GHD COPPERSTRING 2.0

CopperString 2.0

Introduction

Volume 1 Chapter 1

Table of Contents

1. Introduction 1
1.1 Project overview 1
1.2 Project proponent 3
1.2.1 Overview 3
1.2.2 Environmental policy and record 4
1.2.3 EIS consultants 4
1.3 Project rationale 5
1.4 Relationship to other projects 5
1.5 Project alternatives 8
1.5.1 Corridor selection 8
1.5.2 Project alternatives 13
1.6 Environmental impact assessment process 13
1.6.1 Requirement for an EIS 13
1.6.2 EIS objectives 14
1.6.3 EIS process 15
1.6.4 Regulatory approvals 16
1.6.5 EIS scope 20
1.6.6 EIS structure 20
1.6.7 Environmental impact assessment methodology 22
1.6.8 Ecologically sustainable development 24
1.7 Community stakeholder consultation 24
1.7.1 Consultation methodology 25
1.7.2 Commonwealth, state and local government 27
1.7.3 Landowners 34
1.7.4 Indigenous groups and traditional landowners consultation 35
1.7.5 Other consultation 36
1.7.6 Communication tools 38

Table index

Table 1-1 Key Post EIS approvals 19
Table 1-2 Environmental significance of impact risk rating descriptions 23
Table 1-3 Consultation activities and timing 25
Table 1-4 Commonwealth government consultations 27
Table 1-5 State government consultations 28
Table 1-6 Local government consultations 33
Table 1-7 Landowner consultations 34
Table 1-8 Indigenous groups and traditional owners 35
Table 1-9 Other consultation 36

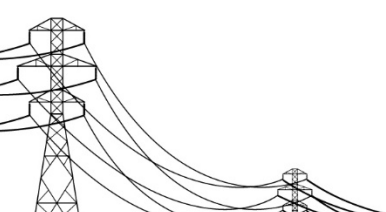
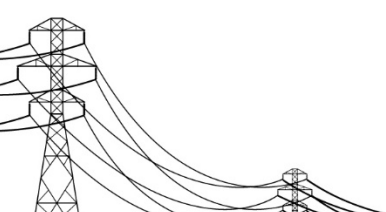


Figure index

Figure 1-1 Project overview....2
Figure 1-2 Customer supply points....7
Figure 1-3 Initial route options....9
Figure 1-4 Ballara Nature Refuge alternate alignments....12
Figure 1-5 EIS process....15
Figure 1-6 Local government areas....17
Figure 1-7 Approvals pathway flow diagram....18



1. Introduction

1.1 Project overview

The CopperString 2.0 Project (the Project) involves the construction and operation of approximately 1,060 km of extra high voltage overhead electricity transmission line that would connect the North West Power System (NWPS), and foundation customers at isolated mine sites along the Project route, to the state electricity grid (via connection to the Powerlink transmission network). The Project overview is shown in Figure 1-1.

Currently, electricity consumers connected to the NWPS, which covers Mount Isa, Cloncurry, Gunpowder and Century Mine, do not have access to the state electricity grid. Within the NWPS, electricity is supplied by bi-lateral agreements between generators and consumers. The system is managed under an access protocol authorised by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. Many of the mines in the North West Minerals Province (NWMP), such as Phosphate Hill Mine, Mount Dore Mine and Cannington Mine, currently generate their own electricity. Electricity generation for the NWPS and isolated mines is mainly based on gas or diesel as fuel.

Access to the state electricity grid will be provided through connection to the Powerlink transmission network, at a location near Woodstock (between Collinsville and Townsville).

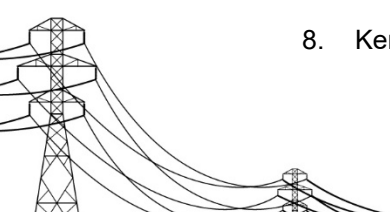
The Project will facilitate the participation of this economically important region in the National Electricity Market (NEM). The NEM is a wholesale market through which generators and retailers trade electricity in Australia (excluding Western Australia and the Northern Territory). It incorporates approximately 40,000 km of transmission lines and cables and supplies around nine million customers (AEMO, 2020).

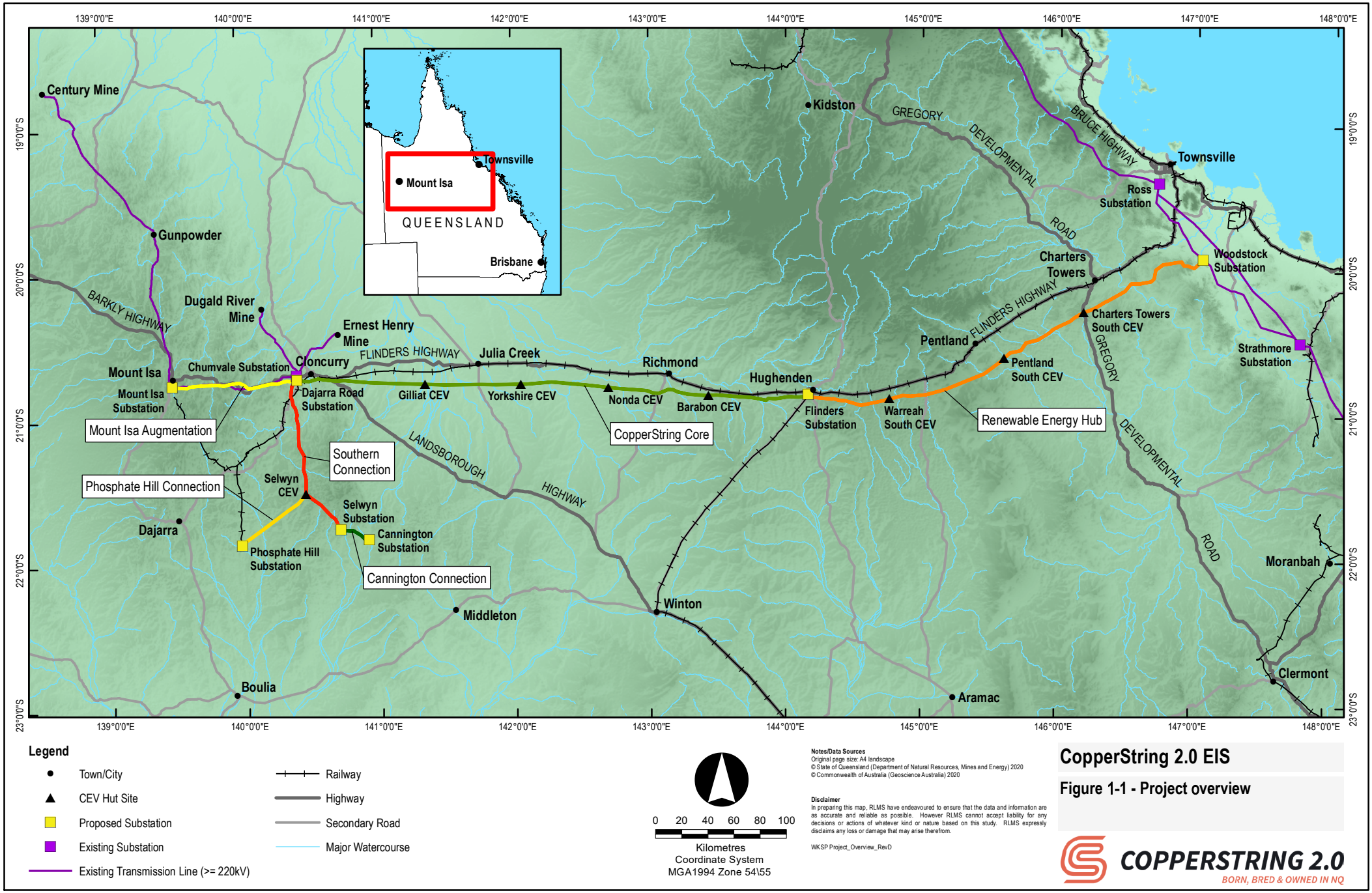
Participation in the NEM would substantially reduce the cost of electricity delivered to the north and north-west Queensland regions. This reduction in the cost of electricity is expected to facilitate substantial growth in the resources sector by reducing the cost of mining and minerals processing.

The Project will also pass through the southern extent of the North Queensland Clean Energy Hub. The North Queensland Clean Energy Hub is a proposed development of strategic transmission infrastructure in north and north-west Queensland to support a clean energy hub. It will unlock around 2,000 MW of renewable energy projects, including ‘A’ class wind and solar resources near Forsayth, Kidston, Charters Towers, and Hughenden. The Project will enable participation of future renewable energy based generation in the NEM. Projects within the North Queensland Clean Energy Hub are shown on Figure 1-2.

The Project is divided into the following eight sections, which traverse seven local government areas (refer Figure 1-6):

1. Woodstock Substation
2. Renewable Energy Hub
3. CopperString Core
4. Mount Isa Augmentation
5. Southern Connection
6. Cannington Connection
7. Phosphate Hill Connection
8. Kennedy Connection (option)





Legend

- Town/City
- CEV Hut Site
- Proposed Substation
- Existing Substation
- Existing Transmission Line (>= 220kV)
- Railway
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Major Watercourse

0 20 40 60 80 100

Kilometres

Coordinate System
MGA1994 Zone 54\55

Notes/Data Sources
Original page size: A4 landscape
© State of Queensland (Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy) 2020
© Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2020

Disclaimer
In preparing this map, RLMS have endeavoured to ensure that the data and information are as accurate and reliable as possible. However RLMS cannot accept liability for any decisions or actions of whatever kind or nature based on this study. RLMS expressly disclaims any loss or damage that may arise therefrom.

WKSP Project_Overview_RevD

CopperString 2.0 EIS

Figure 1-1 - Project overview

COPPERSTRING 2.0
BORN, BRED & OWNED IN NQ

1.2 Project proponent

1.2.1 Overview

CuString Pty Ltd (CuString – Cu being the Periodic Table of Elements symbol for copper) is the proponent for the Project.

Australian Business Number: 47 137 531 054

Postal address: Level 14, 40 Creek Street, Brisbane City QLD 4000

CuString is an Australian Private Company based in Townsville, Queensland and is part of a group of related entities with a long history in the energy supply industry in North Queensland, Queensland and Australia..

CuString is controlled by John G. O'Brien (Director and Company Secretary) and Joseph O'Brien (Director) via a parent company (VisIR Pty Ltd) and is part of a group of special purpose private investment entities focused on the energy sector.

John O'Brien has a long history and credible track record of activity in the corporate sector and electricity supply industry in Australia. Most recently he has been appointed to the expert advisory panel to the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and sat on the QEnergy Expert advisory panel for the Queensland Minister for Energy. John is a Registered Professional Engineer Queensland and a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD).

Joseph O'Brien has worked in the energy-supply industry for over 20 years, and today is the Founding Partner and Executive Chairman of VisIR Holdings Pty Ltd, a specialist electricity industry private capital investment firm established in 2015. Joseph has led the establishment of several consulting and project-development businesses and has provided advice of significance to the electricity supply sector, particularly in Australia. Over this period, he has primarily worked as a CEO, Managing Director and advisor; Joseph has unique experience with policy-making, economics, investment-strategy and ethics, particularly working closely with major energy-industry participants and private capital investors.

