



Borumba Pumped Hydro Project

Stakeholder Reference Group Regular Meeting

28 NOVEMBER 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, Queensland Hydro acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Queensland and, in particular the lands, skies and waters on which we operate. We celebrate the diversity of Aboriginal peoples and their ongoing cultures and connections to the lands, skies and waters of Queensland.

Queensland Hydro pays respect to Elders past and present honouring their continuing spiritual and cultural connections to Country.

Agenda

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Welcome and
Introductions

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Environment
and Approvals

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Project Update

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Stakeholder
Engagement
Update

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Meeting Wrap-up

Introductions and housekeeping

- Introductions
- Terms of Reference (TOR)
 - Reminder of the 'rules of engagement'
 - act with honesty, good faith, and integrity
 - represent the interest of their group / organisation rather than individual interests or issues
 - respect that the role of members is to provide insight and advice
 - maintain confidentiality of discussions within the meeting
 - be respectful to fellow participants and not engage in unconstructive, intimidating or disorderly behaviour
 - treat all participants with respect and courtesy and follow good meeting practices

Environment & Approvals



EPBC (Commonwealth) approvals

Approval Stage	Exploratory Works		Main Works	
	Status	Timing	Status	Timing
EPBC Referral	✓	Feb 2023	✓	Sep 2023
Public comment	✓	Feb 2023	✓	Nov 2023
Controlled action & assessment approach decision by DCCEEW	✓	Mar 2023	○	Expected Dec 2023
Required documentation prepared by Queensland Hydro	✓	Preliminary documentation submitted Oct 2023	○	Q1 2023 – Q4 2024
Initial assessment by DCCEEW	○	In progress	○	Q4 2024
Request for further information	○	Expected early Dec 2023	○	Q4 2024
Public comment	○	Potentially early 2024	○	Q4 2024
Revision of documentation	○	To be determined if required	○	Q1-Q2 2025
Decision by DCCEEW	○	Potentially Q1 2024	○	Q4 2025
Proposed works commencement - subject to approvals	○	Q1 2024	○	Q4 2025

Note: *Italics* indicate indicative timing in project schedule. Timing subject to change.

