Facility opportunities website: <https://www.powerlink.com.au/projects/copperstring-2032> <https://qtenders.epw.qld.gov.au/qtenders/>

Supplier engagement and communication actions :

- Promote project opportunities through industry associations
- Engage with vendor identification agencies on project opportunities and bid processes
- Conduct supplier information briefings on project opportunities and bid processes
- Issue media releases or ASX announcements on project developments and opportunities
- Develop and distribute a supplier information guide for the project
- Directly contact suppliers with information on project opportunities and bid processes

## Building Australian industry capability

Supplier capability development actions:

- Recommend suppliers undertake training and/or accreditation
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