CuString has been and is currently counterparty to a range of agreements with respect to the Project with major listed and private companies (including major resources sector firms such as Glencore and Incitec Pivot) as well as Australian and Queensland Government agencies or departments.

CuString, either internally or via contracted services, has the technical and financial expertise to undertake development of the Project and have partnered with a number of North Queensland, Queensland and national services providers to deliver key project services needed for the development of the environmental impact assessment, land acquisition and other regulatory requirements.

The proponent is the same entity that developed and controlled the CopperString 1.0 Project, which was designated as a coordinated project and for which a draft Environmental Impact Statement was prepared prior to its suspension before approval in 2012.

CuString re-established a project team in the second half of 2017 in response to the Queensland Government announcement of the North Queensland Clean Energy Hub which is complemented by the transmission assets proposed by CuString.

The financing strategy for the Project has been developed to ensure the Project is sufficiently capitalised to meet development milestones. As well as contributions from CuString, the Australian Government provided $4.9 m in late 2018 to demonstrate its support for altering the economics of electricity supply in the NWMP. To date, CuString has entered into formal

agreements with most major energy users in the NWMP who have paid a fee to apply for connection. CuString sought expressions of interest from capital markets and entered into a funding agreement with leading global infrastructure equity investor DIF Capital Partners, who have provided $5 million in development costs and have the right to provide the majority of the equity funding. An additional $14.8 million funding agreement with the Queensland Government was announced by the Premier Annastacia Palaszczuk on 19 May 2020 as part of its Covid-19 economic recovery plan, to boost development and pre-construction activities.

CuString is a registered Intending Participant with the Australian Energy Market Operator. CuString, as a special purpose entity created for the Project, has not been subject to any proceedings under an Australian Commonwealth, State or Territory law for the protection of the environment or the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources.

CuString has engaged technical services providers to plan and assess the Project and will contract Construction Contractors with a proven record of obtaining and complying with all necessary environmental approvals for similar projects.

1.2.2 Environmental policy and record

CuString places the highest value on environmental performance and will be responsible for achieving environmental compliance as part of their corporate governance as developers/owners of the Project. CuString is committed to ensuring that the following corporate values are achieved:

- Environmental harm and pollution is minimised through the active identification and management of environmental risks.
- Ensuring the efficient use of resources, recycling of materials and reduction of waste.
- Compliance is maintained with relevant environmental legislation, regulation and standards as well as project approval conditions.
- An environmental management system is implemented that is developed in accordance with AS/NZS ISO 14001.
- Regular review and analysis of environmental performance is undertaken to identify and implement continual improvement.

CuString will ensure that the principle construction contractor's environmental record and policy aligns with these corporate values to achieve compliance with legislation and approved conditions. This policy will be updated, as necessary prior to subsequent project phases to ensure the policy reflects CuString's commitments to environmental mitigation and management.

CuString is in the feasibility and planning phase of the Project and does not own or operate any other infrastructure. CuString has conducted project investigation field surveys along the corridor selection in accordance with relevant regulatory requirements and has not been prosecuted for any breaches under relevant environmental Commonwealth, Queensland or international laws during the previous ten years.

1.2.3 EIS consultants

GHD Pty Ltd (GHD) has been engaged as the technical service consultant to prepare the CopperString 2.0 Project Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). GHD is one of the world's leading professional services companies operating in the global markets of water, energy and resources, environment, property and buildings, and transportation. Established in 1928 and privately owned by its employees, GHD provides engineering, architecture, environmental, advisory, digital, and construction services to private and public sector clients.

GHD has extensive experience delivering EIS projects across Queensland, including delivering nine environmental assessments for Powerlink in the Roma/Wandoan region as well as other consulting services to the power industry on a range of levels.

Resource and Land Management Services (RLMS) is an independent consultancy established in 1990, focusing on the energy, transport, communications and exploration sectors Australia wide. RLMS specialises in tenure management, land negotiation and acquisition, route corridor selection, environmental approvals, mapping, and gas market analysis. It is acknowledged that RLMS managed the previous CopperString 1.0 EIS Project and have provided land access and GIS mapping services associated with the Project.

The experience and qualifications of the consultants and sub-consultants engaged by CuString to prepare the EIS are included in Volume 3 Appendix B EIS study team.

1.3 Project rationale

The Project is anticipated to have lasting positive economic, social and community effects within its region of interest. Recognized as an enabler of economic development through the provision of reliable and contestable electricity throughout the region, the Project is consistent with key points made by the Australian Government's *Our North, Our Future* White Paper, particularly its alignment with currently identified renewable energy generation opportunities.

In addition, the Queensland Government's 2016 Paper *Advancing North Queensland: Investing in the future growth of the north,* identified the Government's commitment to growing the economy of the region. This included targeted initiatives such as improved infrastructure and connectivity. The provision of a new, stable infrastructure connection from the NWPS to the state electricity grid, is consistent with such Governmental endeavours. The Project's economic merits and potential to boost development within the region has been further endorsed by way of a $14.8 million funding agreement with the Queensland Government as part of its Covid-19 economic recovery plan.

The Project also sees significant community benefits with direct employment opportunities as part of the construction and operation phases. It is anticipated that 750 people will be employed during the Project's construction phase with 30 people required to operate and maintain infrastructure. Additionally, indirect employment opportunities also exist due to the subsequent expansion of the mining sector resulting from the provision of competitive and reliable electricity.

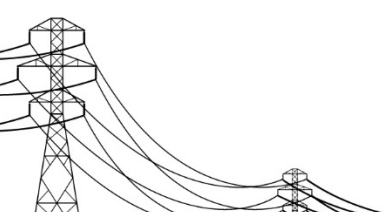
Overall, the Project is expected to foster further investments that will validate continued economic, social and community growth of the region.

A full project rationale is included in Section 2.2 of Volume 1 Chapter 2 Project description.

1.4 Relationship to other projects

The Project will connect the NWPS, and foundation customers at isolated mine sites along the Project area, to the state electricity grid, allowing participation in the NEM. In doing so, the Project facilitates potential for existing customers (e.g. mines) to access competitive, reliable electricity.

The first 342 km of the Project (Renewable Energy Hub) consisting of a dual circuit 330 kV transmission line and the Flinders Substation (east of Hughenden) will pass through the southern extent of the North Queensland Clean Energy Hub, a renewable energy zone containing both 'A' class wind and solar resources. A major substation will be constructed east of Hughenden that can facilitate NEM participation of future renewable energy based generation projects which are currently constrained by the lack of access to the NEM.

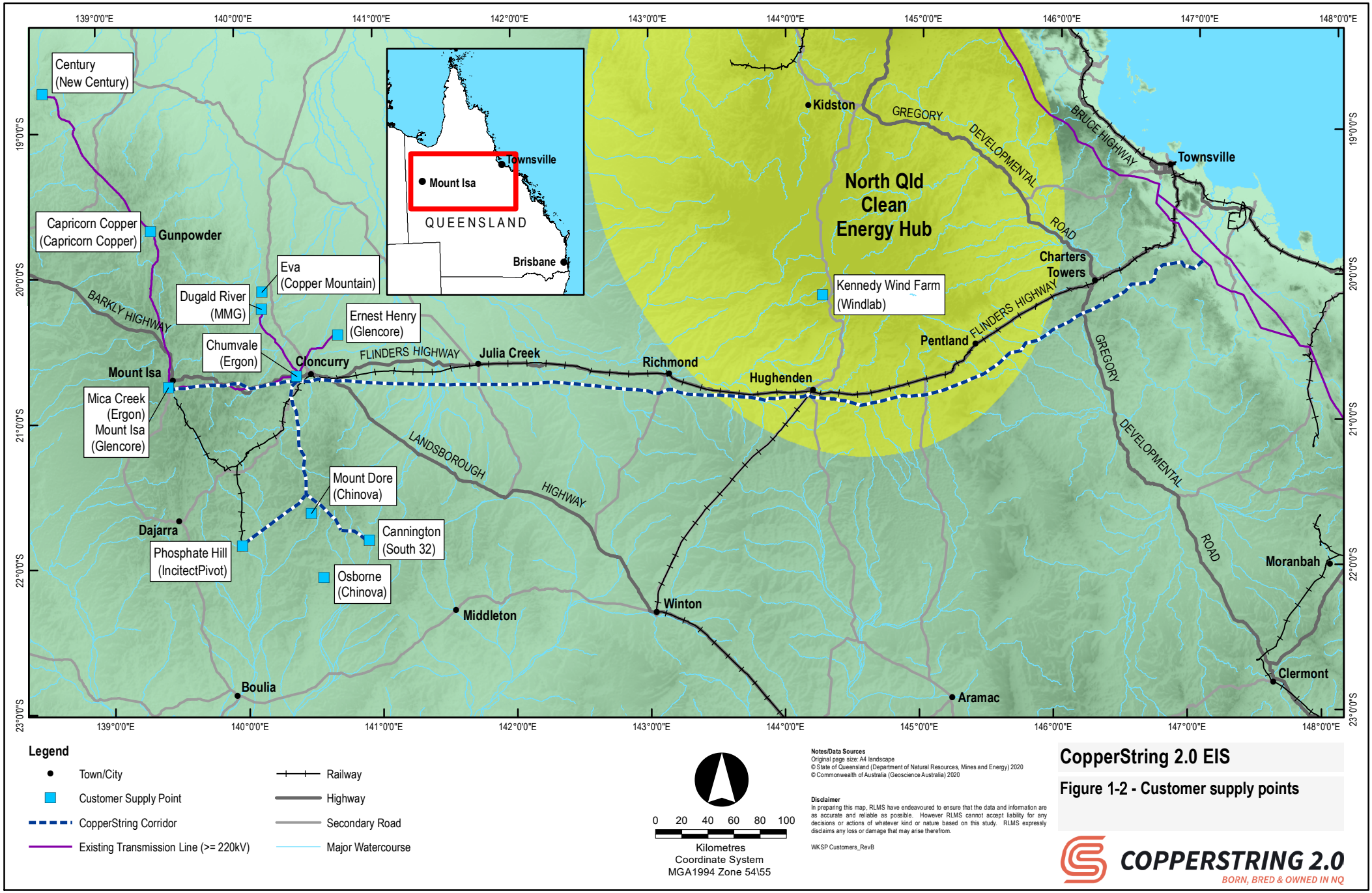


The next 395 km of the Project (CopperString Core), consisting of a dual circuit 330 kV transmission line and the Dajarra Road Substation (near Cloncurry), will enable connections to the Ergon Energy Chumvale Substation, Dugald River Mine, Eva Mine, Ernest Henry Mine and the Southern Connection.

The Mount Isa Augmentation will upgrade and supplement the transfer capacity between the Chumvale Substation and the Mica Creek Complex at Mount Isa with the potential to supply the Mount Isa Mines, Capricorn Copper and Century Mine. Consisting of a new substation south of Mount Isa, near the Mica Creek complex, this is a with a 99 km dual circuit 220 kV transmission line connection the Dajarra Road Substation.