✓ = Complete ○ = Yet to be completed

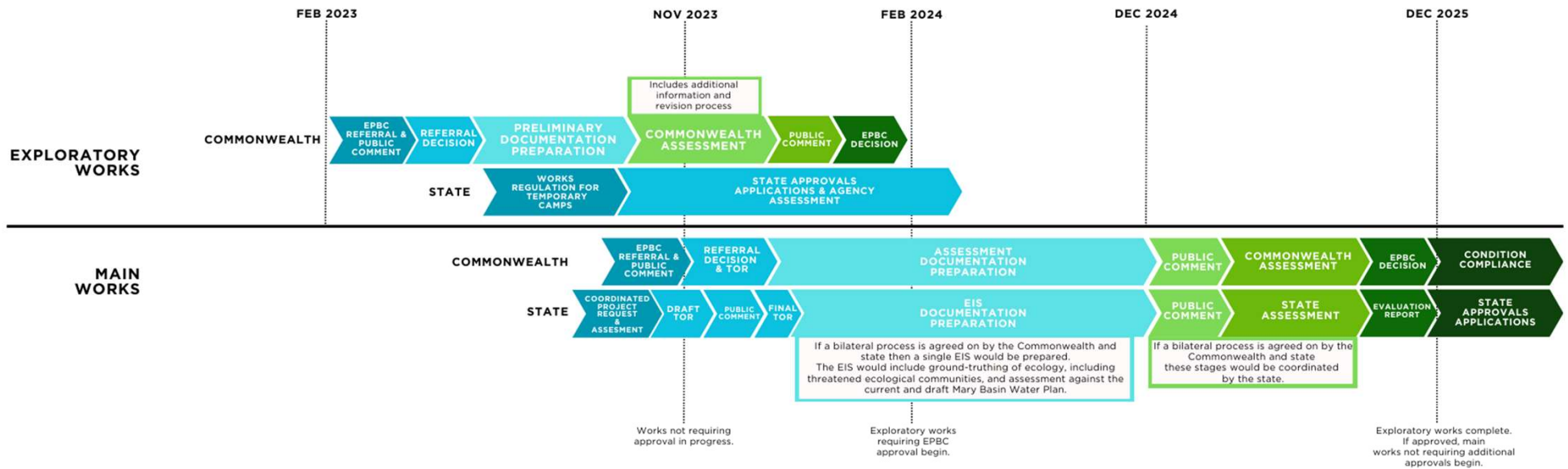
State approvals

Approval Stage	Exploratory Works		Main Works	
	Status	Timing	Status	Timing
Coordinated project application	✘	Not applicable	✓	Sep 2023
Coordinated project declaration by Office of Coordinator-General	✘	Not applicable	✓	Oct 2023
Draft EIS terms of reference released for public comment	✘	Not applicable	○	Expected Q1 2024
Final EIS terms of reference	✘	Not applicable	○	Q1 2024
Draft EIS submission	✘	Not applicable	○	Q4 2024
Public comment on EIS	✘	Not applicable	○	Q4 2024
EIS revisions	✘	Not applicable	○	Q1-Q2 2025
EIS process complete	✘	Not applicable	○	Q4 2025
State approvals applications	○	Q3 2023 – Q2 2024	○	Q4 2025 – Q2 2026
Proposed works commencement - subject to approvals	✓ ○	Q3 2023 – if approvals not required Q1 2024 – if subject to approvals	○	Q4 2025 – Q2 2026

Note: *Italics* indicate indicative timing in project schedule. Timing subject to change.

✓ = Complete ○ = Yet to be completed ✘ = Not applicable

Approvals Timing



Note: Indicative timing only - subject to change.

If the project is assessed under the bilateral, the Commonwealth makes EPBC Act decisions

What is the bilateral agreement:

- There is a bilateral agreement in place between the Commonwealth Government and each of the state and territory governments, including the Queensland Government.
- The Commonwealth Government has accredited the Queensland Government's assessment and approval processes.
- The existence of the bilateral agreements recognises the value of a single assessment of all relevant matters, and ensures that impact assessment is both effective and efficient.

The Commonwealth makes EPBC decisions:

- If the minister decides that the proposed Borumba Project Main Works is a controlled action, she will also decide:
 - what type of assessment is required
 - whether it will be assessed under the bilateral agreement.
- If the minister decides the assessment will be under the bilateral agreement, the Queensland Government will be required to provide an assessment report to the Commonwealth Government.
- The Commonwealth Government makes the final EPBC Act decision.

To proceed, the project will need both Commonwealth and Queensland Government approval regardless of any bilateral decision

Prescribed Project, Critical Infrastructure Project & Works Regulation

Queensland Hydro has applied to the Coordinator-General to have the project declared a **prescribed project** and **critical infrastructure project**.

Queensland Hydro will also ask the Coordinator-General for an additional **works regulation**.

Prescribed Project

- A prescribed project declaration enables the Coordinator-General, if necessary, to intervene in state and local government approval processes to ensure timely decision-making for the prescribed project.
- The Minister may consider public interest, potential environmental effects, and other matters considered relevant.

Critical infrastructure project

- The Minister may also declare it a critical infrastructure project at the same time as declaring it a prescribed project.
- It enables the Minister's powers to register a 'critical infrastructure easement' (CIE) over existing public utility easements, but does not extinguish the existing public utility easement.

Works Regulation

- If approved by the Minister and the Governor in Council, a regulation that directs a local body to undertake the works may be made.
- The requested works would no longer be assessable development under the local government planning scheme.

Project Update



Project Works Update

Current works

- Internal Road Safety Improvements – Walkers Top Rd
- QFES
- Paramedic Services EOI
- Initial Geotechnical Drilling Contractors

Next steps

- External Road Safety Improvements – Bella Creek Rd
- External Road Safety Improvements – Yielo Rd
- TWACs
- Supply of Temporary Bridges
- Surface Civil Works (Internal roads, tracks & earthworks)
- Temporary Water Infrastructure
- Survey Control Establishment

Exploratory works

- Technical Services & Management – Geotechnical
- Geotechnical Drilling Contractor Panel
- Technical Services & Management – Tunnelling
- Exploratory Tunnelling Contractor

Initial Geotechnical Drilling

- The drilling of twenty-two (28) holes are complete as of Friday the 13/11/2023
 - 20 water monitoring (including geotechnical) + 8 dedicated geotechnical boreholes
- 9 x boreholes remaining

The below image shows an example of core cut **from the lower dam footprint** at borehole BR-LR-DAM1-BH029. This is a deformed, brecciated, and subsequently relithified chert, and then refractured again. The rock is very hard, brittle and badly fractured at this depth.



The image below shows an example of core cut from borehole BR-GW-UR01-MB014 which is **over the tunnel alignment**. The photo shows low grade metamorphic rock, which was once upon a time silt and clay. This sample is taken from approx. 195m in depth. No major faults have been recorded to date and all findings for the first 195m are positive.



