



**COPPERSTRING 2.0**

**CopperString 2.0**

# **Public consultation report**

**Volume 3 Appendix C**



# CopperString 2.0

# Public Consultation

*The CopperString Project is being developed by CuString Pty Ltd ACN 137 531 054 (CuString).*

## Executive Summary

The Public Consultation Process was designed and developed as part the environmental impact statement (EIS) for the CopperString 2.0 Project (the Project). The Project involves the construction and operation of an overhead extra high voltage electricity transmission line for approximately 1,060 kilometres from Mount Isa to Woodstock. The project would connect the North West Queensland region to the state electricity grid, allowing participation in the National Electricity Market, and provide opportunities for new renewable energy and large agricultural products and new industrial facilities.

This Public Consultation document has been developed in accordance with the requirements of the Co-ordinator Generals finalised Terms of Reference. The purpose of this document is *“to describe the stakeholder engagement activities that have occurred and how the responses from the community and agencies have been incorporated into the design and outcomes of the project”* (CopperString 2.0 Terms of Reference).

The Public Consultation that has occurred during the EIS development has impacted aspects of the Project 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

The overall feedback from the regional community has been support. Whilst not all feedback was positive due to impacts on individuals, the general sentiment is that the Project will provide the community a reliable power supply and further opportunities in the local area due to the connection to the North Western Minerals Province and the Renewables Energy Hub. The community would like to see the Project support the local area through using local businesses and employment of local individuals.

The broader group of stakeholders that were consulted as part of the Public Consultation process could ascertain the benefits of the Project on a broader scale including how it provided the North West Minerals Province a reliable power source, connection to the Renewables Energy Hub and advancing the local communities through construction and employment opportunities. All stakeholders consulted provided feedback in relation to the scope of their interests.

The public consultation process will be ongoing and will respond to the needs of the community and stakeholders as the Project progresses through to detailed design and construction.

## Table of Contents

Executive Summary .....	2
Abbreviations .....	4
<b>1. Introduction .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>1.1. Project Overview</b>	5
<b>1.2. Report Purpose</b>	6
<b>1.3. Background</b>	6
<b>2. Public Consultation Process .....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>2.1. Consultation Process Objectives</b>	7
<b>2.2. Consultation Approach and Stages</b>	7
<b>2.3. Project Stakeholders</b>	8
<b>2.4. Stakeholder Management</b>	11
<b>3. Stakeholder and Community Consultation Activities .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>3.1. Overview</b>	12
<b>3.2. Consultation Activities</b>	12
<b>3.2.1. Draft Terms of Reference Public Submissions</b>	12
<b>3.2.2. Commonwealth Government</b>	12
<b>3.2.3. Queensland State Government</b>	13
<b>3.2.4. Local Government</b>	15
<b>3.2.5. Indigenous Groups and Traditional Landowners Consultation</b>	16
<b>3.2.6. Landowner and Overlaying Tenure Consultation</b>	17
<b>3.2.7. Other Key Stakeholders</b>	18
<b>3.2.8. Social Impact Assessment</b>	18
<b>3.3. Communication Tools</b>	19
<b>3.3.1. CopperString 2.0 Briefings</b>	19
<b>3.3.2. CopperString 2.0 Website</b>	19
<b>3.3.3. Landholder and Overlaying Tenure Holder Briefing Packs</b>	19
<b>4. Consultation Feedback .....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>4.1. Landholder and Overlaying Tenure Consultation</b>	20
<b>4.2. Other Stakeholder Consultation</b>	21
<b>4.3. Major Themes</b>	21
<b>4.3.1. Land Management Impacts of Corridor Selection</b>	22
<b>4.3.2. Construction Impacts</b>	22
<b>4.3.3. Social Impacts on the Community</b>	23
<b>4.3.4. Biosecurity</b>	23
<b>4.3.5. Cultural Heritage</b>	23
<b>4.3.6. Roads and Transport</b>	24
<b>4.3.7. Project Support</b>	24
<b>4.3.8. Economic Impacts</b>	24
<b>4.3.9. Climate Change</b>	24
<b>5. Stakeholder and Community Consultation Outcomes .....</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>6. Ongoing Public Consultation .....</b>	<b>36</b>

# Abbreviations

AC – alternating current

DTOR – Draft Terms of Reference

EIS – Environmental Impact Statement

MSES – Matters of State Environmental Significance

MNES – Matters of National Environmental Significance

NAIF – Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund

NEM – National Electricity Market

NER – National electricity rules

NWMP – North-West Minerals Province

NWPS - North West Power System

NWQ - north-west Queensland

TOR – Terms of Reference

SDPWO – State Development and Public Works Act

SIA – Social Impact Assessment

## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. *Project Overview*

The CopperString 2.0 project involves the construction and operation of approximately 1,060 km of extra high voltage overhead electricity transmission line. The line will extend from Mount Isa to a connection point at Woodstock, south of Townsville

At present, the north-west Queensland (NWQ) region's electricity is provided through a stand-alone system that is not part of the National Electricity Market (NEM). The Project will facilitate the entry of this economically important region into the NEM and will provide opportunities for new industrial facilities, and large agricultural and renewable energy projects.

The Project Terms of Reference (TOR) provides for connection options for power users and generators. One of these options was for an additional line connecting the proposed Kennedy Wind Farm, located 80 km north of Hughenden. The Project execution plan does not include these options. Implementation of any options will be a variation or an independent future project.

The CopperString 2.0 transmission network is divided into the following eight sections:

1. Woodstock Substation - The Woodstock Substation will connect the CopperString transmission network to the existing 275 kV Powerlink transmission network and will transform voltage between 275 kV and 330 kV.
2. Renewable Energy Hub - The first 342 km of the Project from the Woodstock Substation, consisting of a dual circuit 330 kV transmission line and the Flinders Substation (south-west of Hughenden) to which it connects, forms the Renewable Energy Hub.
3. CopperString Core - Moving further westward, the next 395 km of the Project, consisting of a dual circuit 330 kV transmission line and the Dajarra Road Substation to which it connects, forms the CopperString Core. The CopperString Core connects the eastern-most bulk supply substation of the NWPS 220 kV network, at Cloncurry, to the Flinders Substation. The Dajarra Road Substation will transform the voltage between 330 kV and 220 kV (the NWPS transmission voltage) for connections to the Ergon Energy Chumvale Substation, Dugald River Mine, Ernest Henry Mine, and the Southern Connection.
4. Mount Isa Augmentation - The Mount Isa Augmentation will upgrade and supplement the transfer capacity between the Chumvale Substation and the Mica Creek Complex at Mount Isa. The Mount Isa Augmentation will consist of a new substation south of Mount Isa, near the Mica Creek complex, with a dual circuit 220 kV transmission line connection the Dajarra Road Substation.
5. Southern Connection - The Southern Connection will consist of the Selwyn Substation and a dual circuit 220 kV transmission line connection to the Dajarra Road Substation. The Southern Connection 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. The Selwyn Substation will include distribution equipment to connect the Mount Dore Mine.

6. Cannington Connection - The Cannington Connection will consist of the Cannington Substation and a single circuit 220 kV transmission line connection from the Selwyn Substation. The Cannington Substation will include distribution equipment to connect the Cannington Mine.
7. Phosphate Hill Connection - The Phosphate Hill Connection will consist of the Phosphate Hill Substation and a single circuit 220 kV transmission line connection from a hard tee-off on the Southern Connection, 90 km south of the Dajarra Road Substation. The Cannington Substation will include distribution equipment to connect the Phosphate Hill Mine.
8. Kennedy Connection (option) - The Kennedy Connection option will be a dual circuit 330 kV transmission line connection to the proposed Kennedy Wind Farm (Phase 2 of the Kennedy Energy Park), approximately 80 km north of Hughenden, to the Flinders Substation. As stated above, the proposed Kennedy Connection has not been assessed as part of this EIS.