The Southern Connection is a 129 km dual circuit 220 kV transmission line connecting the Dajarra Road Substation to the Selwyn Substation. This will enable connection of the southern mines, such as Cannington Mine, Mount Dore Mine and Phosphate Hill Mine that are presently not connected to the NWPS.

Figure 1-2 outlines the locations of various potential/upcoming developments which may benefit from a connection to the Project infrastructure.



Legend

- Town/City
- Customer Supply Point
- CopperString Corridor
- Existing Transmission Line (>= 220kV)
- Railway
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Major Watercourse

0 20 40 60 80 100

Kilometres

Coordinate System
MGA1994 Zone 54\55

Notes/Data Sources
Original page size: A4 landscape
© State of Queensland (Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy) 2020
© Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2020

Disclaimer
In preparing this map, RLMS have endeavoured to ensure that the data and information are as accurate and reliable as possible. However RLMS cannot accept liability for any decisions or actions of whatever kind or nature based on this study. RLMS expressly disclaims any loss or damage that may arise therefrom.

WKSP Customers_RevB

CopperString 2.0 EIS

Figure 1-2 - Customer supply points

COPPERSTRING 2.0
BORN, BRED & OWNED IN NQ

1.5 Project alternatives

1.5.1 Corridor selection

Selection of the 5 km wide Project study corridor involved desktop and field baseline investigations, consultations with foundation customers and land holders which first commenced in 2010. The initial investigations which included the preparation of a 2010 Route Selection Report as part of the CopperString 1.0 EIS Project, were suspended in 2012.

In 2017, the corridor selection process recommenced and involved multi-disciplinary reviews and extensive consultations with key stakeholders and land holders to refine the 5 km study corridor down to the preferred 60 m or 120 m wide corridor selection. This refinement process considered changes to land use and updates to various constraint mapping layers that have occurred since 2010. The process identified several changes to avoid and minimise impacts along the 1,060 km length of the Project.

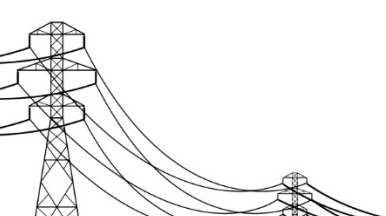
The fundamental route selection criteria considered the following aspects:

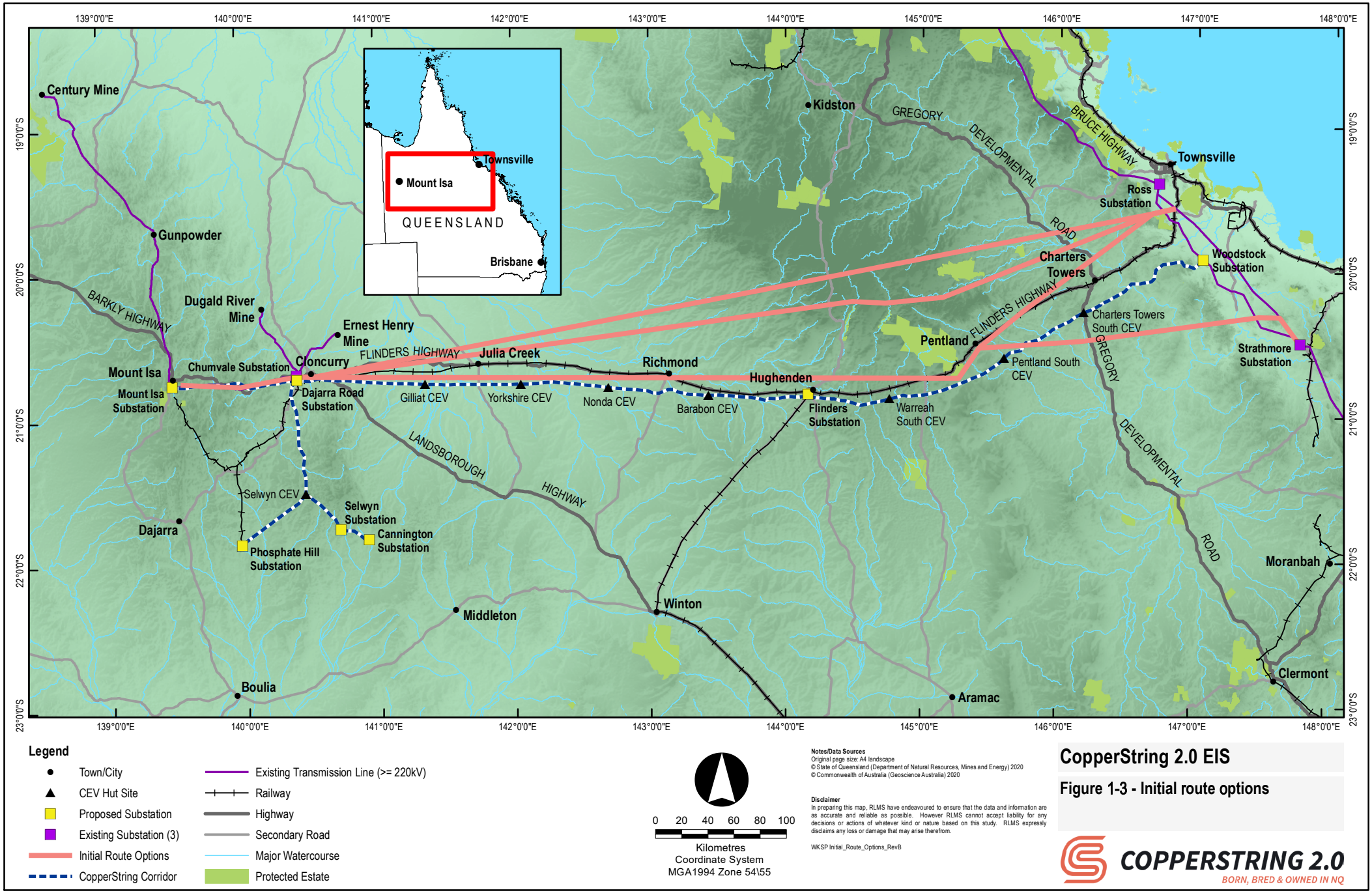
- Minimise construction constraints
- Minimise disturbance to areas of known ecological value
- Minimise disturbance to existing landholders and land use
- Minimise the terrain constraint on the route
- Minimise corridor length
- Minimise bends in the transmission line
- Maximise ease of access for construction and operation
- Minimise disturbance to known heritage values
- Minimise disturbance to and potential interference from existing third-party infrastructure

Further to the fundamental criteria, additional specific refinement was undertaken as part of the corridor selection process which also considered information related to:

- Environment (including hydrology, ecology, and Ballara Nature Refuge)
- Engineering opportunities and limitations
- Mining infrastructure/tenements
- New project development (since the CopperString 1.0 EIS Project)
- Existing tenure and land use
- Topography (mountain ranges and river crossings), geology, and soils
- Transport related infrastructure (road, rail and air)
- Contaminated land and unexploded ordnance
- Cultural heritage and native title
- Landholder infrastructure

As such, alternative routes were investigated before a final route selection was made (see Figure 1-3) to ensure the above criteria were met both efficiently and effectively.





Legend

- Town/City
- CEV Hut Site
- Proposed Substation
- Existing Substation (3)
- Initial Route Options
- CopperString Corridor
- Existing Transmission Line (>= 220kV)
- Railway
- Highway
- Secondary Road
- Major Watercourse
- Protected Estate

0 20 40 60 80 100

Kilometres

Coordinate System
MGA1994 Zone 54\55

Notes/Data Sources
Original page size: A4 landscape
© State of Queensland (Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy) 2020
© Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2020

Disclaimer
In preparing this map, RLMS have endeavoured to ensure that the data and information are as accurate and reliable as possible. However RLMS cannot accept liability for any decisions or actions of whatever kind or nature based on this study. RLMS expressly disclaims any loss or damage that may arise therefrom.

WKSP Initial_Route_Options_RevB

CopperString 2.0 EIS

Figure 1-3 - Initial route options

COPPERSTRING 2.0
BORN, BRED & OWNED IN NQ

The key corridor selections factors for each segment of the Project are as follows.

Woodstock to Pentland

Assessment confirmed a route commencing at the Woodstock Substation and connecting to Cloncurry and Mount Isa is the preferred route as it:

- Avoids complex areas of topography associated with the Hervey Range (north) and Leichhardt Range (south-east).
- The route chosen runs to the south of the Tucker Range and north of the Rishton Scrub and Rochford Scrub. Both of these semi-evergreen vine thicket areas are on the National Estate Heritage Register.
- The route also deviates to avoid dual crossings of the Burdekin River.

Pentland to Cloncurry

The 2010 Route Selection Report confirmed the White Mountain National Park presented a significant constraint which supported the location of a route alignment to the south of the Flinders Highway between Pentland and the Dajarra Road substation (Cloncurry). Other factors supporting an alignment to the south of the highway includes:

- A southern route is shorter and will therefore reduce the disturbance footprint and construction costs.
- The Flinders River runs in a generally east west direction north of Richmond and presents a constraint to the generally east west running transmission line, over an extended distance of approximately 40-50 km.
- The Julia Creek oil shale deposits Mineral Development Licence (MDL) and MDL Application areas, located east of Julia Creek, are predominantly on the north of the Flinders Highway.
- The proposed Dajarra Road Substation is located on the south side of the Flinders Highway.

It was also identified as part of the 2010 Route Selection Report that the network required a substation near the mid-point (near Hughenden), to improve reliability of the transmission line and make provision for future renewable energy connections.

Cloncurry to Cannington and Phosphate Hill

Cannington Mine is located approximately 97 km to the east of Phosphate Hill mine. The proposed Dajarra Road Substation is approximately 130 km north east of Phosphate Hill and 130 km north-west of Cannington. To reduce transmission line construction distance it is proposed that conductors sharing common towers would be provided for approximately half the distance to these two mines, with a bifurcation at a midway point, referred to as the “Common South Point” (CSP). This approach reduces overall distance as much as practicable.