Temporary Workers Accommodation Camps (TWACs)

- Tender closed and being evaluated
- Contract award due Q1 2024
- Onsite work to commence from Q2 24
- Occupancy of the initial 30 beds by Q3 24

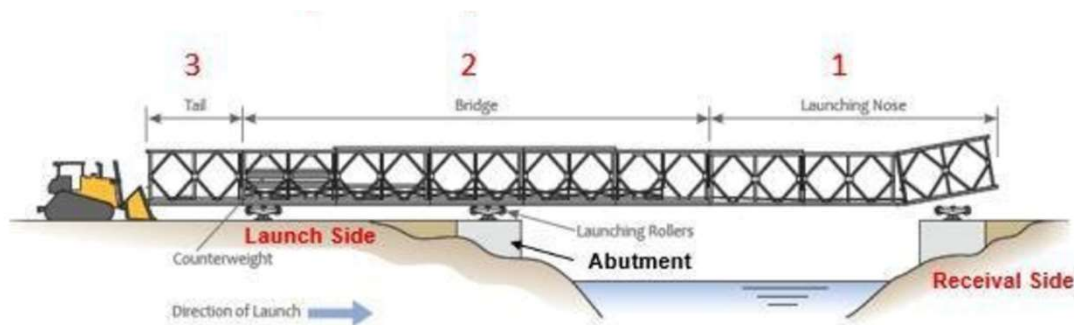
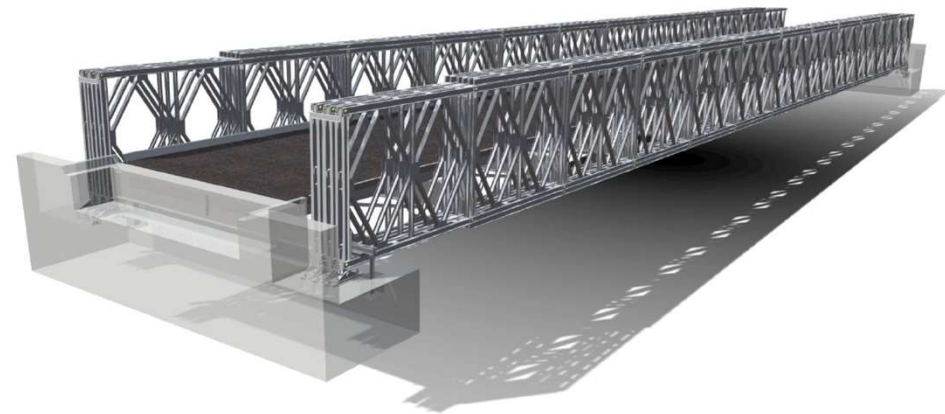


Constructing TWACs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two TWACs will be constructed (Borgan and Walkers Top) to house workers during exploratory works. • Each TWAC will accommodate up to 168 workers. • Camps will be constructed over approximately 16 weeks. • Building modules will be transported via escorted oversize heavy vehicles.
TWAC operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TWACs will be managed by a camp Contractor and will operate 24/7. • Fully self-sufficient. • Waste material will be stored and transported off site.
Work crew mobilisation to TWACs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buses will transport workers to and from site, arriving and departing several times per week. • This will significantly reduce the traffic impact of workers driving private vehicles to and from site. • Shift patterns are yet to be determined. • Buses will use a designated transport route.

Note: Indicative timing only - subject to change.

Supply of Temporary Bridges

- 4 x bridges to be supplied
- Tenders closed and being evaluated
- Contract award due December 2023
- Delivery of bridges Q2-3 2024
- Bridges to be assembled from small components
- Then 'launched' into position



Note: Indicative timing and design only - subject to change.

