

NOTICE OF CONSULTATION

DEVELOPING THE NORTHERN QUEENSLAND RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONE

1 Purpose of Notice

In accordance with the requirements of the criteria and procedures set out in Sections 5.18 and 8.9 of the National Electricity Rules (the Rules), this Notice is to inform the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), Registered Participants and interested parties (Consulted Persons) that Powerlink Queensland (Powerlink) is requesting submissions on the proposed development of a Queensland Renewable Energy Zone (QREZ) in Far North Queensland. As the proposed augmentation works are largely funded by the Queensland Government, this project is classified as a funded augmentation under the Rules¹.

2 Matter for consultation

The establishment of Northern QREZ will increase the generator hosting capacity by up to 500MW in the Far North Queensland region. Widespread benefits are expected as a result including:

- releasing restricted operation of future generation and opening up Far North Queensland to further investment driving economic growth in the region and
- ensuring a secure and affordable energy supply to Queenslanders while supporting the Queensland Government's target of 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030.

The matter for consultation is to call for submissions in relation to the proposed augmentation to develop a Renewable Energy Zone in North Queensland and to seek feedback on whether there are any other matters which could reasonably be considered as part of the development of the Northern QREZ.

Further details are provided in the Consultation Paper published with this Notice and also made available on [Powerlink's website](#).

3 Invitation to make submissions

Submissions should be presented in a written form and clearly identify the author of the submission, including contact details for subsequent follow up.

As submissions will be made public and published on Powerlink's website, any commercially sensitive material, or material that the party making the submission does not want to be made public, should be clearly identified.

Consulted persons, as part of their submissions, may also request a meeting with Powerlink to discuss the matter under consultation. Powerlink may also publish details of the matters discussed as a result of meeting with Consulted Persons.

¹ As defined in Chapter 10 page 1293, Version 165 of the Rules.

Submissions close at 5pm on 6 August 2021.

Please address submissions to:

Roger Smith
Manager Network and Alternate Solutions
Powerlink Queensland
PO Box 1193
VIRGINIA QLD 4014
Tel: (07) 3860 2328

Submissions can be emailed to: networkassessments@powerlink.com.au

Please note that Powerlink is not obliged to consider submissions received after the closing date.

3.1 Consultation process

The consultation process and anticipated timeframes are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1: Consultation process and timeframe

Consultation process	Date
Publication of notice of consultation	28 June 2021
Closing date for submissions in response to this notice and consultation paper	6 August 2021
Publication of draft report	August 2021
Publication of final report	September 2021

Powerlink reserves the right to amend the timetable at any time.