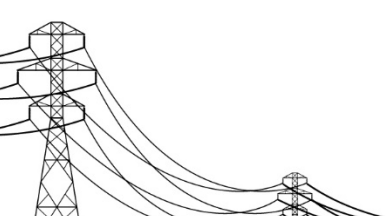
The corridor selection process considered four options connecting the CopperString main line from the Dajarra Road Substation to the CSP (Figure 1-4):

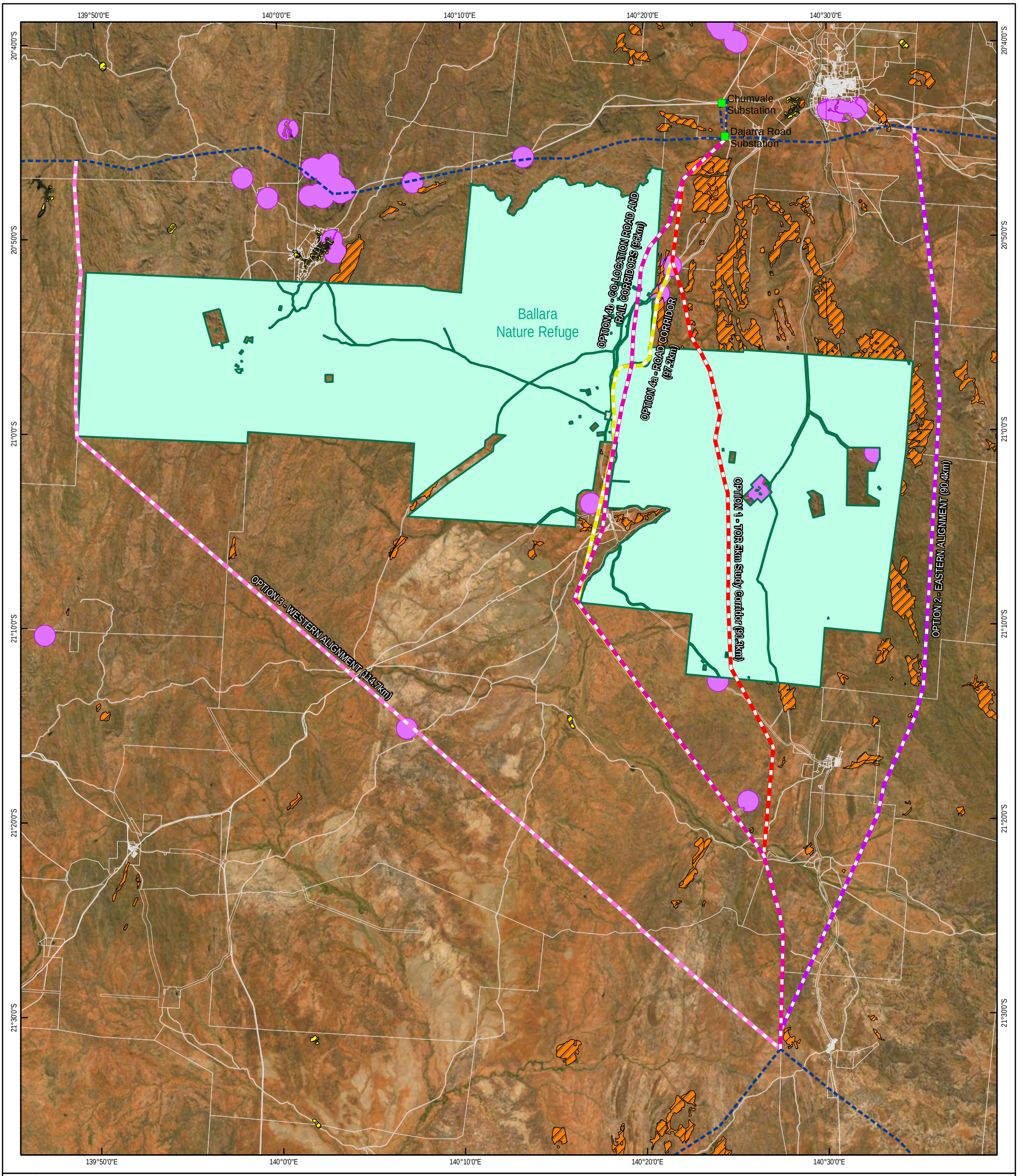
- Option 1 – ToR 5 km Study Corridor: The route selected in 2010 which generally proceeds south from the Dajarra Road Substation for approximately 90 km to the CSP. This option intersects the Ballara Nature Refuge.
- Option 2 – Eastern Alignment: This option avoids the Ballara Nature Refuge by traversing land to the east. This option is 90.4 km long and would require an additional substation approximately 22 km east of the Dajarra Road Substation.

- Option 3 – Western Alignment: This avoids the Ballara Nature Refuge by traversing land to the west. This option is 114.7 km long and would require and additional substation west of the Dajarra Road Substation.
- Option 4a – Road Corridor: This option is located within the State-controlled road corridor for Cloncurry Duchess Road, which is excluded from the Ballara Nature Refuge. This option is 97 km long.
- Option 4b – Co-Location Road and Rail Corridors: This option is co-located with the existing rail and road corridors and is 96 km long.

The methodology of Avoid, Minimise and Mitigate in relation to the Ballara Nature Refuge was used in analysing the route options. Although Options 2-4 avoid the Ballara Nature Refuge, Option 1 is the preferred route as Options 2 – 4 each present various practicality and safety constraints including the requirements for construction of additional substations, construction through steep and rugged terrain, multiple bends in the transmission line, and multiple crossings of Cloncurry Duchess Road.

Option 1 will minimise impacts to Ballara Nature Refuge, as it follows mostly flat terrain within areas of open woodland that have existing access tracks within proximity of the proposed alignment.





Legend

- Substations
- Current CopperString Alignment
- Base Parcel
- MSES - Protected Area - Nature Refuges
- MSES - Regulated Vegetation - 100m from wetland
- MSES - Regulated Vegetation - Category B Endangered or Of Concern
- MSES - Regulated Vegetation - Essential Habitat
- OPTION 1 - TOR 5km Study Corridor
- OPTION 2 - EASTERN ALIGNMENT
- OPTION 3 - WESTERN ALIGNMENT
- OPTION 4a - ROAD CORRIDOR
- OPTION 4b - CO-LOCATION ROAD AND RAIL CORRIDORS

0 2 4 6 8 10
Kilometres
Coordinate System
GDA 1994 MGA Zone 54

Notes/Data Sources
Original page size: A3 portrait
Service Layer Credits: Source: Esri, Maxar, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Disclaimer
In preparing this map, RLMS have endeavoured to ensure that the data and information are as accurate and reliable as possible. However RLMS cannot accept liability for any decisions or actions of whatever kind or nature based on this study. RLMS expressly disclaims any loss or damage that may arise therefrom.

WKSP GISWR_00482_Overview_RevD

Revision History

Rev	Drawn	Check	Date
A	DJ	IB	28/09/2020
B	DJ	IB	07/10/2020
C	DJ	IB	14/10/2020
D	DJ	IB	21/10/2020

PROJECT CopperString 2.0

Figure 1-4

TITLE Ballara Nature Refuge Alternate Alignments

Prepared by RLMS

Prepared for COPPERSTRING 2.0 BORN, BRED & OWNED IN NQ

Map Revision D

Cloncurry to Mount Isa

The preferred route from Cloncurry to Mount Isa is a direct route generally following Ergon's existing 220kV transmission line.

Further details regarding the whole corridor selection process can be found in Volume 3 Appendix D Corridor selection report.

1.5.2 Project alternatives

Currently the region is not connected to the NEM. Electricity generation is based on local generation sources (currently gas-fired) with standalone diesel or gas generation at mine sites.

An alternative to the Project would be to allow the current arrangements to continue, expand where each energy user makes private agreements with existing suppliers or install their own private generating plant for their site.

This alternative would not improve the competitiveness, reliability or efficiency of energy supply in the region by allowing many buyers and many sellers access to loads and generation (including from renewables) in the region.

These arrangements are very costly, due to the reliance on gas, absence of a competitive power market and the small number of generators connected to the system.

Do nothing

The development of the Project will provide a direct link between the NWPS and the state electricity grid, allowing participation in the NEM. The 'do nothing' option will not allow access to the NEM for the substantial renewable resources in the region.

1.6 Environmental impact assessment process

1.6.1 Requirement for an EIS

The environmental impact assessment is undertaken in accordance with the following legislation:

- Queensland *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (SDPWO Act)
- Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

An initial advice statement (IAS) for the Project was lodged in February 2019 with the Queensland Coordinator-General, in accordance with the SDPWO Act. The purpose of the IAS was to provide the Coordinator-General with sufficient information to make a 'coordinated project' declaration under Section 26(1)(a) of the SDPWO Act. The Project was declared a coordinated project for which an EIS is required under the provisions of the SDPWO Act on 26 April 2019. This decision was published in the Queensland Government Gazette [vol 380, No. 93 of 26 April 2019].

A referral under the EPBC Act was also prepared for the Project, dated 31 March 2019 (EPBC Act Referral 2019/8416). The referral decision made on 14 May 2019 was that the Project is a 'controlled action', meaning significant impacts are likely and approval is required under the EPBC Act.

The controlling provisions, under the EPBC Act, determined to be of relevance to the Project are:

- Listed threatened species and communities (sections 18 and 18A).
- Listed migratory species (sections 20 and 20A).

Following further engagement with key stakeholders, CuString made some minor amendments to the proposed development which were provided to the Coordinator-General on 25 June 2019 with reference to the Project designation and gazettal. The Coordinator-General subsequently confirmed that the Project was still in accordance with the IAS and could proceed to finalise the Draft Terms of Reference (Draft ToR).

A Draft ToR for an EIS was prepared and publicly displayed on 8 July 2019, providing governments and the community opportunity to provide comments until the 2 August 2019. The Commonwealth Department of Agriculture Water and Environment (DAWE) were also informed of these minor changes to the action on 26 July 2019. All written submissions received were considered before the Final ToR was issued on 4 September 2019.

DAWE was also informed on 26 July 2019 of the minor changes to the action made after 'controlled action' determination (which included adding options to investigate additional spur lines). Following a review of the additional material, DAWE issued a Notification of Variation of Proposal to Take an Action on 24 September 2019.

The assessment of the EIS under the SDPWO Act and EPBC Act will be undertaken under the assessment bilateral agreement between the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments under section 45 of the EPBC Act. The bilateral agreement is described in Section 4.1.6 of Volume 1 Chapter 4 Legislation and approvals.

The assessment of the EPBC Act controlling provisions is provided in Volume 2 Chapter 18 Matters of national environmental significance. Requirements for matters of national environmental significance are set out in Section 12 of the ToR.

1.6.2 EIS objectives

The EIS serves as a platform for government agencies, stakeholders, and the local community to gain an understanding of the Project and to provide valuable feedback. For CuString, this EIS and associated draft Framework Environmental Management Plan and Field Development Plan serve as a definitive commitment to the mitigation and management measures that will be implemented to minimise and avoid adverse environmental impacts that may result if the Project proceeds.