The project will utilise conventional alternating current and will comply with all relevant aspects of the National Electricity Rules (NER), including those required for system security, positively impacting the quality and reliability of supply.

The Project includes the development of the transmission line, substations, laydown areas, work camps, Controlled Environmental Vault (CEV) huts, access tracks and any other construction sites required for the Project.

## **1.2. Report Purpose**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the Terms of Reference (TOR) for CopperString 2.0. It outlines the public consultation process that was undertaken as part of the CopperString 2.0 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). It details the consultation activities that were undertaken, highlights the key findings of the stakeholder and community engagement process and how the responses from the stakeholders and community have informed the design and outcomes of the Project in relation to the EIS.

## **1.3. Background**

The Project was initially proposed in 2010 and was designated as a significant project under the State Development and Public Works Act 1971 (SDPWO Act). The CopperString 1.0 Project was required to submit an EIS and had collected the baseline data and assessment of impacts when the project was suspended. CopperString 1.0 undertook a significant amount of work around public and community consultation and of engagement stakeholders. Due to this, there is already an underlying awareness of the Project with stakeholders and the general community. Consultation and stakeholder engagement activities for CopperString 2.0 have therefore focused on:

- Engaging potentially impacted stakeholders, landowners and businesses in the local community
- 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

The Project was temporarily put on hold from February 2020 to May 2020 and consequently, there is a gap in consultation activities during this time. As the Project design progresses there will be ongoing opportunities for consultation and feedback from stakeholders and the community.

## 2. Public Consultation Process

### 2.1. Consultation Process Objectives

The consultation process has informed stakeholders and the community of the CopperString 2.0 project, sought stakeholder and community engagement, and included stakeholder and community feedback in the EIS process.

The consultation process was designed to:

- Keep stakeholders informed and up to date about the Project and promote two-way communication channels that encourage input and feedback to inform the EIS process
- To engender acceptance and ultimately support for the Project among stakeholders by providing information to manage and anticipate issues
- Design and construct the Project with stakeholders in mind, particularly landowners along the project corridor and ensure potential stakeholder issues are identified early and appropriate mitigation strategies are implemented to address any issues arising

To support the process, the following engagement principles applied:

- A 'no surprises' approach was adopted
- Individual and community values are respected
- Project information and contact with the project was readily available
- People are treated fairly
- Communication is personal and targeted

### 2.2. Consultation Approach and Stages

The engagement process has been ongoing and transparent since the inception of the Project. The consultation builds on the work completed up to 2010 when the Project was initially proposed and an EIS was developed. Therefore, an underlying understanding of the project and its impacts and benefits already exists within the community. From March 2019 to the present the Project has engaged with elected representatives, government departments, private landholders and traditional owners as well infrastructure entities, local business representatives and businesses to develop relationships and garner feedback so they can provide input into the process of the Project development. Further to this, consultation is ongoing and has been aligned to the EIS process and the proposed project implementation:

- Stage 1 – Project development including release of TOR
- Stage 2 – EIS development
- Stage 3 – Release of draft EIS
- Stage 4 – EIS finalisation
- Stage 5 – Project Implementation

The consultation approach is outlined in Table 1 and shows the proposed activities and timing across the length of the project. This report focusses on the consultation activities that have been completed to inform the development of the EIS. Further consultation activities will be undertaken as the project progresses through its stages of development (refer to table 1).



To align with the broader EIS process activities have been conducted in conjunction with:

- Corridor Selection
- Technical studies
- Traditional owner engagement activities
- Social Impact Assessment

**Table 1: Consultation Activities and Timing**

Consultation Activities				
April 2019 – Sept 2019 Stage 1	April 2019 – Oct 2020 Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
Project Development	EIS Development	EIS Feedback	Evaluation and Finalisation of EIS	Project Implementation
Initial Advice Statement	Landholder information and agreement	Coordinate and manage public submissions	Incorporate public feedback into final EIS	Tender process
Terms of Reference	Indigenous landholder agreements / Cultural Heritage Management Plans	Analyse public submissions and draft responses	State and Federal Government Planning and Approvals	Local Business Participation Plan
Consult Government agencies		Indigenous landholder agreements / Cultural Heritage Management Plans	Detailed project design	Local and Indigenous Employment Plan
EPBC Referral	Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund (NAIF)	Social Impact Assessment	Corridor Selection	Construction Management
Section 24KA Advice	Social Impact Assessment	Corridor Selection	Local Government Social Impacts	Landholder consultation
	Corridor Selection	Local Government Consultation	Local Government Planning and Approvals	Emergency Management and Response
	Local Government Consultation	Community and Business Engagement	Indigenous landholder agreements / Cultural Heritage Management Plans	Construction planning and approvals
	Community and Business Engagement	NAIF	Community and Business Engagement	

### 2.3. Project Stakeholders

In line with the TOR for CopperString 2.0 the relevant stakeholder groups have been identified and includes both government, community and business stakeholders:

- Commonwealth Government elected representative and Commonwealth Government departments
- State Government elected representatives and State Government departments
- Local Government representatives
- Landowners
- Traditional landowners and indigenous Groups
- Other key stakeholder groups including industry groups, businesses, service providers and potential customers.

Table 2 outlines the key stakeholders which have been identified and consulted as part of the EIS process.

**Table 2: Stakeholder Groups**

Stakeholder Category	Representative
<b>Commonwealth Government</b>	
<b>Elected Representatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scott Morrison - Prime Minister</li> <li>• Keith Pitt – Federal Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia and Member for Hinkler</li> <li>• Michelle Landry – Assistant Minister and Member for Capricornia</li> <li>• Bob Katter – Federal Member for Kennedy</li> <li>• Phillip Thompson – Federal Member for Herbert</li> <li>• George Christensen – Federal Member for Dawson</li> <li>• Susan MacDonald – Queensland Senator</li> </ul>
<b>Commonwealth Departments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment</li> <li>• Department of Energy and Emissions Reduction</li> </ul>
<b>Queensland Government</b>	
<b>Departmental Ministers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anthony Lynham – Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>• Cameron Dick - Queensland Treasurer and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning</li> </ul>
<b>State Elected Representatives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anastacia Palaszczuk – Queensland Premier</li> <li>• Robbie Katter – State Member for Traegar</li> <li>• Scott Stewart – State Member for Townsville</li> </ul>
<b>State Government Departments</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> <li>• Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</li> <li>• Department of Transport and Main Roads</li> <li>• Department of Natural Resources Mines and Energy</li> <li>• Office of Industrial Relations</li> <li>• Queensland Treasury</li> <li>• Queensland Park and Wildlife Service and Partnerships</li> <li>• Department of Environment and Science</li> <li>• Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships</li> <li>• Department of Agriculture and Fisheries</li> <li>• Office of Industrial Relations</li> <li>• State Development Office - Coordinator General</li> <li>• Department of Health</li> <li>• Department of Fire and Emergency Services</li> </ul>
<b>Government Owned Corporations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Queensland</li> <li>• Queensland Rail</li> <li>• Townsville Port Authority</li> </ul>
<b>Local Government</b>	
Burdekin Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor: Lyn McLaughlin</li> <li>• Council Officers</li> </ul>
Charters Towers Regional Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor: Liz Schmidt</li> <li>• Council Officers</li> </ul>
Flinders Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor: Jane McNamara</li> <li>• CEO: Daryl Buckingham</li> <li>• Council Officers</li> </ul>
McKinlay Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mayor: Belinda Murphy</li> <li>• Council Officers</li> </ul>

