

Traffic management

Borumba Pumped Hydro Project



About the Project

The proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Project is a pumped hydro energy storage project being developed at Lake Borumba, and surrounding areas located between Imbil, west of the Sunshine Coast, and Jimna in the Somerset region.

From March 2026, Queensland Hydro will be undertaking exploratory works for the Borumba Project. Exploratory works are critical activities that will confirm geotechnical conditions and characteristics of the Borumba Project site, which will inform detailed design. This work is expected to take two years.

i More information about exploratory works can be found on our website.



Transport routes

Major infrastructure projects generate additional traffic from construction activities, equipment deliveries, spoil haulage, and workforce transport. Queensland Hydro's priority is to manage this safely for workers and the community.

Given the size of the proposed Borumba Project site, there are two transport routes: a northern route and a southern route.

Northern route

The northern route provides access via Yabba Creek Road, Bella Creek Road and a network of connecting routes linking with the Bruce Highway and surrounding towns, such as Gympie and Imbil. This route services the main exploratory works area, including tunnel portal and geotechnical drilling locations.

Southern route

The southern route provides access to site via Kilcoy Murgon Road, Sunday Creek Road and Yello Road. This route services the upper reservoir exploratory works area.

Expected traffic numbers

Queensland Hydro has undertaken traffic modelling to understand likely traffic numbers as part of our exploratory works phase and to consider how project traffic will interact with existing road users.

Modelling indicates that project traffic will slowly increase until the last quarter of 2026 when we will see the estimated peak in the daily traffic.

Estimated daily traffic

Previously a Traffic Impact Assessment (TIA) had been developed for the planned scope and schedule of works. Queensland Hydro has completed a rescoping of exploratory works, reducing activities to align with those common to the schemes under consideration in the business case.

Based on the proposed exploratory works scope and Queensland Hydro's internal assessment of project traffic levels, there should be a potential 50% reduction in project traffic compared with the original TIA.



Working hours

General construction activities will take place Monday to Sunday from 6:30am to 6:00 pm. No work will occur on public holidays.


Geotechnical drilling and underground construction hours may occur 24/7.

Minimising traffic impacts

Queensland Hydro is committed to minimising impacts on the communities around our proposed Borumba Project. We've developed a Road-Use Management Plan (RMP) which sets out the measures we'll take to keep motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists safe.

Key initiatives include:

- reducing vehicle numbers travelling to site by providing park and ride areas for the workforce
- limiting heavy vehicle use to selected routes
- restricting heavy vehicle movements on school bus routes and in the vicinity of local schools during drop off and pick up peaks
- promoting safe driving practices for employees and delivery partners
- carrying out improvements to the network where required
- managing traffic at identified pinch points on the network
- consulting with the relevant road authorities and or road managers on identified issues and mitigation measures
- proactive engagement with community members to provide updates and receive feedback on anticipated traffic movements and management measures.

 You can find a copy of the RMP on our website.

Expected impacts

During exploratory works, local road users and residents may notice:

- increased construction traffic on key roads across both transport routes, including Yabba Creek Road, Bella Creek Road, Kilcoy Murgon Road, Sunday Creek Road and Yielo Road
- occasional delays at single-lane bridges or narrow sections
- more heavy vehicles during peak construction periods (late 2026–2027)
- temporary traffic controls at key intersections.

Queensland Hydro will continue to work with Gympie Regional Council, Somerset Regional Council, Transport and Main Roads, and the community to manage impacts and maintain safety.

More information

Stay up to date with Queensland Hydro and the Borumba Pumped Hydro Project.

1800 433 939

borumba@qldhydro.com.au

qldhydro.com.au