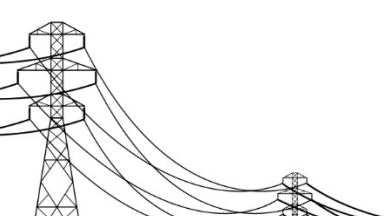
The objectives of the EIS are to:

a. Provide a detailed description of the Project

b. Ensure that all relevant environmental, social, cultural, and economic impacts of the Project are identified and assessed

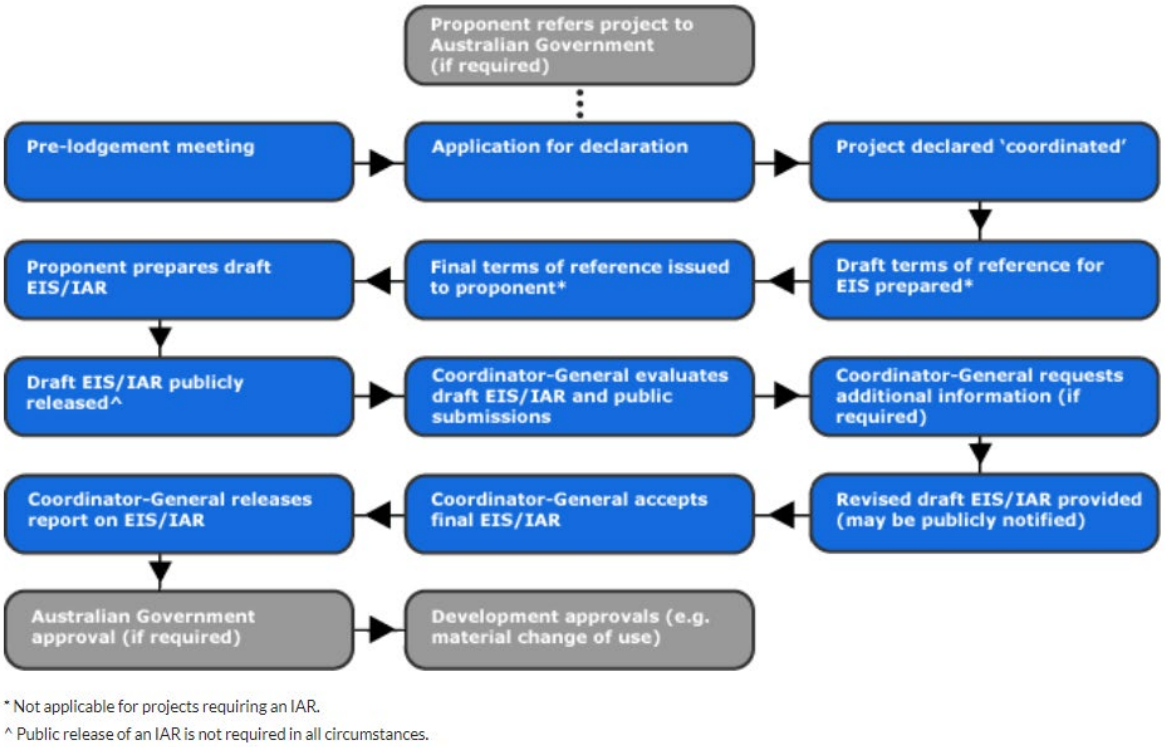
c. Outline the effective management, monitoring, planning and other mitigation measures proposed to avoid, minimise and/or mitigate adverse impacts

d. Demonstrate that the Project is based on sound environmental principles and practices.



1.6.3 EIS process

The EIS process generally follows the procedure outlined in Figure 1-5.



* Not applicable for projects requiring an IAR.

^ Public release of an IAR is not required in all circumstances.

Figure 1-5 EIS process

Source: Department of State Development. Tourism and Innovation (2020)

Following the proponent's preparation of the draft EIS, the draft EIS is released for a public notification period (generally at least 30 business days). The draft EIS will be made available online and in public display locations such as libraries. During this time, submissions are invited from government advisory agencies, members of the public and other stakeholders. Members of the public seeking to make a submission must ensure the submission is 'properly made', that is, it meets the following criteria:

- Made in writing to the Coordinator-General
- Is received on or before the deadline for submissions
- State the name and address of each submitter
- Is signed by each submitter
- States the grounds of the submissions and the facts and circumstances relied on in support of the grounds.

Properly made submissions can be posted by mail to the Coordinator-General's office or sent electronically to the Coordinator-General's Project email address.

State advisory agencies, councils and the Commonwealth will assess the draft EIS and advise the Coordinator-General on matters such as impact management strategies. Agencies may also propose conditions of approval.

At the end of the submission period, the Coordinator-General will evaluate the EIS and any submissions from the public or government advisory agencies. The Coordinator-General may request additional information from the proponent to address matters raised during the submission period.

Upon acceptance of the final EIS, the Coordinator-General will release a Coordinator-General evaluation report on the EIS advising satisfaction that the Project can proceed subject to regulatory approvals and the conditions and recommendations set out in the report.

1.6.4 Regulatory approvals

The Project's approval pathway will involve an assessment of the CopperString 2.0 EIS under the Queensland *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (SDPWO Act) and the Commonwealth *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act) under the bilateral agreement between the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments.

The approvals being sought as part of the EIS process under the SDPWO Act and Coordinator-General's evaluation report include:

- Stated Conditions regarding the total impact area for each of the prescribed matters
- Imposed Conditions regarding Social, Economic and Consultation requirements.
- Recommended Conditions relating to the Commonwealth relating to MNES.
- Recommended Conditions and requirements for an Infrastructure Designation under the Planning Act 2016 (Planning Act).
- General Recommendations relating to approvals under other legislation to be obtained post the EIS process including:

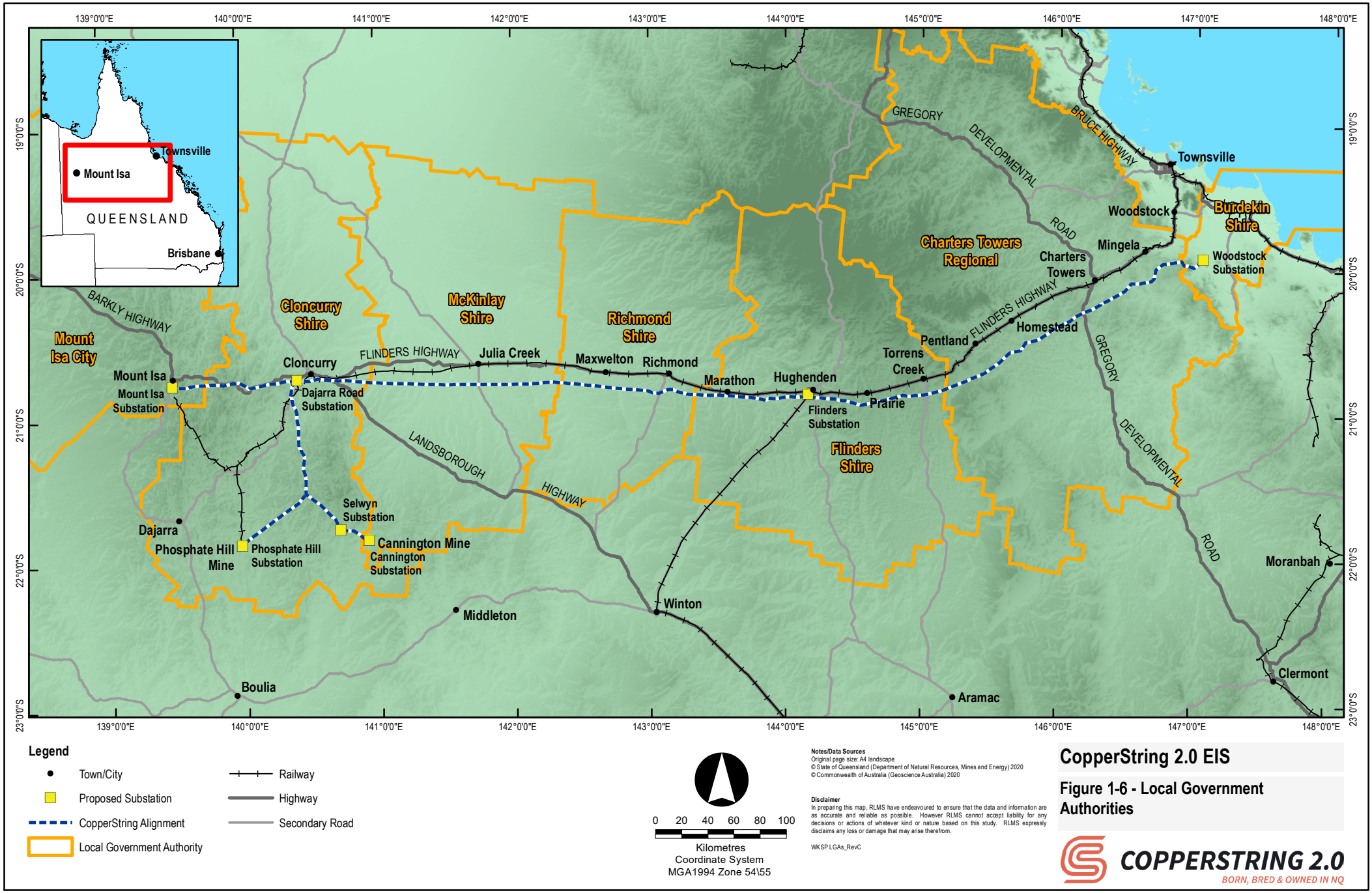
On the basis that the Project is given EIS approval to proceed, CuString will seek an Infrastructure Designation under the provisions of the *Planning Act 2016*. It is anticipated that a request that the Project be considered for infrastructure designation to the Planning Minister during the later stages of the EIS process. This is the most efficient pathway to obtain the necessary land use planning approvals within the seven local government areas (LGAs) as shown in Figure 1-6. New development within these Local Government Areas must consider various elements of the following planning schemes:

- Burdekin Shire Council Planning Scheme 2011 and Draft Burkekin Shire Planning Scheme 2020
- Charters Towers Regional Town Plan 2020
- Shire of Flinders Planning Scheme 2018
- Planning Scheme for the Shire of Richmond 2005 and Draft Richmond Shire Planning Scheme 2020
- McKinlay Shire Planning Scheme 2019
- Cloncurry Shire Planning Scheme 2016
- City of Mount Isa Town Planning Scheme 2020.

Further consideration of each scheme has been undertaken and is provided in Volume 1 Chapter 4 Legislation and approvals and Volume 2 Chapter 5 Land.

An overarching approvals pathway flow diagram showing the relationship and sequence across various project aspects is provided Figure 1-7.

.



Legend

- Town/City
- Proposed Substation
- CopperString Alignment
- Local Government Authority
- Railway
- Highway
- Secondary Road

0 20 40 60 80 100

Kilometres

Coordinate System
MGA1994 Zone 54\55

Notes/Data Sources
Original page size: A4 landscape
© State of Queensland (Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy) 2020
© Commonwealth of Australia (Geoscience Australia) 2020

Disclaimer
In preparing this map, RLMS have endeavoured to ensure that the data and information are as accurate and reliable as possible. However RLMS cannot accept liability for any decisions or actions of whatever kind or nature based on this study. RLMS expressly disclaims any loss or damage that may arise therefrom.