Stakeholder Category	Representative
Richmond Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mayor: John Warton</li> <li>Council Officers</li> </ul>
Cloncurry Shire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mayor: Greg Campbell</li> <li>Council Officers</li> </ul>
Mount Isa City Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mayor: Danielle Slade</li> <li>CEO: Sharon Ibardolaza</li> </ul>
Carpentaria Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mayor: Jack Bawden</li> <li>CEO Mark Crawley</li> </ul>
Domadgee Aboriginal Shire Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mayor: Jason Ned</li> </ul>
<b>Indigenous Groups and Traditional Owners</b>	
Traditional Owner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bindal People</li> <li>Birriah People</li> <li>Jangga People</li> <li>Yirendali People</li> <li>Wanamara People</li> <li>Julia Creek Gap Corridor</li> <li>Mitakoodi People</li> <li>Kalkadoon People</li> <li>Yalluna People</li> </ul>
Indigenous Group	NAIF - Northern Australia Infrastructure Fund
<b>Landowners and Overlaying Tenure Holders</b>	
Directly Affected Landholders	*See note
Mining and Overlaying Tenure Holders	Holders of exploration permits and existing tenure holders
<b>Regional and Local Communities</b>	
Local Businesses	Local Accommodation owners
<b>Other Key Stakeholders</b>	
Private Infrastructure Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Powerlink</li> </ul>
Business and Industry Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MITEZ</li> <li>Commerce North West</li> <li>North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group</li> <li>North Queensland Hydrogen Industry Working Group</li> <li>Townsville Enterprise Group</li> </ul>
Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WIN</li> <li>TVI</li> </ul>
Mining Groups and Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Glencore</li> <li>Multicom</li> <li>New Century Resources</li> <li>Chinova Resources – Cloncurry Mines</li> <li>Southern Queensland Fertilisers</li> <li>Mt Isa Mines</li> </ul>
Renewable Energy Providers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kennedy Wind Farm</li> </ul>
Emergency and Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Queensland Ambulance Service</li> <li>Queensland Fire Service</li> <li>Queensland Police</li> </ul>

\*Note: for reasons of confidentiality, private landholder identities are not listed in this public document

## **2.4. Stakeholder Management**

Stakeholders have been identified, and stakeholder management databases established to provide records of contact with different stakeholders. All contact and communications are recorded so a cohesive approach with the different stakeholder groups is established. Stakeholder engagement has been ongoing and mostly face-to-face to facilitate two-way feedback. The feedback has been used to inform the project design and an overview of the feedback collected can be found in Section 4. Communication tools have been developed to supplement face-to-face activities and will be used across the project to ensure that consistent and correct information is given to stakeholders. This approach has been designed to:

- Keep stakeholders and the community informed and up to date about the project
- Develop a cohesive communication approach that encourages the different aspects of the project to not communicate in isolation of their component of the project
- Promote two-way communication channels and encourage input and feedback
- Manage stakeholder and community expectations
- Minimise community impacts by providing sufficient information with adequate notice
- Manage and anticipate issues

In line with current privacy legislation, all data that was collected was managed in line with an agreed Privacy and Management of Personal Information Policy. Information was stored electronically, and access was limited to key project team members.

## 3. Stakeholder and Community Consultation Activities

### 3.1. Overview

The stakeholder and community consultation process has been developed and refined to give multiple opportunities for stakeholders to provide feedback and inform the outcomes of the EIS process. Stakeholder and community consultation were initiated at project inception and has continued as the scope of the project has developed (refer to Table 3).

Stakeholder and community relations will continue to be nurtured through an ongoing series of events and communications. As the Project design progresses the consultation and communication activities will involve a broader audience group and more detailed project information. Activities will be tailored to the attending stakeholder group and will be in a number of formats to deliver information and seek feedback in the most appropriate method.

**Table 3: Stakeholder and Community Consultation Overview**

EIS Consultation Activities	EIS Communication Tools
Initial Advice Statement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Website</li> <li>• Tailored landowner briefing packs</li> <li>• Tailored stakeholder briefing packs</li> <li>• Access agreements</li> <li>• Dedicated Project email address</li> <li>• Dedicated Project telephone number</li> <li>• Media Releases</li> </ul>
DTOR Consultation	
Government Meetings	
Local Council Briefings and Meetings	
Indigenous Landholder Meetings	
Landholder Consultation	
Social Impact Consultation	

### 3.2. Consultation Activities

#### 3.2.1. Draft Terms of Reference Public Submissions

Between the 8 July 2019 and August 2019 the Draft Terms of Reference (DTOR) were released for public comment. During this time submissions were received and considered by the Coordinator-General when developing the finalised TOR. The TOR was released on 4 September 2019. The TOR has been used to develop the public consultation process for the EIS and forms the basis of this document.

#### 3.2.2. Commonwealth Government

The following briefings and activities have been held with the Commonwealth Government and their agencies as part of the process of developing the Terms of Reference and development of the EIS (refer table 4).

**Table 4: Commonwealth Government Consultation**

Date	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
23 July 2019	Project Briefing	Meeting	Department of Industry, Science Energy and Resources
5 May 2020	Project Briefing	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keith Pitt – Federal Minister for Resources, Water and Northern Australia and Member for Hinkler</li> <li>Michelle Landry – Assistant Minister and Member for Capricornia</li> </ul>
26 May 2020	Project Briefing	Meeting	Department of Energy and Emissions Reduction
28 October 2020	Update and presentation of EIS amendments	Meeting	Department of Agriculture, Water and Environment

### 3.2.3. Queensland State Government

The following briefings and activities have been held with the Queensland State Government and their agencies as part of the process of developing the Terms of Reference and the EIS (refer table 5).

**Table 5: Queensland State Government Consultation**

Date	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
26 April 2019	Declaration of Coordinated Project	Letter	Office of Coordinator General
23 July 2019	Briefing to State Agencies on DTOR	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dept of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning – Office of the Coordinator General</li> <li>Department of Transport and Main Roads</li> <li>Department of Environment and Science</li> <li>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries</li> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</li> <li>Dept of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> <li>Queensland Treasury</li> <li>Department of Health</li> <li>Dept of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> </ul>

Date	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
1 August 2019	Draft Terms of Reference	Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> <li>Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships</li> <li>Department of Main Roads and Transport</li> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>Office of Industrial Relations</li> <li>Department of Environment and Science</li> <li>Department of Agriculture and Fisheries</li> </ul>
16 October 2019	Opportunities for local business engagement	Meeting	Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
17 March 2020	Project Update	Departmental Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>Queensland Treasury</li> <li>Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> </ul>
31 March 2020	Project Update	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Robbie Katter – Member for Traegar</li> <li>Scott Stewart – Member for Townsville</li> </ul>
24 April 2020	Project Update	Departmental Briefing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>Queensland Treasury</li> <li>DPC</li> <li>Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> </ul>
3 May 2020	Project Update	Ministerial Briefing	Anthony Lynham and Advisors Minister for Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
26 May 2020	Project Update	Meeting	Townsville Port Authority
26 June 2020		Workshop	Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning
4 July 2020	Project Update	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>Queensland Treasury</li> <li>Department of State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning</li> </ul>
15 October onwards	Project Update	Weekly meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy</li> <li>Qld Treasury</li> </ul>
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 Main Roads and Transport

### 3.2.4. Local Government

The following briefings and activities have been held with the Local Government and their agencies as part of the process of developing the EIS (refer table 6). The consultation process with the impacted local governments has been ongoing since the inception of the CopperString 2.0 project. The consultation has dealt specifically with activities that will impact the Councils and their residents including:

- Infrastructure requirements including camp construction and workforce requirements
- Opportunities for locals and local businesses to involved with CopperString 2.0
- Traffic and transport of goods and laydown areas

