

Borumba to Woolooga Transmission Line Corridor Options

Proposed transmission line – corridor options and detailed descriptions

We invite landholders, the wider community and other stakeholders to provide feedback and input on potential corridors for the location of a new transmission line to connect the proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Project, near Imbil, to the existing transmission network in the area.

The proposed new line will connect into Woolooga Substation, located 25km north-west of Gympie. The total investigation area between Borumba Dam and the existing substation extends across nine local townships including Brooloo, Imbil, Kadanga, Amamoor, Dagon, Glastonbury, Lower Wonga, Widgee and Kilkivan.

There are three broad options being proposed, known as Western, Central and Eastern corridor options. The connection may be 275kV (similar to existing lines in the area) or up to 500kV if required following preliminary studies.

It is important to note that the corridors shown are approximately 4km wide, which is much wider than a final recommended corridor for a new transmission line. By showing wider corridors we can then fully consider community and landholder feedback in selecting a recommended corridor. The transmission line easement within the final selected corridor will be much smaller – either 60m wide (for 275kV transmission lines) or 70m wide (for 500kV transmission lines).

In determining the new transmission line corridor, we will assess a range of social, economic and environmental factors such as future land use, the location of homes, flora and fauna, existing electricity infrastructure corridors, terrain, visual amenity and other key factors. Input from landholders and the wider community is an important part of this process, and will guide our planning and decision-making.

The western connection will be at Powerlink's existing Tarong Substation or Halys Substation (refer to the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project – Tarong/Halys Transmission Line Corridor Options fact sheet for more information).

Why have you considered Woolooga Substation?

Woolooga Substation can support the connection of 275kV transmission lines. While a minimum of one 275kV transmission line is required to connect to Woolooga, consideration is being given to the possible development of a new 500kV transmission line to feed into the network, subject to further studies.

If a 500kV network is proposed, a new 500kV Woolooga Substation will be built and connection made to the existing 275kV substation and the broad corridors identified will connect into this new substation. Utilising 500kV connections has the potential to provide significant network benefits across southern and central Queensland.

How will you assess these corridor options?

We are now seeking your insights and feedback on these corridor options. With the help of your local knowledge and input, our project team will further assess each corridor using both qualitative and quantitative information. Qualitative assessment includes professional expert input, landholder feedback and general insights as part of the engagement. Quantitative assessment considers numerical data on impacted areas (e.g. intensive cultivated land), transmission line length, and individual counts (e.g. houses, schools, number of land parcels).

This assessment process involves weighing up the potential environmental, social and economic impacts of each corridor option. The recommended corridor will be the option that has the least overall impacts on a range of environmental, social and economic factors. The assessment of these corridors and the recommended corridor will be outlined in a Draft Corridor Selection Report (CSR) which will be released for further input and feedback in early 2023. This is part of our commitment to early and ongoing engagement throughout this process.

Borumba Pumped Hydro Project - Woolooga Transmission Line Connection Options

Woolooga West

This corridor traverses north-west from the proposed pumped hydro facility and is the longest corridor option as it travels up and around Wrattens National Park. The corridor travels through Yabba and Gallangowan state forests. It then follows in a north-east direction, south of the Wide Bay Highway, connecting into Woolooga Substation from the west.