WKSP LGAs_RevC

CopperString 2.0 EIS

Figure 1-6 - Local Government Authorities

COPPERSTRING 2.0
BORN, BRED & OWNED IN NQ

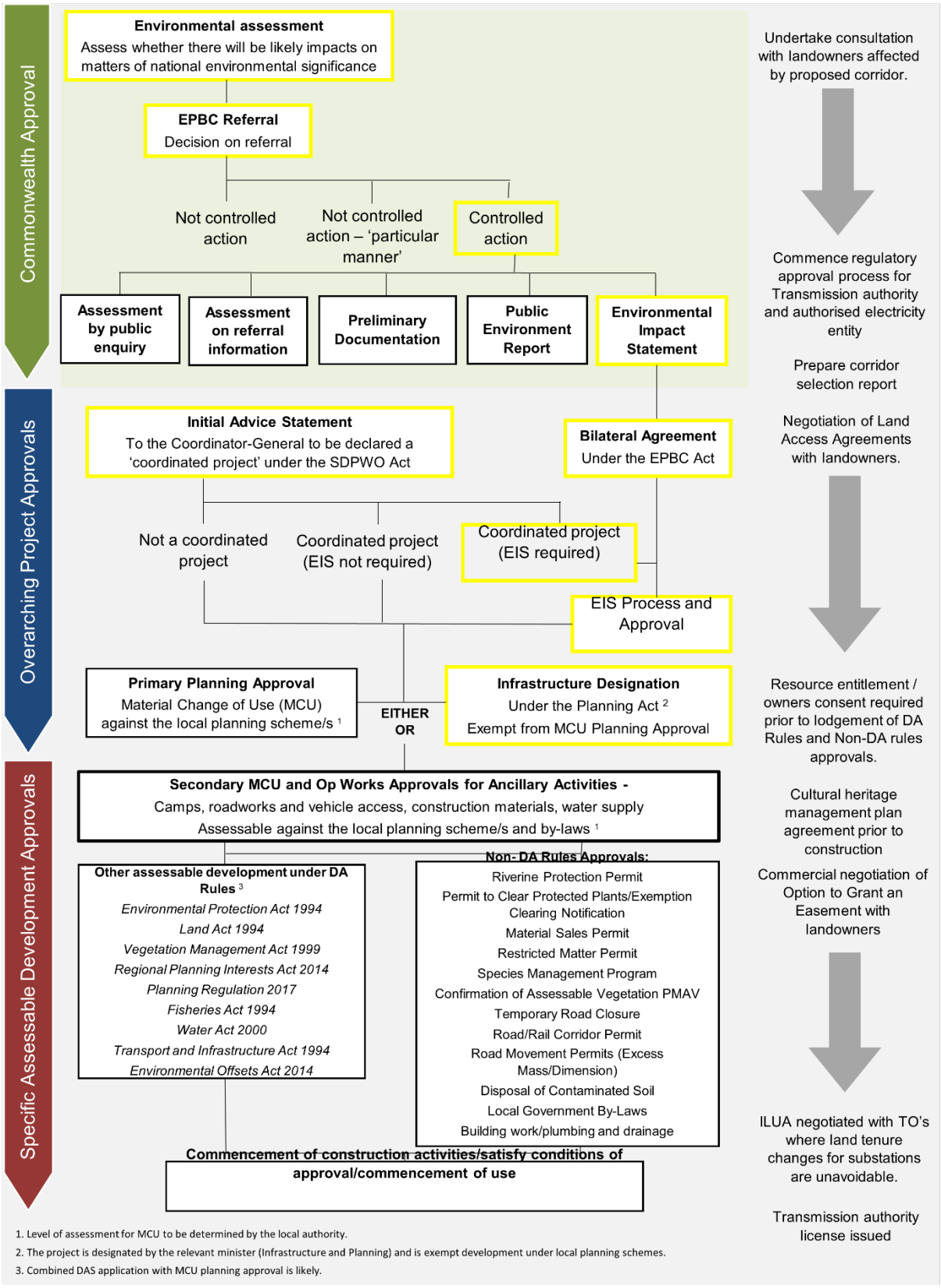


Figure 1-7 Approvals pathway flow diagram

Other key post EIS approvals that are likely to be required for the Project are summarised in Table 1-1. Some of the items while listed in the table separately will be coordinated under the Infrastructure Designation process. A comprehensive list of applicable legislation and potential approvals is included in Table 4-7 in Volume 1 Chapter 4 Legislation and approvals.

Table 1-1 Key Post EIS approvals

Legislation	Project phase	Relevant activity
Ministerial Infrastructure Designation *Designation of premises for development of infrastructure (Electricity operating works) Planning Act 2016. Part 5 / Planning Regulation 2017, Schedule 5, Part 2, Item 6* *Minister's Guidelines and Rules*	*Pre-construction*	*Corridor selection*
Transmission authority *Electricity Act 1994*	*Pre-construction*	*Establishment of transmission line easement*
Transmission corridor easement *Land Title Act 1994*	*Pre-construction*	*Establishment of transmission line easement*
Cultural Heritage Management Plan *Duty of Care* *Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003*	*Pre-construction*	*Establishment of transmission line easement*
Work in a State Road Corridor *Impact Assessment Guidelines, infrastructure agreements- Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*	*Pre-construction*	*Construction transport and logistics; construction activities.* *Utility infrastructure installation in State-Controlled Transport Corridor*
Work in a local road corridor *Impact Assessment Guidelines and Infrastructure agreements- local government policies- Local Government Act 1993*	*Pre-construction*	*Construction transport and logistics; construction activities*
Protected plant clearing permit or Exempt clearing notification *Nature Conservation Act 1992* (NC Act)	Pre-construction	Establishment of transmission line easement Ground clearing for construction
Species management program (SMP) *Nature Conservation Act 1992 (NC Act)* *Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006*	*Pre-construction*	*Establishment of transmission line easement* *Ground clearing for construction*
NC Act	*Pre-construction*	*Work within Ballara Nature Reserve*

Legislation	Project phase	Relevant activity
Operational Work – Vegetation clearing *Vegetation Management Act 1999 (VM Act).*	*Pre-construction*	*Vegetation clearing (if not exempt)*
Material Change of Use - Environmentally Relevant Activities (ERA) - Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EP Act) and Environmental Protection Regulation 2019	*Pre-construction*	*Temporary construction camps, laydown areas*
Operational works development permit assessable under the local government planning scheme *Planning Act 2016* *Planning Schemes* *(Burdekin Shire Council, Charters Towers Regional Council, Flinders Shire Council, Richmond Shire Council, McKinlay Shire Council, Cloncurry Shire Council, Mount Isa City Council)*	*Pre-construction*	*Assessable bulk earthworks associated with transmission line substations and, temporary construction camps, laydown areas and access tracks, works to local roads including access (if required).* Required for bulk earthworks for the construction of temporary construction camps

1.6.5 EIS scope

The scope of this EIS includes the transmission towers and wires, access track and corridor easements, substations and CEV huts.

Proposed locations of construction camps, laydown areas, fly yards and brake and winch sites have been indicatively identified and assessed as part of this EIS; however, the final locations for these are yet to be determined. Similarly, the locations of access tracks have not been confirmed; however, an allowance has been made in the impact assessment for the disturbance footprint of access tracks and all EIS scope items as provided in Tables 2-11, 2-12 and 2-13 Volume 1 Chapter 2 Project description. These areas will be further refined during the detailed design phase of the Project.

1.6.6 EIS structure

The EIS has been structured in three volumes, as follows:

Volume 1 – Mandatory EIS aspects including Chapters 1 to 4.

Volume 2 – Environmental values including Chapters 5 to 22.

Volume 3 – Appendix documents and technical reports including Appendix A to AC.

Volume 1 and Volume 2 are divided into sections that link closely with the ToR structure to ensure that all relevant matters concerning environmental and social values, resources and receptors are addressed.

The content of Volume 1 includes:

- Executive Summary
- Table of contents
- Abbreviations and acronyms

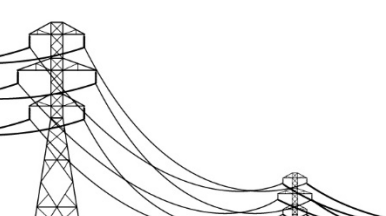
- Chapter 1 – An introduction to the EIS, an assessment of Project need and alternatives, a summary of the environmental assessment process including methodology for the assessment of potential environmental impacts, the corridor selection process and an overview of the community/stakeholder consultation undertaken for the Project
- Chapter 2 – A detailed description of the Project
- Chapter 3 – A detailed description of the site and climate characteristics
- Chapter 4 – An outline of legislation and approvals relevant to the Project

The content of Volume 2 includes:

- Chapter 5 to 16 – A detailed assessment of the various environmental aspects that have the potential to be impacted by the Project. These chapters include existing environmental information, assessment of potential impacts of the Project, proposed mitigation and management measures, and assessment of residual impacts.
- Chapter 17 to 21 – A detailed description of hazards and risks, matters of national environmental significance, environmental management process, cumulative impacts and environmental offsets.
- Chapter 22 to 23 – EIS conclusion and document references.

The content of Volume 3 includes:

- Appendix A and B – EIS procedural documents including a terms of reference with cross reference table and EIS study team.
- Appendix C to E – CuString project documents including a public consultation report, corridor selection report and land acquisition protocol.
- Appendix F to G –Registers including real property descriptions of impacted land parcels, and intersecting road and rail infrastructure crossings
- Appendix H to I – Plans and cross-section drawings of indicative sites for transmission towers, construction camps, substations, CEV huts and other project components
- Appendix J – A register of project commitments made throughout the EIS
- Appendix K to O – Contain the land use and planning supporting reports including land use and tenure technical report, regulatory approvals plan, infrastructure designation and planning cross reference, State Development Assessment Codes (SDAP) codes and visual assessment.
- Appendix P – Additional technical details supporting the assessment of the surrounding natural environment and ecology in Volume 2 Chapter 7 Flora and fauna, Chapter 8 Biosecurity, Chapter 18 Matters of national environmental significance and Chapter 19 Environmental offsets.
- Appendix Q to U –Project environmental management plans which are referenced in Volume 2.
- Appendix V to ACBB – Additional technical details supporting the assessment of project specific built environmental aspects including greenhouse gas assessment, transport impact assessment, aviation impact assessment, social impact assessment, non-indigenous cultural heritage, economics impact assessment and an electro-magnetic field study.



1.6.7 Environmental impact assessment methodology

Environmental impact assessment is the process undertaken to evaluate potential impacts associated with a wide variety of project activities using a standardised approach. The assessment for the Project included input from a wide range of technical disciplines using uniform criteria, to ensure consistency in describing the scale of impacts across the range of studies.

A standardised approach to evaluating significance does not replace the methodologies used by technical disciplines to identify or assess impacts (particularly regarding ecological aspects), nor does it replace methods of impact assessment prescribed by existing regulatory guidelines. It aims to provide clear, more readily comparable conclusions regarding the evaluation and significance of project activities and the associated impacts.

The standardised approach, while applied in most cases, is not suitable for assessing all technical disciplines. In particular the hazard, health and safety risks and social impact assessments, used their own assessment methodology to describe potential impacts and risk ratings. Further information regarding the assessment is these aspects is provided in Volume 2 Chapter 17 Hazards, health and safety and Volume 3 Appendix Z Social impact assessment.

The standardised approach employed for the Project involved:

- Describe the sensitivity (low, medium or high) of natural environmental and built environmental value.
- Describe the magnitude (major, large, moderate or minor) of project activities and associated potential impacts caused by the Project (during construction and operation).
- Consider the duration (short, medium or long-term) of project activities and associated potential impacts caused by the Project (during construction and operation).
- Rate (high, medium, low) the likely unmitigated environmental risk of each potential impact.
- Evaluate the implementation of direct avoidance or mitigation measures to reduce the potential impact.
- Rate (high, medium, low) the mitigated environmental risk of each potential impact.

The natural environmental aspects and built environmental aspects, potentially affected by the Project were defined through desktop based research, field surveys and preliminary consultation with landholders, state agencies, local councils, regional stakeholders and local communities. A summary of the issues raised during consultation and how they were incorporated into the environmental assessment is provided in Volume 3 Appendix C Public consultation report and Volume 3 Appendix Z Social impact assessment.