**Table 6: Local Government Consultation**

Date	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
10 March 2019	Briefing	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Townsville City Council</li> </ul>
24 July 2019	Briefing to Local Government Agencies on DTOR	Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt Isa City Council</li> <li>• Flinders Shire Council</li> <li>• Charters Towers Regional Council</li> <li>• Burdekin Shire Council</li> <li>• McKinlay Shire Council</li> <li>• Townsville City Council</li> <li>• Richmond City Council</li> <li>• Cloncurry Shire Council</li> </ul>
1 August 2019	Draft Terms of Reference	Feedback	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt Isa City Council</li> <li>• Flinders Shire Council</li> <li>• Charters Towers Regional Council</li> <li>• Burdekin Shire Council</li> <li>• McKinlay Shire Council</li> <li>• Townsville City Council</li> <li>• Richmond City Council</li> <li>• Cloncurry Shire Council</li> </ul>
20 January 2020	Project Update – details of the project including impacts on Council and Council residents including infrastructure locations	Meeting	Burdekin Shire Council
21 January 2020	Project Update – details of the project including impacts on Council and Council residents including infrastructure locations	Meeting	Flinders Shire Council
21 January 2020	Project Update – details of the project including impacts on Council and Council residents including infrastructure locations	Meeting	Charters Towers Regional Council
22 January 2020	Project Update – details of the project including impacts on Council and Council residents including infrastructure locations	Meeting	Richmond City Council
14 February 2020	Project Update – details of the project including impacts on Council and Council residents including infrastructure locations	Meeting	Cloncurry Shire Council



Date	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
14 February 2020	Project Update	Meeting	McKinlay Shire Mayor
7 August 2020	Project Update	Meeting	Mt Isa City Council
7 September 2020	Project Update – project progress	Meeting	North West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils – Carpentaria, Flinders, Mt Isa, Richmond, Cloncurry, McKinlay, Doomadgee, Middleton
September 2020 Ongoing	Infrastructure location discussions including camps and laydown areas	Meetings/Email/Phone discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mt Isa City Council</li> <li>• Flinders Shire Council</li> <li>• Charters Towers Regional Council</li> <li>• McKinlay Shire Council</li> <li>• Burdekin Shire Council</li> <li>• Richmond City Council</li> <li>• Cloncurry Shire Council</li> </ul>

### 3.2.5. Indigenous Groups and Traditional Landowners Consultation

The following briefings and activities have been undertaken with indigenous groups and traditional landowners as part of the process of developing the EIS (refer table 7). The consultation process has worked towards developing Cultural Heritage Management Plans with the Traditional Owners.

**Table 7: Indigenous Groups and Traditional Landowners Consultation**

Date	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
15 August 2019	Project Intent and Information to Traditional Owner Groups	Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yulluna People</li> <li>• Birriah People</li> <li>• Mitakoodi People #5</li> <li>• Kalkadoon People #5</li> <li>• Wanamara People</li> <li>• Yirendali People</li> </ul>
22 January 2020	Project briefing	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NAIF</li> </ul>
29 July 2020 Onwards	Project Introduction	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yulluna People</li> <li>• Birriah People</li> <li>• Mitakoodi People #5</li> <li>• Kalkadoon People #5</li> <li>• Wanamara People</li> <li>• Yirendali People</li> </ul>
18 August 2020 onwards	Formal meeting Traditional Owner Group Directors to begin CHMP process	Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yulluna People</li> <li>• Birriah People</li> <li>• Mitakoodi People #5</li> <li>• Kalkadoon People #5</li> <li>• Wanamara People</li> <li>• Yirendali People</li> </ul>
10 September 2020 onwards	Development of CHMPs	Ongoing phone call and emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yulluna People</li> <li>• Birriah People</li> <li>• Mitakoodi People #5</li> <li>• Kalkadoon People #5</li> <li>• Wanamara People</li> <li>• Yirendali People</li> </ul>

### 3.2.6. Landowner and Overlaying Tenure Consultation

Landholder consultation activities were commenced once the TOR had been accepted and published. The process used was one of individual consultation with each impacted landholder along the proposed corridor of the powerline. Many of the landholders had been contacted during 2010 as part of the original CopperString project, so they were familiar with the intent of the project and the impacts on their land. Landholders were engaged in a respectful manner and were given the opportunity to commence initial discussions on the impact on their property at a time, place, and method of their choosing. The initial meetings were held with the intent of informing the landholder of the revised project and seeking feedback from the landholder on their support and any opportunities or constraints for the Project. Once initial contact was made, follow-up activities have been undertaken as necessary to respond to landholder requests or provide further information as the Project has progressed. To capture any feedback from landholders a database of contact was developed and has been maintained. For privacy reasons, the names and locations of landholders have been withheld from this document, however, the approach to consultation has been outlined below in Table 8. Feedback and specific outcomes have been documented in Sections 4 and 5. The same process has been followed for overlaying tenure holders.

**Table 8: Landowner and Overlaying Tenure Holder Consultation**

Date	Purpose	Format	Detail of Contact
18 April 2019	Project intent to Landowners	Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outline of project</li> <li>Statement that Project has an impact on the property</li> </ul>
June – August 2019	Project Detail and potential impacts to Landowners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-Face</li> <li>Phone</li> <li>Email</li> </ul>	Briefing undertaken by Land Agents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Briefing pack - provides overview of Project, outline potential impacts, maps of property</li> <li>Seek feedback from property owner on constraints and opportunities and agreement on project</li> </ul>
June 2019 onwards	Refine Corridor and Develop Land Access Agreements with Landowners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-Face</li> <li>Phone</li> <li>Email</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing consultation and communication with landholders on proposed transmission corridor and project changes as necessary.</li> <li>Develop agreements with landholders on access to properties during project investigation activities</li> </ul>
1 October 2019	Project update to Landowners	Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project update</li> <li>Easement acquisition</li> <li>Easement guide</li> </ul>
2 July 2020 - ongoing	Project Intent and Project impacts to Overlaying Tenure Holders	Letter/Email/Phone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of impacts of the Project and offering opportunity to communicate with Project on impacts</li> </ul>
29 July 2020	Project Update to Landowners	Letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project update including further meetings with Land Agent to discuss Land Option Agreements</li> </ul>
22 September 2020	Land Option Agreements to Landowners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Face-to-Face</li> <li>Phone</li> <li>Email</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delivery of Land Option Agreements with impacted landholders</li> <li>Ongoing consultation with landholders on project and impacts</li> </ul>

### 3.2.7. Other Key Stakeholders

A wide range of stakeholders will be impacted by the Project and the Project has engaged with them to provide information and gain feedback on the impacts of the project and provide input to form the EIS (refer Table 9). Overlaying tenure holders have been contacted to determine the impacts on Mining Leases and Exploration Permits. Once contact was initiated, there has been ongoing individual contact to work with stakeholders to determine if there are any impacts.

**Table 9: Other Key Stakeholder Consultation**

Date / Location	Purpose	Format	Agencies in Attendance
10 April 2019	Project intent	Meeting	Townsville Enterprise
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MITEZ</li> <li>• Mt Isa Mines</li> <li>• Queensland Ambulance Service</li> <li>• Chinova Resources Cloncurry Mines</li> <li>• Multicom</li> <li>• North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group</li> <li>• Commerce North West</li> <li>• Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service</li> </ul>
22 August 2019	Project Intent	Meeting	North Queensland Sustainable Resources Corridor Regional Reference Group
27 August 2019	Project Update	Meeting	Townsville Enterprise
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
5 February 2020	Project Update	Meeting	EECL
9 February 2020	Project Update	Meeting	Townsville Enterprise
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
27 May 2020	Project Update	Meeting	North West Minerals Province Major Energy Users
29 May 2020	Project Update	Meeting	Northern Queensland Regional Development Association
9 June 2020	Project Update	Meeting	Townsville Enterprise Limited

### 3.2.8. Social Impact Assessment

A Social Impact Assessment (SIA) has been undertaken by the Project. In line with the TOR the outcomes from the public consultation process have informed the SIA. Feedback from the public consultation process has been included in the SIA to ensure that both the positive and negative impacts on the community are noted and addressed. Feedback from the public consultation process

was used to identify any gaps in the SIA and the following activities were undertaken during February 2020 to further inform the SIA:

- Interviews with selected landholders from different geographic locations across the project on the broader social impacts from a community perspective
- Representatives from the affected local government areas
- Representatives from emergency services – Mt Isa District Queensland Police, North West Queensland Ambulance Service

The activities were conducted either face-to-face or via telephone.

