

# Borumba Pumped Hydro Project

Update July 2022

The Queensland Government and Powerlink are undertaking investigations at Borumba Dam to help determine if it's suitable for a pumped hydro energy storage facility.

This project update outlines the recent Borumba Pumped Hydro Project announcement and the field survey activities taking place throughout June and July 2022.



Aquatic ecological survey – Electro-fishing.

## Government announces addition \$13 million for Borumba Pumped Hydro Project

On 10 June 2022, the Queensland Government announced an additional \$13 million for Powerlink to expand the scope of studies for the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project and enable a final investment decision. This includes engineering, environmental, social, and recreation studies. Powerlink's current investigations relating to the detailed design and cost analysis are on track and on budget.

This funding will support deeper engagement with native title and cultural heritage parties on the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project. The Queensland Government strongly reaffirms that support from the Kabi Kabi peoples and the community is integral to the success of the project.

The announcement also demonstrates the Queensland Government's commitment to develop the deep storage required to support a clean energy future for Queensland.

The project is committed to community and stakeholder engagement, and will still need to undergo further approvals before proceeding to construction. This will include an environmental approval process which includes relevant approvals from State and Federal Governments.



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## Field studies in progress

Field investigations commenced in June as part of the detailed analytical studies. These studies include investigations at both the lower and upper reservoir sites, as well as some locations upstream and downstream of the reservoirs. Studying areas upstream and downstream of the reservoirs helps us to understand the existing environmental conditions and catchment functions. By understanding the existing environmental conditions, we can identify potential environmental impacts of the project.

Field surveys currently under way or commencing in June and July include:

- **Geotechnical investigations and seismic survey** - The geotechnical investigations and seismic survey are continuing at the upper reservoir site. These studies play an important role in informing and developing the project design. As the drilling continues, the data will be analysed to identify possible geotechnical risks, such as stability of slopes, type of foundation, and faults.
- **Geomorphological investigation** - The purpose of the study is to understand the catchment landforms and terrain, as well as the sediments at the land surface and the floors of waterbodies within the catchment. Field surveys will include both surveys on foot and aerial surveys.
- **Terrestrial ecology** - Terrestrial ecology surveys continue at both the lower and upper reservoirs, and other locations in the catchment. These ground-based surveys help us understand the baseline ecological conditions and assess ecological conditions after the wet season. Dry season surveys are expected to commence later in 2022, depending on rainfall.
- **Aquatic ecology** - Aquatic ecology surveys commenced in mid-June at both the lower and upper reservoirs, as well as other locations in the catchment. The surveys will include a range of survey techniques including fauna trapping, shore and boat-based fishing and electro fishing, and in-stream surveys.
- **Topographic survey** - In late 2021 an aerial (using LiDAR) and vessel-based topographic survey was completed for the dam, upper reservoir, and surrounding landscape. Engineering studies have now identified additional areas for detailed topographic survey, which will take place in June.

## Community drop-in sessions

To find out more about the project, provide feedback or speak to the project team, come along to one of the following community drop-in sessions at a time convenient to you.

### SESSION 1:

**WHEN:** Wednesday 13 July 2022, 3pm - 7pm

**WHERE:** Mary Valley Memorial Hall, 127 Yabba Road, Imbil

### SESSION 2:

**WHEN:** Thursday 14 July 2022, 3pm - 6pm

**WHERE:** The Pavilion Conference & Reception Centre, Adrian McClintock Park, 77 Exhibition Rd, Southside, Gympie



## Contact us



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Register your interest in the project at [www.powerlink.com.au/borumba](http://www.powerlink.com.au/borumba)



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