The magnitude of potential impacts from the Project considered, the scale of the relevant activity, its geographic extent, and reversibility. Duration and likelihood of occurrence were considered with reference to the project description as provided in Volume 1 Chapter 2 Project description.

The significance of the impact (risk rating) was determined by considering the magnitude, duration and the sensitivity of the natural or built environment that it would potentially impact. These are further described in Table 1-2.

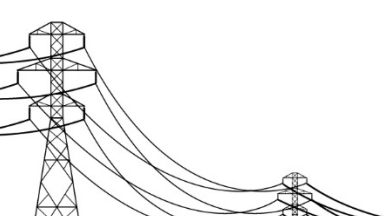


Table 1-2 Environmental significance of impact risk rating descriptions

Risk rating	Description
High	Significant long or medium-term environmental harm within an area. Major scale damage or loss in a low sensitive environment, or large-scale damage or loss in a medium sensitive environment, or moderate scale damage or loss in a highly sensitive environment. Critical issue that may impact on siting or be a considerable time and cost constraint. Requires further consideration during further phases of project progression in relation to siting, design and operation. Issue should be avoided or repositioned to reduce the magnitude to minimise potential environmental impact.
Moderate	Significant short-term environmental harm within an area or unreasonable long or medium-term environmental harm within an area. Large scale damage or loss in a low sensitive environment, or moderate scale damage or loss in a medium sensitive environment, or minor scale damage or loss in a highly sensitive environment. Serious issue that will need consideration during further phases of project progression in relation to siting, design and operation. Issue likely to be able to be managed through specific or standard mitigation control measures or engineered to reduce or minimise potential environmental impact.
Low	No significant environmental harm or unreasonable short-term environmental harm within an area or interference with no lasting detrimental effects. Moderate scale damage or loss in a low sensitive environment, or minor scale damage or loss in a medium sensitive environment, or no damage or loss in a highly sensitive environment. No issues or factors that will need consideration during further phases of project progression in relation to siting, design and operation. Issue likely to be able to be managed through standard mitigation control measures to reduce or minimise potential environmental impact.

In the instances where limited baseline data was available, a precautionary approach was taken by assuming the highest likely value and highest likely magnitude of impact. Any gaps in information and assumptions made in determining the worst impact have been clearly stated in the reporting, and mitigation measures have included recommendations for further studies (if required), reassessment once further information becomes available to influence the design or construction methodology.

The development of mitigation and management aimed to:

- Be appropriate in terms of the effort and expense in relation to the scale and nature of the impact and the long linear nature of the project which encounters a wide variety of baseline conditions.
- Target the protection and/or restoration of the systems/resources or value which may be affected.

- Respond to the impact following a mitigation hierarchy (i.e. avoid > minimise > rehabilitate > manage > offset / compensate).

Once mitigation measures were identified, mitigated risk ratings (residual impacts) were assigned. This was achieved through assessing and describing the effects of mitigation and subsequently, how the application of proposed measures would avoid sensitive areas, reduce the magnitude or duration of the impact risk rating.

All the project impacts described in the Volume 2 Chapters have identified no high mitigated risk ratings. Project mitigation measures have been collated in Volume 3 Appendix Q Framework environmental management plan.

Several commitments have been made throughout the EIS, which are included in Volume 3 Appendix J Project commitments register.

1.6.8 Ecologically sustainable development

An important consideration throughout development of the Project and preparation of this EIS has been consideration of ecologically sustainable development. This EIS considers the beneficial and adverse cumulative impacts across the lifetime of the Project and provides mitigation and management measures that seek a balance between environmental integrity, social development and economic development.

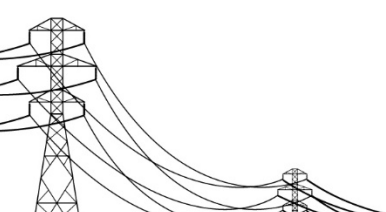
A core objective of ecologically sustainable development is following a path of economic development in a way that enhances the individual and community well-being of current generations, while safeguarding the welfare of future generations. The Project represents a long-term investment in Queensland and Australia's electricity infrastructure with significant economic and social benefits for current and future generations including:

- Substantial employment opportunities during both construction (750 people) and operation (30 people).
- Increased jobs for local and state suppliers, services and contractors throughout both construction and operation.
- Increased ability for mineral exploration and associated mining (due to access to competitively priced electricity, self-generated power supply no longer necessary) thereby aiding in the expansion of the Queensland economy.
- Enable further development of sustainable energy resources for energy production (North Queensland Clean Energy Hub having access to NEM).

1.7 Community stakeholder consultation

CuString undertook extensive public and community consultation and engagement with stakeholders as part of the CopperString 1.0 Project prior to it suspension in 2012. Due to this, and the active involvement by the proponent within the energy sector and electricity supply industry within the region and more generally across Australia, there is already an underlying awareness of the Project with stakeholders and the general community. Consultation and stakeholder engagement activities for the Project have therefore focused on:

- Engaging potentially impacted stakeholders, landowners and businesses in the local community.
- Engaging with overlying tenure holders with regard to potential issues associated with mining and exploration.
- Engaging stakeholders to inform them of the corridor selection and Project impacts.



- Working with stakeholders to understand how the Project impacts them and if there are any opportunities or issues that could impact corridor selection and the broader project.

As the Project design progresses there will be ongoing opportunities consultation and feedback from stakeholders and the community.

1.7.1 Consultation methodology

The community stakeholder consultation process was designed to inform stakeholders and the broader community of the Project, seek stakeholder and community engagement and to give multiple opportunities for inclusion of stakeholder and community feedback in the EIS process. To achieve these objectives, a stakeholder and community engagement plan was developed, outlining consultation activities to occur over 5 project stages:

- Stage 1 – Project development including release of ToR (April 2019-September 2019)
- Stage 2 – EIS development (April 2019-July 2020)
- Stage 3 – Release of draft EIS
- Stage 4 – EIS finalisation
- Stage 5 – Project implementation.

The consultation approach to be undertaken within each stage is outlined in Table 1-3.

Table 1-3 Consultation activities and timing

Stage 1 Project development	Stage 2 EIS development	Stage 3 EIS Feedback	Stage 4 Evaluation and finalisation of EIS	Stage 5 Project implementation
Initial Advice Statement Terms of Reference Consult Government agencies EPBC Referral Section 24KA Advice	Landholder information and agreement Indigenous landholder agreements / Cultural Heritage Management Plans Northern Australia Infrastructure (NAIF) requirements Social Impact Assessment Corridor Selection Local Government Consultation Community and Business Engagement	Public consultation sessions in potentially affected communities Coordinate and manage public submissions Analyse public submissions and draft responses Indigenous landholder agreements / Cultural Heritage Management Plans Social Impact Assessment Corridor Selection Local Government Consultation	Incorporate public feedback into final EIS State and Federal Government Planning and Approvals Detailed project design Corridor Selection Local Government Social Impacts Local Government Planning and Approvals Indigenous landholder agreements / Cultural Heritage Management Plans	Tender process Local Business Participation Plan Local and Indigenous Employment Plan Construction Management Landholder consultation Emergency Management and Response Construction planning and approvals

Stage 1 Project development	Stage 2 EIS development	Stage 3 EIS Feedback	Stage 4 Evaluation and finalisation of EIS	Stage 5 Project implementation
		Community and Business Engagement Northern Australia Infrastructure (NAIF) requirements	Community and Business Engagement	

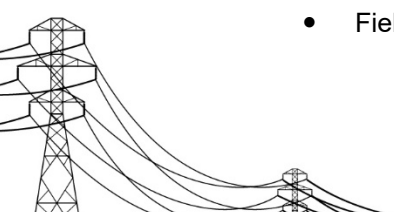
Additionally, the stakeholder groups considered relevant to the Project include:

- Commonwealth Government elected representative and Commonwealth Government departments (including representatives from adjacent commonwealth electorates).
- Commonwealth ministers in relevant portfolios, including the Prime Minister.
- State Government elected representatives and State Government departments.
- State Government ministers in relevant portfolios.
- Local Government representatives.
- Landowners.
- Traditional landowners and indigenous groups.
- Regional communities and community groups.
- Government owned corporations relevant to the Project.
- Other key stakeholder groups including industry groups, businesses, service providers and potential customers.

In order to manage consultations with the above stakeholders, a stakeholder database has been established in which all contact and communications are recorded to ensure a cohesive understanding of stakeholder feedback can be considered in future phases of the Project. Stakeholder engagement has been ongoing and mostly face-to-face to facilitate two-way feedback. In particular, consultation activities have been conducted in conjunction with the Corridor Selection Report, technical EIS studies and field investigations including the assessment of aviation impacts, traditional owner engagement activities and as required for the Social impact assessment.

The feedback has been used to inform the Project concept design and the EIS development including, but not limited to:

- Social impact assessment
- Corridor selection
- Hazards, health and safety
- Biosecurity
- Waste management
- Transport
- Rehabilitation
- Field development.



In addition to the above specific consultations, the Project will involve a series of public information sessions and disseminate materials throughout the Project area with the aim of nurturing community relations through the lifespan of the Project.

1.7.2 Commonwealth, state and local government

A variety of briefings and activities have been held with the Commonwealth, State and Local Governments and their agencies as part of the process of developing the ToR and development of the EIS. Details of Commonwealth government consultation are provided below in Table 1-4.

Table 1-4 Commonwealth government consultations

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
23 July 2019	Project briefing	Meeting	Department of Industry, Science Energy and Resources
3 March 2020	Project briefing	Meeting	The Honourable Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction
5 May 2020	Project briefing	Meeting	• Keith Pitt – Federal Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia and Member for Hinkler. • Michelle Landry – Assistant Minister and Member for Capricornia
26 May 2020	Project briefing	Meeting	Department of Energy and Emissions Reduction
27 May 2020	Project briefing	Correspondence	Nev Power, Charman, National COVID Coordination Committee c/o Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet
17 June 2020	Project briefing	Correspondence	• The Honourable Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister • The Honourable Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development • The Honourable Josh Frydenberg MP, Treasurer • The Honourable Angus Taylor MP, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction • The Honourable Keith Pitt MP, Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia
28 October 2020	Update and presentation of	Meeting	Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment

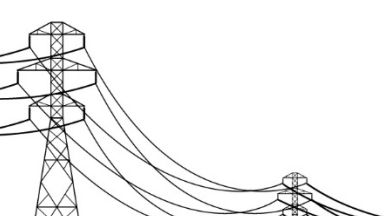
Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
	EIS amendment		

The Queensland State government has been a key stakeholder in the development of the Project. Details of State government consultation are provided below in Table 1-5.