### **3.3. 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.

#### **3.3.1. CopperString 2.0 Briefings**

Briefing materials were developed for communications with Government and Industry Groups. The presentations were used to provide consistent information and were tailored to suit the audience needs. These presentations were used as a starting point in meetings to enable discussion and receive feedback from stakeholders.

#### **3.3.2. CopperString 2.0 Website**

A website for CopperString 2.0 was developed and can be found at the following address:

- [www.CopperString2.com.au](http://www.CopperString2.com.au).

The website is kept up to date with the latest project information and provides an opportunity for feedback and enquiries via a form that can be submitted to the Project.

#### **3.3.3. Landholder and Overlaying Tenure Holder Briefing Packs**

Landholder briefing packs were developed to initiate discussion around the impact on landholders' properties and to gain their feedback on the proposed corridor selection. These briefing packs were personalised to each landholder and include a map of the proposed transmission line and potential impacts on the property. The landholders were also given a contact phone number and email that they could use to clarify any points or ask any questions.

## 4. Consultation Feedback

The consultation process elicited feedback from all stakeholder groups and it was consistent across the breadth of the project. The most extensive consultation activities were undertaken with the landholders impacted by the Project to understand the opportunities and constraints of their properties to address corridor selection and to determine the likely social impact of the Project. Other stakeholder groups were engaged as appropriate to determine social impacts and opportunities as part of the public consultation process.

### 4.1. Landholder and Overlaying Tenure Consultation

The landholder consultation was the largest part of the project consultation activities and was most likely to influence the EIS and project design. Tables 10,11 and 12 give a summary of the feedback from the private landholders and identifies the opportunities and issues that were raised. All private landowners were contacted and consulted with during the consultation process. The private landholders mostly utilise their properties for agriculture and grazing as well as residing on the property.

Table 10 provides feedback from the landholders from the initial engagement with CopperString 2.0. During this part of the consultation process Landholders were:

- Informed of the project
- Asked for feedback on impacts on properties
- Presented with a Land Access Agreement to allow access to the properties

All feedback from landowners was reviewed in relation to the impacts on their properties and changes to the corridor were made. Details of the changes made can be found in Appendix D Corridor Selection Report.

**Table 10: Landholder Feedback - Land Access Agreement**

Feedback	Number of Times Feedback Mentioned by Individual Landholders
Project support	27
Cumulative impacts of projects in the area	1
Survey activities are unsuitable on land	10
How/When people access land	22
Biosecurity	21
Move transmission line as impacts property	6
Proximity to housing	4
Not supportive of transmission line of property	6
Compensation	2
Note of property infrastructure	16
Reliable power	15
Fire and Safety Concerns	4
Visual impact	1
Opportunity to be involved in construction	3
Land Value	3
Strangers on property	2
Stock route impacts	2
Heli-mustering concerns	10
Impacts on other projects in area	3

Table 11 provides an overview of the feedback from landholders once the Land Option Agreement was presented. The consultation process with landholders is ongoing and the Project is working with the landholders to further minimise and mitigate impacts.

**Table 11: Landholder Feedback Main Alignment - Land Option Agreement**

Feedback	Number of Times Feedback Mentioned by Individual Landholders
Project support	6
Compensation	6
Seeking further discussions on landowner infrastructure impact	3
Heli-mustering	1
Biosecurity	4
Business opportunities for landowner	1
Visual impact	1

There are a number of overlaying tenure holders across the Project area. As part of the consultation process each tenure holder was contacted to determine impacts on their tenure. Tenure over the impacted properties can be described as: 13 mining leases, 10 exploration permits for coal, 119 exploration permits for minerals and 1 exploration permit for gas. Multiple permits are owned by the same companies/operators and each company was contacted in relation to their permits. Feedback is summarised in Table 12. Tenure holders who are currently operating a Mining Lease within the proposed corridor of CopperString 2.0 were more likely to provide feedback as a result of the consultation process.

**Table 12: Tenure Holder Feedback**

Feedback	Number of Times Feedback Mentioned by Individual Landholders
Requires review of impacts	8
Project support	6
Interest in connection of renewables	4
Possibility of construction camps	1
No issues raised	4
Want to receive ongoing communications	2

## 4.2. Other Stakeholder Consultation

All other stakeholders impacted by the Project were engaged to determine their needs in relation to the Project and determine if there were specific opportunities or impacts of the Project that needed to be considered as part of the EIS process. All the stakeholder groups raised issues or opportunities specific to their particular needs, but many also raised feedback relating to the social impacts on landholders and the more general community. Feedback across all stakeholder was consistent and a summary of the themes is outlined in Section 4.3.

## 4.3. Major Themes

The consultation process elicited a range of potential social, environmental and economic impacts and benefits. Consistent themes emerged across the consultation process and they can be broadly categorised into the following themes:

- Land management impacts of Corridor Selection
- Construction impacts
- Social impacts on the local community
- Cultural Heritage Management
- Biosecurity
- Roads and transport
- Project support
- Economic impacts
- Climate change

The feedback that supports the themes is outlined below in Sections 4.3.1 - 4.1.8. These summaries provide a snapshot of stakeholder sentiment in relation to the Project up to the time of the EIS publication (Note: the information is not presented in order of importance).

### **4.3.1. Land Management Impacts of Corridor Selection**

Feedback on land management impacts was mainly from private landowners in relation to impacts on agriculture and grazing and government agencies in relation to environmental considerations. The following information was consistently raised during the stakeholder engagement process:

- Impacts on heli-mustering and grazing and agriculture activities are minimised
- Alignment of corridor in relation to property infrastructure and housing
- Visual impact of powerlines from homesteads
- Not supportive of transmission line on property
- Avoid and minimise environmental impacts of the project including flora, fauna and water resources including MSES and MNES
- Impacts to overlaying tenure and existing operations
- Concern over cumulative impacts of projects on landholders and environment in the local area

### **4.3.2. Construction Impacts**

Feedback on the impacts of construction was a consistent theme across the different stakeholder groups and the feedback can be summarised as follows:

- Construction access to properties
- Construction impacts on natural hazards including floods and fire
- Timing of notifications for access to private property
- Construction safety including abandoned mine safety, explosive use, project workers safety
- Waste management of project including wastewater and landfill
- Waterway management construction and rehabilitation
- Following local government guidelines eg camp construction
- Rehabilitation of camp construction areas once project complete
- Minimise impacts of construction by using existing infrastructure including laydown and hard stand areas

### 4.3.3. Social Impacts on the Community

There were a number of points of feedback raised in relation to the social impacts of the Project on the local community. They were mostly in relation to opportunities for local businesses to be utilised as a resource for the project and to ensure there were no adverse impacts on the local community as a result of construction activities. Feedback can be summarised as follows:

- Emergency services stay updated with Project to ensure local facilities are not overrun
- Appropriate emergency infrastructure included as part of Project
- Identify impacts workforce accommodation and workforce numbers have on the local communities and facilities
- Concerns about property access due to problems in the past
- Waste management plan for the local communities due to remoteness and limited facilities
- Social benefits are returned to the community through employment opportunities and utilisation of local businesses
- Seeking appropriate compensation for impacts on landholders
- Seeking long term sustainable outcomes for Indigenous people/groups and would like to have access to opportunities the Project presents eg providing services to the project and employment opportunities and partnering opportunities
- Utilisation of existing camp sites where connection to services exists and utilisation of local accommodation
- Workers should be encouraged to socialise in local area and use the local facilities
- Opportunity to bring new businesses into the area to contribute to the community
- Opportunity for CopperString 2.0 to bring fibre optic capability to the area and bring more reliable internet services.