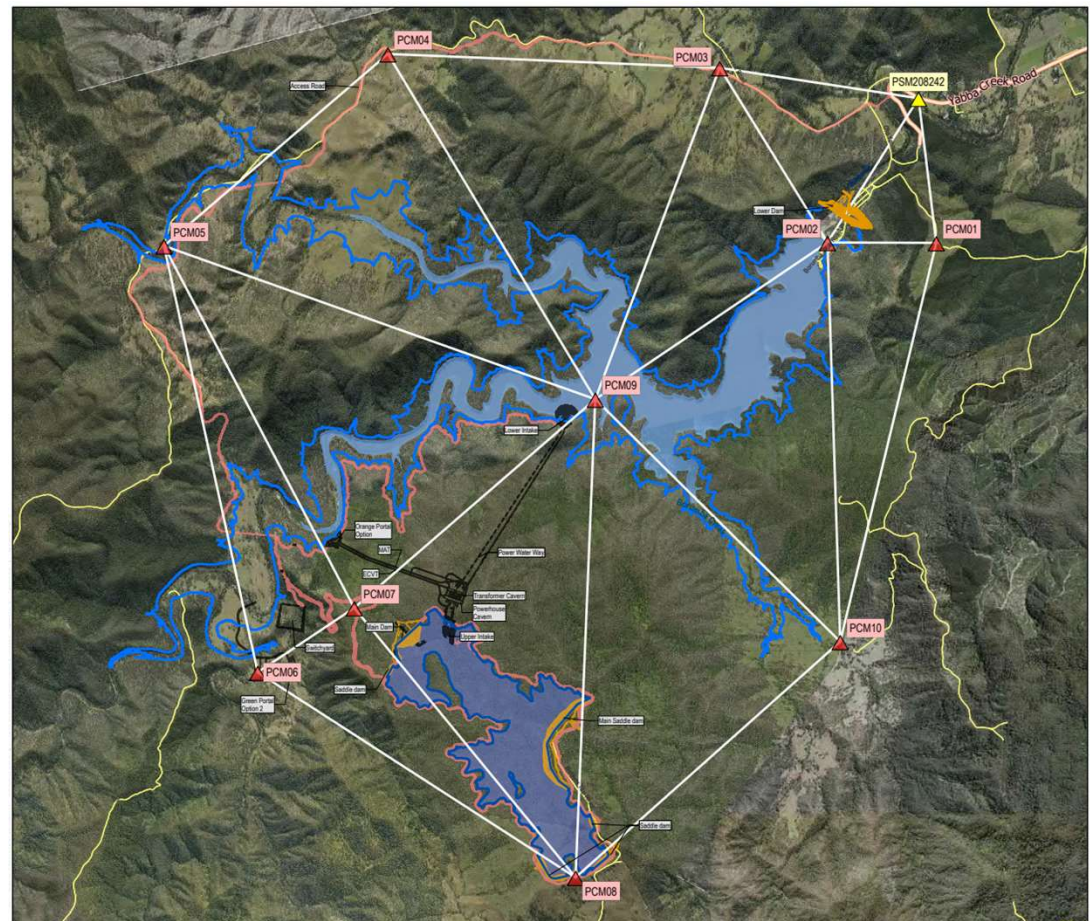
Temporary Water Infrastructure

- Tender has been released to market and will be awarded in 2024
- Onsite work to commence in Q2 2024

Survey Control Establishment

- Tender due to be released in 2024

Note: Indicative timing only - subject to change.



Project Design

- The final Project design is subject to change based on findings during the exploratory works phase and will not proceed without the appropriate environmental approvals.
- Preliminary designs estimate the water tunnel entry at roughly 120 mAHD is approximately 45m below the top of the inlet/outlet structure at 165 mAHD.
- There is approximately 10m between the top of the inlet structure to the water level (155mAHD) when the new lower dam is full.
- The normal operating range of the hydro scheme results in an approximate fluctuation of lower reservoir water level between 3m to 6m based on the levels of 155mAHD (full supply) and 130mAHD (minimum operating level) respectively.

Traffic

There will be an increase of construction vehicles along local roads including Yabba Creek, Yielo, and Bella Creek roads:

- Construction light vehicles (4WD).
- Small delivery trucks.
- Semi trailers and truck and dogs delivering materials.
- Heavy machinery delivery vehicles (some requiring escort vehicles).

Road improvement works will occur on Bella Creek, Yielo, and Borgan roads to allow safe access to the Project site and support increased light and heavy vehicle movements.

Queensland Hydro will minimise noise and disturbance to residents:

- Restricting truck movements on weekends particularly during special community events, on weekends, during timber logging periods.
- All people working on the Project will follow traffic rules.
- To reduce dust, access roads and tracks will be stabilised with rock, speed reduction limits will be in place and water carts may be used.
- Designated haulage routes.

Notifying the community

- We will advise the community of works via:
 - email
 - factsheet via letterbox drop, noticeboard, website
 - social media
- We encourage community members to provide local insights and feedback via phone (**1800 433 939**) and email **bourmba@qldhydro.com.au**
- Queensland Hydro will host regular community connect events, dates for these events will be provided on the website.
- Community members will be able to make an appointment to speak with our project team by contacting the 1800 #

