

# NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie

The NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section consists of approximately 217km of freight railway for Inland Rail.

One of 12 Inland Rail sections, it connects to the North Star to NSW/Qld Border section in the south and the Gowrie to Helidon section in the northeast.

The section involves building approximately 149km of new track and upgrading approximately 68km of existing track from the NSW/Qld Border (approximately 18km southeast of Goondiwindi) to Gowrie Junction, northwest of Toowoomba in Queensland.

When completed, the NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section will link the existing narrow-gauge track in Queensland with standard-gauge track in NSW, significantly boosting freight connectivity between one of Australia's most productive farming regions and markets across the country.

Key infrastructure to be delivered includes crossing loops, bridges, drainage, level and grade separated crossings, signalling and road connections.

## Public consultation for the revised draft Environmental Impact Statement

Public consultation for Inland Rail's NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie revised draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) ran from Monday 12 May 2025 to Monday 4 August 2025 — a period of 12 weeks.

The revised draft EIS addresses:

- **submissions received** during public notification of the draft EIS in 2021
- **new data collected** through site investigations and environmental surveys
- **further consultation with key stakeholders** including government agencies, landowners and communities.

You can still view the revised draft EIS at the [statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/inlandrail-b2g](https://statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/inlandrail-b2g)



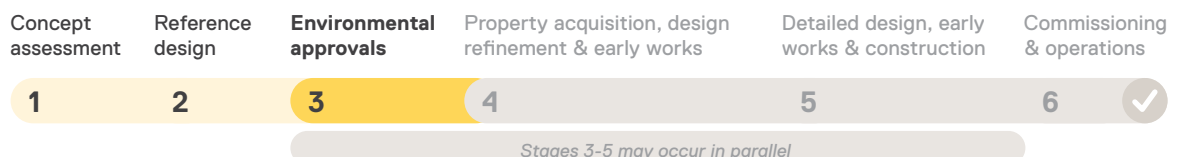
## What's next for environmental approvals?

The Queensland Coordinator-General has now provided Inland Rail with submissions received during the recent public consultation period.

We are now reviewing and addressing these submissions and preparing a response report to the Queensland Coordinator-General.

The Queensland Coordinator-General writes a final evaluation report for the project. The report will detail the Queensland Coordinator-General's conclusions regarding the project's environmental impacts and proposed mitigation measures.

## Project stages





Artist's impression of the Condamine River rail bridge.  
Image shown does not represent final design.

## Ongoing field investigations

Voluntary land acquisition discussions and ongoing landowner permission to conduct site investigations are a priority for us. Investigations on private property are arranged with individual landowners and comply with comprehensive Land Access Agreements.

This support will help us achieve environmental approval and secure land required to deliver Inland Rail in Queensland.

Various field studies will be completed to further understand technical and environmental impacts and to help refine the revised reference design for the NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section. These include:

- **geotechnical, field and ecological surveys** – to gather information about soil, rock and native habitats
- **utility identification surveys** – to identify infrastructure such as gas and water pipelines which may require relocating
- **land and cultural heritage surveys** – to identify property boundaries and investigate any evidence of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal heritage.

## Assessment and management of flooding

Since 2016, our flood modelling assessment methods and design standards have followed the highest relevant Queensland and Australian Government requirements. Our flood models have been peer reviewed and updated based on feedback. These models have also been confirmed as fit-for-purpose by industry experts and the Independent International Panel of Experts for Flood Studies, established by the Australian Government and Queensland Government to review flood modelling and designs for Inland Rail in Queensland.

We are using evidence from landowners, including photographs of historic and recent flood event modelling, and data from councils and government agencies to inform our flooding infrastructure design.

Further flooding mitigation measures will be included in future design refinements to address remaining flooding and geomorphology impacts.

## Timing

Inland Rail anticipates construction on the NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section is expected to commence by 2029.

All timings are subject to future decisions by the Australian Government.

Work is now underway to secure environmental and planning approvals through the Queensland Government.

Inland Rail Pty Ltd will progress the NSW/Qld Border to Gowrie section by:

- achieving environmental approvals
- completing detailed design
- conducting more site investigations to inform these designs
- acquiring land needed to build Inland Rail (temporary and permanent acquisitions); and
- consulting with landowners on how Inland Rail will interface with fencing, level crossings, bridges, utilities and farm dams on their properties and how property access will be maintained during construction and operations.

Major construction will take approximately four years to complete, followed by testing of the track before it becomes operational.



## 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 resilient 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**.

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