

# Borumba Pumped Hydro Project



## Community Grants Program now open

Queensland Hydro's Community Grants Program offers grants up to \$10,000 to eligible community organisations or initiatives that align with Queensland Hydro's Community Benefits Framework.

Applications for the first round opened on Monday 3 September 2024 and will close on Friday 11 October 2024.

Initiatives need to align with one of our four key themes:

- tourism and economy
- health and wellbeing
- culture and connection, and
- environment and sustainability

If you have questions about the Community Grants Program, including eligibility requirements, dates or how to submit your application, reach out to our team via [community@qldhydro.com.au](mailto:community@qldhydro.com.au)

## An update on exploratory works approvals

On 13 September 2024, a works regulation was approved by the Governor-in-Council following the Coordinator-General's recommendation to direct Queensland Hydro to undertake exploratory works for the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project. The works regulation was enacted through an amendment to the State Development and Public Works Organisation Regulation 2020.

The works regulation was largely issued because the planning schemes in the respective local government areas were not developed to assess large hydropower projects.

This means that some exploratory works can commence, such as geotechnical investigations and soil sampling to inform project or engineering design development. More information about the works covered by the regulation can be found Via the Office of the Coordinator-General website.

While the regulation removes the requirement for development assessment under the Somerset and Gympie Regional Council planning schemes, the majority of the exploratory works have been determined a controlled action requirement assessment under the federal Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. Queensland Hydro continues to seek regulatory approvals from the federal government.





## Local contractors appointed to surface drilling works panel

Three south-east Queensland businesses were successful in being appointed to Queensland Hydro's surface geotechnical drilling panel, to provide drilling services on the proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Project.

GeoDrilling Australia from Chevallum, Tier 1 Drilling from Morayfield and SJ Drilling from Jimboomba were successful in tendering for the \$25 million exploratory works package.

This is a two-year program of work provides local companies with certainty and surety and keeps economic benefits flowing into the region.

## Upcoming site works

The following works are planned for the proposed Borumba Project over the next month.

- borehole drilling at the lower reservoir
- surface drilling at the upper reservoir
- geotechnical access surveys
- water quality sampling
- geotechnical and ecological surveys at the site of the proposed temporary workers' accommodation camps
- installation of water services on site
- cultural heritage inspections
- general maintenance activities across the site

Queensland Hydro does not carry out works unless all appropriate approvals are in place.

Depending on the weather and conditions for work, our plans may change. Our current works notifications can be found on our website.

## We want to hear from you

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## \$190 million worth of packages awarded for Borumba Project

Queensland Hydro recently awarded more than \$190 million in packages for the proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Project.

As part of this, Decmil, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Macmahon Holdings Limited, was awarded the \$111 million contract to design and construct two state-of-the-art temporary workers camps.

By housing as many workers as possible in these camps, we'll be reducing the need for workers to occupy homes or other accommodation within the regions near our project. It will also minimise traffic impacts from vehicles travelling to and from the project site.

Early planning by Queensland Hydro identified temporary camps would provide a safe working environment by drastically reducing potential commute times for workers, assisting with fatigue management.

Initial construction will see two camps built to accommodate the immediate needs of the workforce, before the two temporary workers' accommodation camps will be constructed at the same locations. This staged approach to delivery ensures impacts on the community can be reduced now and into the future as the workforce grows.

Other contract awards included AFRY-Aurecon Joint Venture (JV) appointed as Pumped Hydro Energy Storage (PHES) Designer Delivery Partner, and Water2Wire Joint Venture (JV) were appointed as the Dams Designer Delivery Partner. More information about these packages can be found on our website.