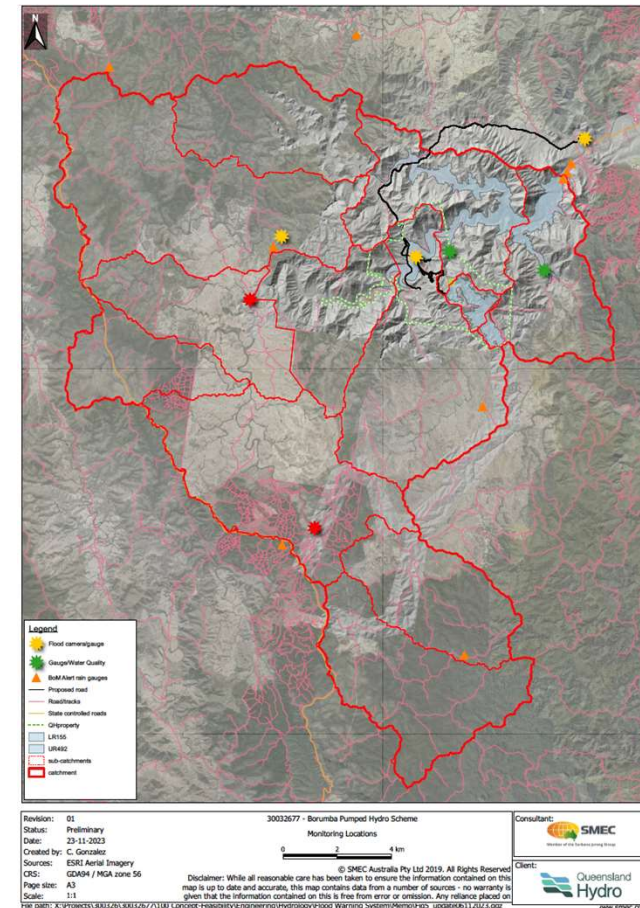


*Queensland Hydro Imbil Office anticipated to open in December 2023.
Office hours are yet to be determined.*

Environmental Monitoring

- Queensland Hydro has carried out some water monitoring.
- We will install water monitoring and sampling equipment so we can collect and publish data in relation to sediment in the Borumba Dam catchment.
- We are currently doing the work so we can identify the best locations for that equipment. Depending on where those locations are, we may need to obtain consent from third parties to install the stations
- We will take the approach of publishing monitoring data for other aspects such as air quality, noise, vibration, and dust.

- Rainfall & River Level
- Real Time Alerting
- BoM Certified
- TMR Compliant
- Camera Upgradeable
- Cost reduction options
- Service & maintenance
 - Training
 - Services



Morning Tea



Regional Update



Accommodation Information Gathering Process

- Provide community members, organisations and businesses a fair, equitable and transparent process to present opportunities and proposals for potential accommodation solutions.

Strategic Fit

- Aligns with Queensland Hydro's core values
- Supports our mission and long-term vision
- Supports Regional Development

Community Impact

- Economic growth, quality of life, social and environmental wellbeing
- Inclusive and accessible
- Proposals supported stakeholders

Location

- Prioritising proximity to site
- Benefit our workforce and local communities
- Reduce driver fatigue

Deliverability

- Practicality and feasibility of each proposal
- Clear budget and timeframe
- Value for money, accountability and transparency
- Proposals meet appropriate standards and are located on appropriately zoned land

Industry Engagement

Industry Engagement Strategy being progressed

- Consultation with Gympie Regional Council

Workforce Planning and Skills

- Early industry engagement is being planned for 2024 to understand skills requirements

Recent Industry Events

- Gympie Business Awards gala presentation night
- Gympie Industry Careers Expo at Gympie TAFE
- Growing Queensland Business Roadshow
- Economic Development Queensland

Queensland Hydro Scholarships

- Queensland Hydro has partnered with the University of Sunshine Coast to deliver the 2023 and 2024 Queensland Hydro Scholarships, providing two eligible engineering students in each year with \$10,000 each.
- Application form on UniSC website



Stakeholder Engagement Update



Since our last regular meeting we have...

- Had 400+ interactions with community members via email, phone and at events which allows us to learn what matters to community.
- Commenced regular business drop-ins in the Borumba region.
- Attended the following events:
 - Emergency Services information session in Gympie
 - Project Site on R U Okay Day
 - The Lake Borumba Fish Stocking Association's fingerling release day
 - Sponsored the Mary Valley Scarecrow Festival

In 2023, we have...

- Held 8 SRG regular and extraordinary meetings in 2023 across Gympie, Imbil and Kandanga to discuss important topics:
 - Planning and approvals
 - Potential environmental impacts
 - Community benefits
 - Traffic and transport
 - Transmission lines
 - Regional development
 - Stakeholder engagement activities

For discussion:
Our desire is to involve the SRG in finding solutions and deciding how benefits should be shared. How does that fit with your expectations?

Questions?



Thank you

Get in touch

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