### 4.3.4. Biosecurity

Feedback on biosecurity related to weed management and how biosecurity would be managed to ensure there are no adverse impacts on the local communities:

- Weed management and vehicle washdown on private properties
- How will the spread of declared pests, weeds and diseases will be managed across the project especially in areas where clearing for easements occurs

### 4.3.5. Cultural Heritage

Feedback on the Management of Cultural Heritage was gathered as part of the process of developing Cultural Heritage Management Plans (CHMPs). Each Traditional Owner group was supportive of the project and there is opportunity to develop tailored and specific CHMPs for their group. Each traditional owner group has their own preferred process of dealing with Cultural Heritage across the project area and each group had varying amounts of knowledge of heritage sites within their claim area. Each Traditional Owner group was supportive of the process of developing an Indigenous Engagement Strategy (IES) in line with NAIF. Specific points of feedback include:

- Practical approach to Cultural Heritage management is sought
- Traditional Owners would like the inductions or meetings to take place to ensure appropriate cultural respect:
  - CopperString representatives to undertake a Cultural Heritage Awareness session before CHMP negotiations commence



- Seek meetings with companies and contractors as part of the process of the Project
- Contractors to undertake a Cultural Heritage Awareness session as part of the Projects Induction
- Excited about the opportunities the Project presents as there are local community benefits from common use infrastructure and opportunities into the future

#### **4.3.6. Roads and Transport**

Feedback on roads and transport mostly related to ensuring that there was no damage with the transport of heavy goods and that opportunities to use existing providers and infrastructure were utilised:

- Strategy to ensure mitigation or repair of any local roads that damaged
- Avoid heavy vehicles going through towns where possible
- Develop plan with Queensland rail for the transport of goods
- Currently mostly outbound freight from area, opportunity to utilise to providers to transport project freight into the area

#### **4.3.7. Project Support**

Feedback showed there was general support for the project across all the different stakeholder groups including private landowners. The Project is seen as being an economic and social opportunity for the local community. Supporters would like to see the Project utilise local businesses and provide employment opportunities for locals. Further to this, the Project is seen as providing opportunities for further investment in the area due to provision of a stable and lower cost electricity source and the opportunities associated with renewable energy within the area.

#### **4.3.8. Economic Impacts**

There was feedback raised in relation to the economic impact of the project on individuals, the broader community and existing businesses within a regional area:

- Impact on value of land and compensation for those landholders directly impacted
- Opportunity for landholders to provide be involved with the project by providing services
- Impact on the cost of electricity in the region for major businesses and households and the security of electricity supply
- Opportunities for employment of locals and use of local businesses as suppliers for the project
- Impacts on new gas projects within the area
- How does the Project support the local economy not just established mining businesses
- Positive impact due to the opportunity to connect the transmission line to the Renewable Energy Hub and become part of the National Electricity Market

#### **4.3.9. Climate Change**

Overall, the Project was seen as having a positive impact on climate change as the project could connect the renewables energy hub to the electricity network and would facilitate a level of investment in renewable energy in the local area.

## 5. Stakeholder and Community Consultation Outcomes

This section outlines the findings of the stakeholder and community consultation activities that occurred from March 2019 to EIS submission. The consultation process will be ongoing and will include feedback as a result of the EIS publication. The issues and opportunities raised in this document were those expressed by the stakeholder groups that were consulted (refer Section 2). Feedback has resulted into input into the following aspects of the EIS and Project design:

- Social Impact Assessment
- Corridor Selection
- Hazards, Health and Safety
- Biosecurity
- Waste Management
- Transport
- Rehabilitation Plan
- Camp Construction and workforce planning
- Field Development Plan

Table 13 outlines the feedback from the stakeholder and community consultation and the EIS response in relation to this feedback.

**Table 13: EIS Responses to Consultation Activities**

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
<b>Land Management Impacts of Corridor Selection</b>		
Impacts on heli-mustering and grazing and agriculture activities are minimised	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of Construction Environmental Management Plan that outlines work hours and work practices</li> <li>Construction is mostly programmed for the dry season to avoid impacts on properties that can occur during the wet season</li> <li>Post construction the corridor easement will be available for continued grazing and agriculture activities</li> <li>Consultation with landholders has identified areas of properties that are critical for heli-mustering. Where critical the Project has made changes to the alignment.</li> </ul>	Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 7
Alignment of corridor in relation to property infrastructure and housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a result of consultation, there were 23 requests made by landholders to change the alignment. Of these requests 16 were accepted, five requests were superceded by other changes and two were rejected. Of the two rejected, further consultation with the landholder identified one change was not necessary. The other rejected request was to remove the alignment from the property. This was request was unable to be accommodated as it had broader impacts on the Project.</li> </ul>	Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 7
Not supportive of transmission line on property	CopperString 2.0 has worked with all landholders to understand the impacts of the transmission line on their land. The corridor selection process has adopted a process of avoid, minimise and mitigate and worked to meet as many needs of landholders as possible whilst also avoiding and minimising impacts from the environment and construction constraints. Further impacts will be minimised and mitigated through the detailed design phase by further refining tower placement and design, location of ancillary works including laydown areas and access tracks.	Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 5.0

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
<p>Avoid and minimise environmental impacts of the project including flora, fauna and water resources including MSES and MNES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 32 changes to the alignment were proposed to avoid or minimise impacts on the environment. Of the 32 changes proposed, 24 were either accepted or superseded by another change. The remaining 9 requests were rejected due to further investigation revealing no impact on essential habitat/MNES/MSES or the alternatives proposed resulted in greater impacts.</li> <li>• Copperstring 2.0 has consulted with State agencies during the development of the EIS and the refinement of the Corridor Selection process</li> <li>• Since the original project was proposed in 2010 the Ballara Nature Reserve was secured within the original project corridor. The Project undertook a separate corridor selection process for the Ballara Nature Reserve.</li> <li>• The Project will further minimise or mitigate impacts during construction by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tower design</li> <li>○ Tower heights</li> <li>○ Tower placement</li> <li>○ Tower span</li> <li>○ Aerial stringing of wires</li> <li>○ Location of ancillary works</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Minimise and mitigation activities will be undertaken as part of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Construction Environment Management Plan</li> <li>○ Species Management Plan</li> <li>○ Field Development Plan</li> <li>○ Water Resources Management Plan</li> <li>○ Cultural Heritage Management Plans</li> <li>○ Emergency Response Plan including bushfire and flood</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p>Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 7 Appendix D Corridor Selection Report - Ballara Nature Reserve Corridor Selection Appendix P – Field Development Plan Chapter 17 – Hazards, Health and Safety</p>
<p>Concern over cumulative impacts of projects on landholders and environment in the local area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation was undertaken with existing tenement holders and landholders to determine impacts of the alignment and changes to corridor selection were made where appropriate</li> <li>• The Project has completed an assessment of cumulative impacts over the Project area</li> </ul>	<p>Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 7 Chapter 20 - Cumulative Impacts</p>

