



North Star to NSW/Qld Border

This 30km section of Inland Rail connects North Star in New South Wales (NSW) to the NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section near the NSW/Qld border.

The North Star to NSW/Qld Border section includes upgrading approximately 25km of non-operational rail line and building approximately 5km of new track to the NSW/Qld border at the Macintyre River, allowing for future connections to Goondiwindi and the broader region.

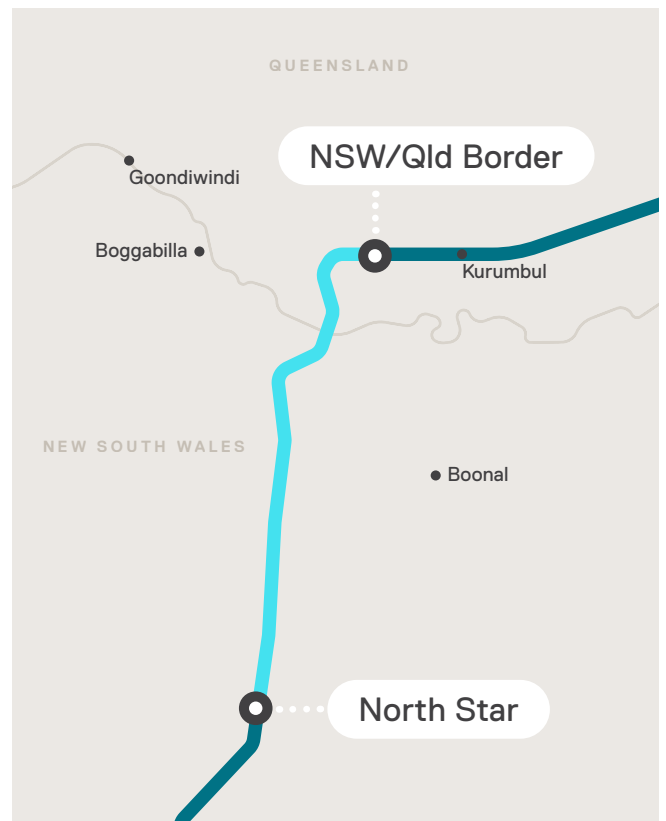
The NSW/QLD border is defined by the centre point of the Macintyre River.

The NS2B section follows the existing track north from North Star before crossing Bruxner Way at the border and includes an approximately 1.8km long viaduct over the Macintyre River and Whalan Creek connecting to the NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section.

Section status

In February 2023, Inland Rail received approval from the NSW Minister for Planning to progress the North Star to NSW/Qld Border section, subject to conditions.

Following NSW Government approval, the project was assessed by the Australian Government under the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC 1999)* and approved by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water in July 2023.



You can view the Planning Secretary's Assessment Report and Project's Conditions of Approval on the NSW Government Planning Portal website.

NS2B section stages





Artist's impression of the Macintyre River viaduct, NSW/Qld Border. Image shown does not represent final design.

What's been happening?

We have undertaken extensive field studies to better understand environmental features, technical challenges and opportunities of the NS2B section including:

- **geotechnical and ecological surveys** – to gather information about soil, rock and native habitats
- **hydrology studies** – to examine flooding and surface water movements
- **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.

Site investigations, environmental assessments and field studies will continue as we consult with landowners, local councils and other key stakeholders.

Field investigations and surveys can occur on public land, in road reserves and within existing rail corridor. Any investigations required on private property are arranged with and agreed to by individual landowners. All investigations are weather permitting.

What's happening next?

With all primary environmental approvals now achieved for this section, land access and acquisition discussions and site investigations are being prioritised so we can secure the Inland Rail corridor for the North Star to NSW/Qld Border section and provide the Australian Government with more certainty about the full scope and cost of Inland Rail.

For more information, please visit inlandrail.artc.com.au/NS2B.



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

Find out more



We remain committed to working with the community to ensure the best outcome 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/ns2b.