Woolooga Central with sub-options A and B

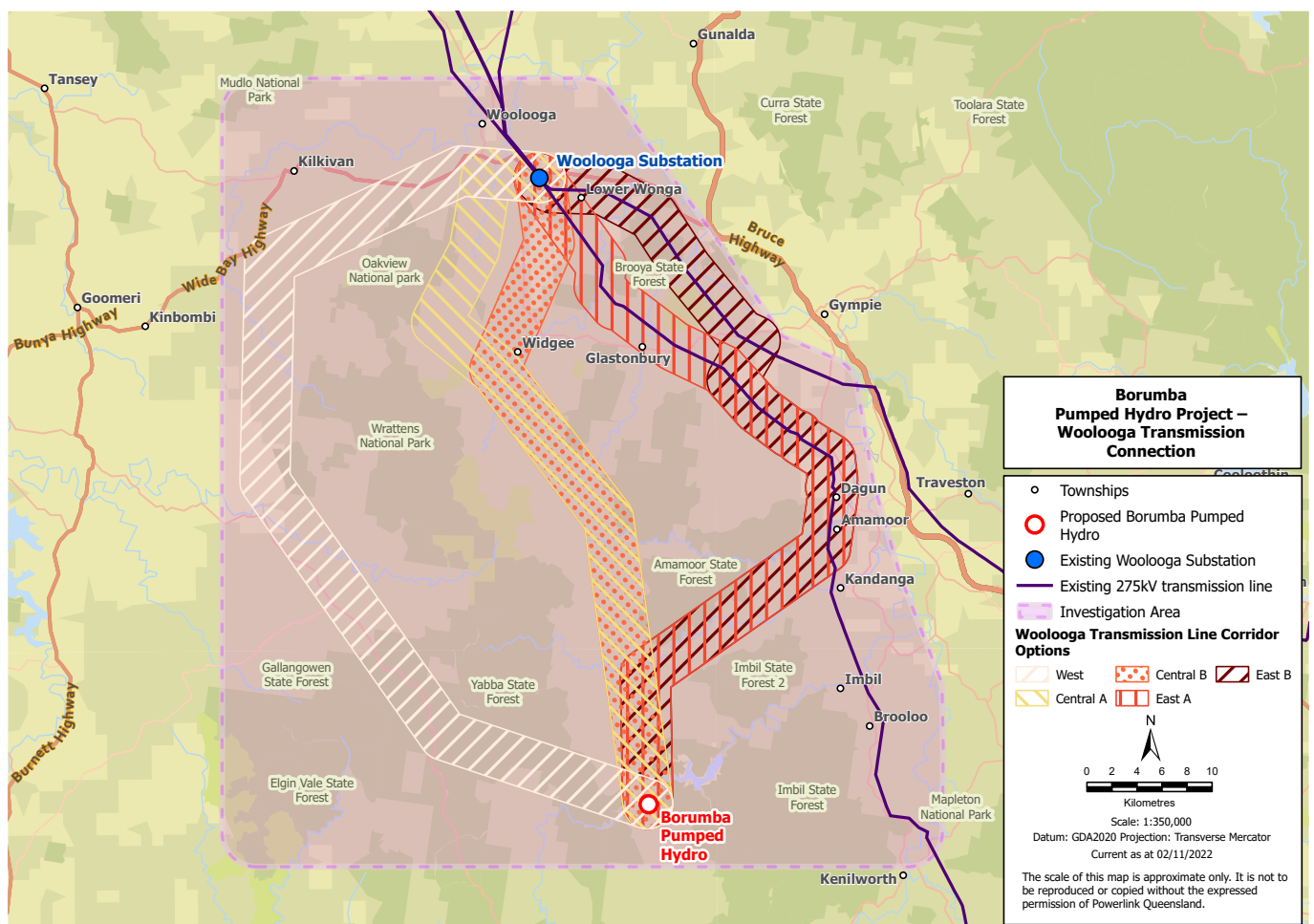
This corridor is the most direct option, travelling north from the proposed pumped hydro facility between Wrattens National Park and Amamoor State Forest, towards Woolooga Substation.

From this corridor, there are two options to connect into Woolooga Substation. Option A heads further west next to Oakview National Park and then connects into Woolooga Substation from the west. Option B veers directly into Woolooga Substation, connecting from the south.

Woolooga East with sub-options A and B

This corridor co-locates with the existing 275kV transmission line between Amamoor and the Woolooga Substation. The corridor travels north from the proposed pumped hydro facility and veers north-east between Amamoor and Imbil state forests to connect to the existing 275kV transmission line between Kandanga and Amamoor.

From this corridor, there are two options to connect into Woolooga Substation. Option A is a co-located route into Woolooga Substation and is the most direct option. Option B travels north of Glastonbury and co-locates with another 275kV transmission line for the remaining distance, connecting into Woolooga Substation from the east. A co-location option would still require the acquisition of additional land and the construction of a new transmission line connection. A significant proportion of the co-located area includes rural residential lots of less than 10 hectares in size.





Existing Woolooga Substation

Woolooga – Proposed transmission line corridor option characteristics

Description	West	Central A	Central B	East A	East B
Corridor length	83km	61km	54km	69km	72km
Co-location with existing transmission lines	Nil	Nil	Nil	44 km	43 km
Some impact on intensively cultivated areas	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Opportunity to follow property boundaries where possible	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Potential impacts to remnant vegetation	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

To learn more about the Borumba Pumped Hydro – Transmission Connections Project, please contact the project team on 07 3860 2111. You can also use the QR code to access our project webpage.

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