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
Visual impact of powerlines from homesteads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most concerns relating to visual impact by landholders were identified early in consultation. Refinements to the alignment since initial consultation have resulted in only 2 requests to change the alignment due to visual impact. Both requests were accommodated.</li> <li>Consideration of tower design and tower placement during detailed design will also reduce the potential visual impact for landholders</li> </ul>	Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 7
<b>Construction Impacts</b>		
Construction access to properties	Landholders have negotiated specific and personalised conditions of access to their land as part of their agreements with the Project eg weed management, timing of visits, how to access the property.	n/a
Construction impacts on natural hazards including floods and fire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construction Safety Management Plan</li> <li>Emergency Response Plan which addresses bushfires and other natural disasters</li> <li>Transmission line design has network protection system elements built in</li> <li>Design and Construction Standards</li> <li>Construction Environment Management Plan</li> <li>Operational Safety Management Plan</li> <li>Asset Management and Strategy Plan</li> <li>Bushfire Management Plan</li> </ul>	Chapter 17 – Hazards, Health and Safety
Timing of notifications for access to private property	Landholders have negotiated specific and personalised conditions of access to their land as part of their agreements with the Project	n/a
Construction safety including abandoned mine safety, explosive use, project workers safety including working in the heat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Unexploded ordinance desktop surveys completed</li> <li>Construction Environment Management Plan</li> <li>Health and Safety Plan</li> <li>Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>Safe Work Method Statements</li> <li>Workplace Health and Safety Management plans for contractors employed during detailed design phase submitted to Project</li> </ul>	Chapter 17 – Hazards, Health and Safety Volume 3 Appendix I Land use
Waste management of project including wastewater and landfill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste Management Strategy</li> <li>Water Resource Management Plan</li> </ul>	Chapter 12 Waste Management Section 5

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
Waterway management construction and rehabilitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of Construction Environment Management Plan which addresses Waterway Barrier Works</li> <li>Water Resource Management Plan</li> <li>Erosion Sediment Control Plan</li> <li>Programme of works timed so most work occurs within the dry season</li> </ul>	Appendix P – Field Development Plan Chapter 9 Water Resources
Following local government guidelines eg camp construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local government planning policies</li> <li>Consultation with Local Governments about the placement of work camps and laydown areas</li> </ul>	Appendix J Regulatory Approvals Plan
Rehabilitation of camp construction areas once project complete	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rehabilitation Plan</li> </ul>	Appendix R – Rehabilitation Plan
Minimise impacts of construction by using existing infrastructure including laydown and hard stand areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project has committed to using existing infrastructure where appropriate</li> <li>The Project has also committed to placing ancillary works in areas of least environmental concern</li> </ul>	Chapter 2 Project Description Appendix P – Field Development Plan
Black soils on some of the alignment are known for indigenous artefacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Timing of activities including construction are planned to occur during the dry season</li> <li>Cultural Heritage Management Plans to plan for the likelihood of encountering artefact scatter</li> </ul>	Chapter 15 – Cultural Heritage
<b>Social Impacts on Local Community</b>		
Emergency services stay updated with Project to ensure local facilities are not overrun	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing consultation with Emergency Services including Queensland Police, Queensland Ambulance, Rural Fire Service, Queensland Disaster Management</li> <li>Health and Safety Plan</li> <li>First Aid Facilities in accommodation and work vehicles</li> <li>Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>First Aid competency amongst employees and contractors</li> <li>Safe Work Method Statements (SWMS) for individual components of Project</li> <li>Incident Management Process including review of incidents with recommendations to avoid in the future</li> <li>Stakeholder Engagement Plan</li> </ul>	Chapter 14 – Social Chapter 17 – Hazards, Health and Safety

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
Appropriate emergency infrastructure included as part of Project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing consultation with Emergency Services</li> <li>• Health and Safety Plan</li> <li>• First Aid Facilities in accommodation and work vehicles</li> <li>• Emergency Response Plan</li> <li>• First Aid competency amongst employees and contractors</li> </ul>	Chapter 14 – Social Chapter 17 – Hazards, Health and Safety
Identify impacts workforce accommodation and workforce numbers have on the local communities and facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project conducted a social impact assessment to determine the impacts an increased workforce could have. Concerns will be addressed by the development of:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Emergency Management Plans</li> <li>○ Employee/Contractor Code of Conduct</li> <li>○ Complaints Management Process</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Chapter 14 – Social
Concerns about property access due to problems in the past	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Landholders have negotiated specific and personalised conditions of access to their land as part of their agreements with the Project</li> <li>• Land access process developed for contractors and employees</li> <li>• Employee/Contractor Code of Conduct</li> <li>• Complaints Management Process</li> </ul>	Chapter 14 – Social Chapter 2 Project Description
Waste management plan for the local communities due to remoteness and limited facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waste Management Strategy</li> </ul>	Chapter 12 Waste Management Section 5
Social benefits are returned to the community through employment opportunities and utilisation of local businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workforce sourcing and induction process</li> <li>• Local Business Participation Plan</li> <li>• Local workforce engagement plan</li> <li>• Indigenous Engagement Strategy (IES)</li> </ul>	Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 Social – Section 7
Importance of long-term sustainable outcomes for Indigenous people through developing capabilities and the opportunity to develop engagement strategies and partnerships that will be meaningful for indigenous groups in the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tender process will encourage applicants to:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prioritise local employment</li> <li>○ Maximise indigenous employment</li> <li>○ Develop opportunities for apprentices and trainees</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Indigenous Engagement Strategy through NAIF</li> </ul>	Chapter 14 – Social Section 7

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
<p>Seeking appropriate compensation for landholders impacted by alignment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impacted landholders were identified by the Project, relevant mapping was produced in regard to the Projects transection of landholders properties and discussions were undertaken with landholders on the proposed transection of the alignment as it related to their land</li> <li>• Valuations were undertaken on the effect/impact of the alignment on the landholders properties. These valuations have informed the Projects view on initial offers for appropriate compensation for the impacts of the Project on landholders and as a result the offered easement acquisition prices detailed in individual option agreements for the acquisition of easement required for the Project</li> <li>• Project have made it clear to landholders that the Project will pay reasonable legal and valuation costs associated with landholders understanding the impacts of the Project on their land and the process of acquiring the easements required for the Project</li> <li>• Where appropriate the Project has agreed to easement acquisition prices for the acquisition of the easement outside of the parameters of the valuations so as to (in the landholders view) adequately and appropriately compensate the landholders for the impact on landholders operations as a result of the Project intersecting their land.</li> </ul>	<p>Project design</p>
<p>Utilisation of existing camp sites where connection to services exists and utilisation of local accommodation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultation with Councils in the planning stages of the Project identified that the preference for construction camps was to use sites with existing services and infrastructure for some Councils</li> <li>• CUString representatives toured potential camp sites with some councils</li> <li>• Construction workforce size means that camps will be necessary, however, other personnel outside the main construction crew will likely use other accommodation options.</li> <li>• Review has identified potential camp locations at specific locations. Consultation is currently progressing with landholders and councils regarding the final location of camps.</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 – Social</p>
<p>Workers should be encouraged to socialise in local area and use the local facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where possible local facilities and businesses will be used</li> </ul>	<p>Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 Social - Section 7&amp;8</p>



Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
Opportunity to bring new businesses into the area to contribute to the community	Tender process will encourage new businesses to come into the area if there is not a suitable local business. The tender process will encourage businesses to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prioritise local employment</li> <li>• Maximise indigenous employment</li> <li>• Develop opportunities for apprentices and trainees</li> </ul>	Chapter 14 – Social Section 7
Opportunity for CopperString 2.0 to bring fibre optic capability to the area and bring more reliable internet services	Fibre optic capability will be part of the Project	Chapter 2 Project Description
Cultural Heritage		
How cultural heritage field surveys are conducted including timing, numbers of staff and process	Development of Cultural Heritage Management Plans with each Traditional Owner group	Chapter 15 – Cultural Heritage
Cultural Heritage Inductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural Heritage Management plans will outline the requirement for cultural heritage inductions for employees/contractors undertaking field work</li> </ul>	Chapter 15 – Cultural Heritage Appendix P – Field Development Plan
Significant Cultural Heritage Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Known sites have been avoided during the corridor selection process.</li> <li>• Consultation has currently identified eight sites where the corridor intersected sites of significance and requests to change the alignment were proposed. Of the eight changes, six were accepted and the alignment was changed to avoid the sites. Two changes were superseded by additional requests.</li> <li>• The Project will continue to work with the Traditional Owner groups through cultural heritage surveys of the alignment to identify and develop processes to avoid, minimise and mitigate areas of importance. The processes adopted will be developed as part of Cultural Heritage Management Plans.</li> </ul>	Chapter 15 – Cultural Heritage Appendix D Corridor Selection Report – Section 7
Opportunities to provide support to Traditional Owners in a variety of ways through an Indigenous Engagement Strategy	The project is working to develop an Indigenous Engagement Strategy (IES) through NAIF	Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 Social – Section 7 NAIF/IES
Compensation	The Project is being developed on the basis that suppression of Native Title will be available to the Project in accordance with Section 24KA of the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i> . Section 24KA will apply to the entirety of the Project including all associated works.	Chapter 4 – Legislation and Approvals

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
<b>Biosecurity</b>		
Weed management and vehicle washdown on private properties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landholders have included specific weed washdown procedures for their properties as part of the landholder agreement process</li> <li>Areas of concern have been identified as part of the landholder consultation process</li> <li>Induction and Training will be provided to all employees and contractors that will include conditions of entry to each landholder property, biosecurity identification guide for weeds, equipment to facilitate appropriate washdown procedures</li> <li>Material management strategy</li> <li>Biosecurity monitoring and reporting</li> </ul>	Chapter 8 Biosecurity
How will the spread of declared pests, weeds and diseases be managed across the project especially in areas where clearing for easements occurs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project Rehabilitation Plan</li> <li>Material management strategy</li> <li>Biosecurity monitoring and reporting</li> <li>Induction and Training will be provided to all employees and contractors that will include conditions of entry to each landholder property, biosecurity identification guide for weeds, equipment to facilitate appropriate washdown procedures</li> <li>During Landholder consultation landholders took the opportunity to identify areas on their properties where weeds were an issue</li> </ul>	Appendix R – Rehabilitation Plan Chapter 8 Biosecurity
<b>Roads and Transport</b>		
Strategy to ensure mitigation or repair of any local roads that damaged	Road Use Management Plan	Appendix U – Transport Impact Assessment
Avoid heavy vehicles going through towns where possible	Road Use Management Plan	Appendix U – Transport Impact Assessment
Develop plan with Queensland rail for the transport of goods	Transport Management Strategy	Appendix U – Transport Impact Assessment
Currently mostly outbound freight from area, opportunity to utilise providers to transport project freight into the area	Opportunities for existing transport companies to provide logistics as part of the tender process	Chapter 13 Transport

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
<b>Economic Impacts</b>		
Impact on value of land and compensation for those landholders directly impacted	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Impacted landholders were identified by the Project, relevant mapping was produced in regard to the Projects transection of landholders properties and discussions were undertaken with landholders on the proposed transection of the alignment as it related to their land.</li> <li>Valuations were undertaken on the effect/impact of the alignment on the landholder’s properties. These valuations have informed the Projects view on initial offers for appropriate compensation for the impacts of the Project on landholders and as a result the offered easement acquisition prices detailed in individual option agreements for the acquisition of easement required for the Project.</li> <li>Project have made it clear to landholders that the Project will pay reasonable legal and valuation costs associated with landholders understanding the impacts of the Project on their land and the process of acquiring the easements required for the Project.</li> <li>Where appropriate the Project has agreed to easement acquisition prices for the acquisition of the easement outside of the parameters of the valuations so as to (in the landholders view) adequately and appropriately compensate the landholders for the impact on landholders operations as a result of the Project intersecting their land.</li> </ul>	Project design
Opportunity for landholders to provide be involved with the project by providing services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workforce sourcing and induction process</li> <li>Local Business Participation Plan including portal for expressions of interest for local businesses</li> <li>Local workforce and indigenous participation plan</li> </ul>	Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 Social – Section 7
Impact on the cost of electricity in the region for major businesses and households and the security of electricity supply	Economic Impact Assessment shows that connection to the NEM will have a positive impact on the security of supply and cost	Chapter 16 - Economic
Opportunities for employment of locals and use of local businesses as suppliers for the project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Business Participation Plan including portal for expressions of interest for local businesses</li> <li>Local workforce and indigenous participation plan</li> </ul>	Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 Social – Section 7

Potential Issue or Opportunity	EIS Response / Project Design Change	EIS Reference
How does the Project support the local economy not just established mining businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Business Participation Plan including a portal for expressions of interest for local businesses – opportunities to provide services to the Project eg provide catering and other services to camps</li> <li>Local workforce and indigenous participation plan</li> <li>Post Project construction there are opportunities for the development of new businesses due to lower cost of electricity and the stability of supply – eg Renewable Energy Projects,</li> </ul>	Chapter 2 Project Description Chapter 14 Social – Section 7 Chapter 16 - Economic
Positive impact due to the opportunity to connect the transmission line to the Renewable Energy Hub and become part of the National Electricity Market	The Project will connect the Renewable Energy Hub of northern Queensland to the National Electricity Market.	Chapter 16 - Economic

## 6. Ongoing Public Consultation

Consultation activities will not cease as result of EIS submission and will be iterative over the life of the Project. Feedback from the EIS public consultation will be key in providing further input into the Project as will more detailed Project design. Table 12 outlines the public consultation activities that are anticipated as the Project moves into the detailed design phase and construction. The activities are not a comprehensive list and will change due to detailed Project investigation activities and further feedback from stakeholders.

**Table 14: Ongoing Public Consultation Activities**

Stakeholder Group	Proposed Consultation Activities
Federal Government Departments and Representatives	Ongoing consultation on activities aligned with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental offsets</li> <li>• MNES</li> <li>• NAIF</li> </ul>
State Government Departments and Representatives	Ongoing consultation on matters relating to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment /Environmental offsets</li> <li>• Main roads and transport</li> <li>• Native Title</li> <li>• Planning and approvals</li> <li>• Health and Safety</li> <li>• Water Resource Management</li> <li>• Biosecurity</li> </ul>
Local Government Councils and Representatives	Ongoing consultation on matters relating to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Government Planning Regulations</li> <li>• Waste management</li> <li>• Camp construction and management</li> <li>• Road User Management Plan</li> <li>• Local Business Participation Plan</li> <li>• Local workforce and indigenous participation plan</li> <li>• Emergency Management</li> <li>• Health and Safety</li> <li>• Construction Environment Management Plan</li> </ul>
Landholders /Tenure holders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued engagement on corridor selection and impacts on properties including tower design and siting</li> <li>• Consultation on proposed detailed design investigations on properties including biosecurity arrangements and land access</li> <li>• Easement agreements</li> <li>• Transmission line construction</li> <li>• Emergency Management</li> <li>• Continued engagement in relation to land access</li> </ul>
Traditional Landholders and Indigenous Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Cultural Heritage Management Plans</li> <li>• Cultural Heritage Surveys and cultural heritage management strategies</li> <li>• Broader Indigenous public consultation outside of CHMPs</li> <li>• Indigenous employment participation plan</li> <li>• Indigenous Engagement Strategy (NAIF)</li> </ul>
Government Owned Corporations and Private Enterprises	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Detailed Project design including technical design</li> <li>• Tender process</li> </ul>

Stakeholder Group	Proposed Consultation Activities
Regional and Local Communities and Businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community information sessions on Project</li> <li>• Local workforce and indigenous participation plan</li> <li>• Local Business Participation Plan</li> <li>• Tender process</li> </ul>
Business Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities and impacts for Businesses as result of Project</li> </ul>