



Meeting Communique – 1 August 2024

The Queensland Energy System Advisory Board (the Board) had its first meeting on 1 August in Brisbane. As part of this meeting, the Board endorsed Terms of Reference and a Forward Work Program for the current financial year.

The Board discussed the approach and contents for their first Annual Progress Statement, which is required under the *Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Act 2024* (the Act) to be tabled by the end of September.

The Act requires the Annual Progress Statement to outline progress towards the renewable energy targets and delivery of the pathway outlined in the Infrastructure Blueprint. The Board considered that the statement would be more useful to stakeholders and the community if it covered a range of matters in addition to those required under the Act, such as work with regional communities, with First Nations communities, and the risks and opportunities for the transformation.

The Board also discussed the approach to the next Infrastructure Blueprint, providing advice and direction to the Department of Energy and Climate on their approach. The discussion highlighted the need to consider a broad range of implementation issues.

The Gladstone Project has been declared as a candidate Priority Transmission Investment under the Act. The primary purpose of the Gladstone Project is the reinforcement of the Gladstone network to support decarbonisation in the region. The proposed investment also provides some incremental renewable connection capacity. At this meeting, Powerlink consulted with the Board on the identified need for the project as required by the Act. Powerlink is due to provide its submission to Government on the no later than 16 August 2024. The Board considered Powerlink's proposed identified need was appropriate and suitably defined and made a number of other more minor comments. The Board is preparing a letter to Powerlink outlining its position.

To promote transparency in the Board's discussions and operations, the Board agreed it would release a communique of key outcomes from each meeting. This will be published on the Department of Energy and Climate's website.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be in September 2024.

