

PROJECT OVERVIEW

## **Border to Gowrie**



The NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie (B2G) section is approximately 217km of new track to provide open access freight railway for Inland Rail.

The section involves building approximately 149km of new track and upgrading approximately 68km of track from the New South Wales/Queensland border, near Yelarbon, to Gowrie Junction, northwest of Toowoomba in Queensland. Track on the B2G section will be constructed to enable connection with existing narrow gauge track in Queensland and standard gauge in New South Wales.

The scope of work includes 29 public level crossings, five crossing loops and 37 bridges. Once completed, the B2G section of Inland Rail will connect one of Australia's most productive farming regions to markets across the country.

## What's been happening?

#### Ongoing field and geotechnical investigations

As part of B2G's revised draft Environmental Impact Statement, we have undertaken extensive field studies to gain an understanding of environmental features, technical challenges and opportunities including:

- geotechnical and ecological surveys to gather information about soil, rock and native habitats
- hydrology studies to examine flooding and surface water movements
- noise, air quality and vibration surveys to measure these levels at key project sites
- utility identification surveys to identify infrastructure such as gas and water pipelines



 land and heritage surveys – to identify property boundaries and investigate any evidence of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artefacts and heritage.

#### Hydrology modelling

In 2022, the Australian Government released the final report from the Independent International Panel of Experts for flood studies in Queensland (the Panel). The Panel found that our flood models in Queensland are fit for purpose and demonstrate industry best practice for the reference design stage.

Project	Concept assessment	Reference design	Environmental approvals	Property acquisition, design refinement & early works	Detailed design, early works & construction	Commis & opera	
stages	1	2	3	4	5	6	V
				Stages 3-5 may occur in parallel			



We will implement the Panel's six recommendations into the revised draft EIS for the B2G section and refine through the detailed design process. We have also been consulting with landowners and key stakeholders to update the B2G flood model and river crossing design.

### What's happening next?

Land access and acquisition discussions and site investigations are a priority for us to secure the Inland Rail corridor and seek environmental approval for the B2G section.

#### Revised draft Environmental Impact Statement

We are preparing to submit the section's revised draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the Queensland Coordinator-General (CG).

Site investigations and field studies will continue as required to support the revised draft EIS. Investigations on private property will be arranged with individual landowners. All investigations are weather permitting.

The revised draft EIS will be subject to a period of public consultation to ensure all stakeholders can consider Inland Rail's proposal.

The revised draft EIS is being prepared in response to:

- · submissions received from stakeholders following the public exhibition of the draft EIS in 2021
- further consultation with impacted landholders
- · the availability of more detailed surveys and studies
- · refinements to the project reference design aimed at avoiding and reducing impacts to the environment and community
- additional information and clarification requests from the Coordinator-General.

For more information please visit inlandrail.com.au/b2g.



## **About Inland Rail**

Inland Rail is a 1,600km fast freight rail line between Brisbane and Melbourne that is connecting businesses, manufacturers and producers to national and global markets and generating opportunities for industries and regions during construction and beyond.

Delivering Inland Rail will help shift more goods onto rail and take tens of thousands of large trucks off our roads. This means faster, more reliable freight; safer, less congested roads; and fewer emissions.

### Did you know?



74% of freight between Melbourne and Brisbane is moved by road



Moving freight by rail is four times more fuel-efficient than by road



One 1,800m Inland Rail train will take 110 B-double trucks off regional roads

# more



Find out OP We remain committed to working with the for the region and encourage you to get in touch with us, with questions big or small.

> Stop by our Toowoomba or Goondiwindi offices or call on 1800 732 761.



For more information, to view the interactive project map, or subscribe to our newsletter, visit inlandrail.com.au/b2g.