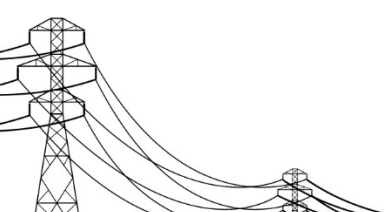
Table 1-5 State government consultations

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
26 April 2019	Declaration of Coordinated Project	Letter	Office of Coordinator General
23 July 2019 1 William St, Brisbane	Briefing to State Agencies on DTOR	Meeting	• Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning – Office of the Coordinator General • Department of Transport and Main Roads • Department of Environment and Science • Department of Agriculture and Fisheries • Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning • Queensland Treasury • Department of Health • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning

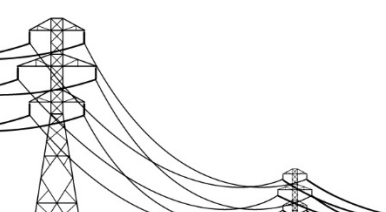
Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
1 August 2019	Draft terms of reference	Feedback	• Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning • Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships • Department of Main Roads and Transport • Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Office of Industrial Relations • Department of Environment and Science Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
16 October 2019 Townsville	Opportunities for local business engagement in Project	Meeting	• Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
29 January 2020	Regulatory framework for CopperString	Workshop	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of State development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning • Department of the Premier and Cabinet • Energy Queensland • Powerlink • KPMG
6 February 2020	Project milestones	Meeting	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning • Department of the Premier and Cabinet



Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
5 March 2020	Project briefing	Correspondence	• The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier and Minister for Trade • The Honourable Cameron Dick MP, Treasurer and Minister for Investment • The Honourable Jackie Trad MP, former Deputy Premier and Treasurer • The Honourable Anthony Lynham, MP former Minster for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • The Honourable Kate Jones MP, former Minister for Tourism and Innovation
17 March 2020	Project update	Departmental Briefing	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of Premier and Cabinet • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
31 March 2020	Project update	Meeting	• Robbie Katter – State Member for Traegar • Scott Stewart – State Member for Townsville
24 April 2020	Project update	Departmental briefing	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of Premier and Cabinet • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning



Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
27 April 2020	Project briefing	Correspondence	• The Honourable Anastacia Palaszczuk MP, Premier and Minister for Trade • The Honourable Cameron Dick MP, Treasurer and Minister for Investment • The Honourable Jackie Trad MP, former Deputy Premier and Treasurer • The Honourable Anthony Lynham, MP former Minster for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • The Honourable Kate Jones MP, former Minister for Tourism and Innovation
3 May 2020	Project update	Ministerial briefing	• Anthony Lynham and Advisors Minister for Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
26 May 2020	Project development	Meeting	• Townsville Port Authority
18 June 2020	COVID19 Economic Recovery	Online consultation	• Queensland Reconstruction Authority
26 June 2020		Workshop	• Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
26 June/ recurring weekly every Friday (ongoing)	Project update	Weekly meetings	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury
4 July 2020	Project update	Meeting	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of Premier and Cabinet • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning

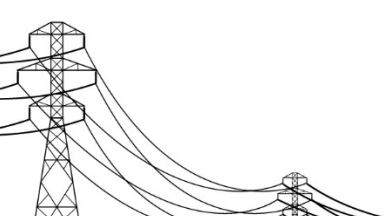


Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
9 July/ recurring weekly every Friday up to late September 2020	CopperString Implementa-tion Agreement	Working group	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of Premier and Cabinet • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
29 September 2020	Project update: Engineering procurement and construction (request for proposal)	Meeting	• Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy • Queensland Treasury • Department of Premier and Cabinet • Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
15 October 2020	Update and presentation of EIS amendments	Meeting	• Office of Coordinator-General
29 October 2020	Update and presentation of EIS amendments	Meeting	• Department of Environment and Science
3 November 2020	Update and presentation of EIS amendments	Meeting	• Department of Transport and Main Roads

Consultation with all Local government stakeholders are provided below in Table 1-6.

Table 1-6 Local government consultations

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
10 March 2019	Briefing	Meeting	Townsville City Council
24 July 2019	Briefing to Local Government Agencies on DTOR	Meeting	• Mount Isa City Council • Flinders Shire Council • Charters Towers Regional Council • Burdekin Shire Council • McKinlay Shire Council • Townsville City Council • Richmond City Council • Cloncurry Shire Council
1 August 2019	Draft terms of reference	Feedback	• Mount Isa City Council • Flinders Shire Council • Charters Towers Regional Council • Burdekin Shire Council • McKinlay Shire Council • Townsville City Council • Richmond City Council • Cloncurry Shire Council
20 January 2020	Project update	Meeting	Burdekin Shire Council
21 January 2020	Project update	Meeting	Flinders Shire Council
21 January 2020	Project update	Meeting	Charters Towers Regional Council
22 January 2020	Project update	Meeting	Richmond City Council
14 February 2020	Project update	Meeting	Cloncurry Shire Council
9-10 July 2020	Project update	Meeting	North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils – Carpentaria, Flinders, Mount Isa, Richmond, Cloncurry, McKinlay, Doomadgee, Middleton
7 August 2020	Project update	Meeting	Mount Isa City Council



Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
September 2020 ongoing	Infrastructure location discussions including camps and laydown areas	Meeting/email/ phone	• Mount Isa City Council • Flinders Shire Council • Charters Towers Regional Council • Burdekin Shire Council • McKinlay Shire Council • Richmond City Council • Cloncurry Shire Council

1.7.3 Landowners

Individual consultation occurred with each impacted landholder along the proposed corridor selection. Initial meetings were held with the intent of informing the landholder of the Project and seeking feedback from the landholder on their support and any opportunities or constraints for the Project. Follow-up activities then aimed to respond to landholder requests or provide further information as the Project progressed. Details of landholder consultations are provided below in Table 1-7.

Table 1-7 Landowner consultations

Date	Purpose	Format	Details of contact
18 April 2019	Project intent	Letter	Outline of project Statement that Project has an impact on the property
June – August 2019	Project Detail and potential impacts	Face-to-Face Phone Email	Briefing undertaken by Land agents Briefing pack - provides overview of Project, outline potential impacts, maps of property Seek feedback from property owner on constraints and opportunities and agreement on project
June 2019 onwards	Refine Corridor and Develop Land Agreements	Face-to-Face Phone Email	Ongoing consultation and communication with landholders on proposed transmission corridor and project changes as necessary Obtain landholder consent to entry for scientific and other studies
1 October 2019	Project update	Letter	Project update Easement acquisition Easement guide
February – March 2020	Project update	Phone	Discussions with respect to corridor changes and advising a hold on face to face meetings due to COVID – 19 travel restrictions.

Date	Purpose	Format	Details of contact
July 2020	Project update	Phone	Recommencing discussions and preparing for face to face meetings in August 2020
July 2020	Project Update	Letter	Newsletter to landholders advising of the recent progress on the Project.
2 July 2020 – ongoing	Project intent and project impacts to overlaying tenure holders	Letter Email Phone	Overview of impacts of the Project and offering opportunity to communicate with Project on impacts
29 July 2020	Project update to landowners	Letter	Project update including further meetings with Land Agents to discuss Land Option Agreements
22 September 2020	Land Option Agreements to Landowners	Face-to-face Phone Email	Delivery of Land Option Agreements with impacted landholders Ongoing consultation with landholders on project and impacts

1.7.4 Indigenous groups and traditional landowners consultation

In addition to the above, briefing and activities have been held with Indigenous groups and traditional land owners as part of the process of developing the EIS. Details of consultation with these groups are provided below in Table 1-8.

Table 1-8 Indigenous groups and traditional owners

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
15 August 2019	Project Intent and Information to Traditional Owner Groups	Letter	• Yulluna People • Birriah People • Mitakoodi People #5 • Kalkadoon People #5 • Wanamara People • Yirendali People
22 January 2020	Project briefing	Meeting	NAIF
29 July 2020 onwards	Project introduction	Meetings	• Yulluna People • Birriah People • Mitakoodi People #5 • Kalkadoon People #5 • Wanamara People • Yirendali People

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
18 August 2020 onwards	Formal meeting Traditional Owner Group Directors to begin Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP) process	Meetings	• Yulluna People • Birriah People • Mitakoodi People #5 • Kalkadoon People #5 • Wanamara People • Yirendali People
10 September 2020 onwards	Development of CHMPs	Ongoing phone call and emails	• Yulluna People • Birriah People • Mitakoodi People #5 • Kalkadoon People #5 • Wanamara People • Yirendali People

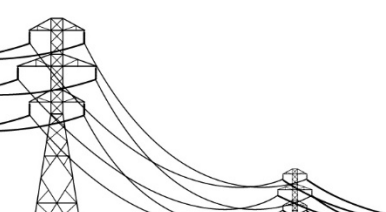
1.7.5 Other consultation

A variety of other briefings and activities have been held with regional and local communities as part of the process of developing the EIS. Details of regarding these consultations are provided below in Table 1-9.

Table 1-9 Other consultation

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
10 April 2019	Project intent	Meeting	Townsville Enterprise Limited (TEL)
3 May 2019	Project Intent	Meeting	North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group
1 August 2019	Draft terms of reference	Formal feedback on draft terms of reference	Mount Isa to Townsville Economic Development Zone (MITEZ) Mount Isa Mines Queensland Ambulance Service Chinova Resources Cloncurry Mines Multicom North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group Commerce North West Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service
22 August 2019	Project intent	Meeting	North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group
27 August 2019	Project update	Meeting	TEL

Date	Purpose	Method	Agencies in attendance
16 October 2019	Project development	Meeting	Energy Queensland
30 October 2019	Project update	Meeting	MITEZ
5 December 2019	Project update	Meeting	North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group
15 January 2020	Project update	Meeting	Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO)
5 February 2020	Project update	Meeting	Ergon Energy corporation Limited (EECL)
9 February 2020	Project update	Meeting	TEL
14 February 2020	Project update	Meeting	MITEZ
26 May 2020	Project update	Meeting	North Queensland Hydrogen Industry Working Group
26 May 2020	Project update	Meeting	Port of Townsville Limited
27 May 2020	Project update	Meeting	North West Minerals Province Major Energy Users
29 May 2020	Project update	Meeting	North Queensland Regional Development Australia (NQRDA)
9 June 2020	Project update	Meeting	Townsville Enterprise Limited
2 July 2020	Project intent and Project impacts	Letter	Mining Tenement Holders
19 August 2020	CopperString 2.0: Re-powering Townsville and North West Queensland Economy	Webinar	Townsville Enterprise Limited hosted public Webinar with approximately 250 registrations. Webinar Panel Members: • Hon. Ian Macfarlane, CEO Queensland Resources Council • Joseph O'Brien, CopperString 2.0 • Ross Thompson, Soren Consulting - Resource Economics • Jon Loraine, Neuchatel Consulting, Mining & Minerals Processing • Ranee Crosby, CEO Port of Townsville Limited
22 September 2020	Project update	Meeting	CleanCo Queensland



1.7.6 Communication tools

Communication tools have been developed to ensure consistency of message across the Stakeholder and community consultation process. These documents were tailored to their audience and were used to initiate discussions with interested parties and to initiate feedback for inclusion in the EIS. Communication tools used as part of Project's consultation process include:

- CopperString 2.0 Draft ToR briefing
- CopperString 2.0 website
- Landholder briefing packs
- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Details of the above tools can be found in Volume 3 Appendix C Public consultation report.