6 June 2025

European Energy Australia Pty Ltd
Level 17, 1 Nicholson Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002

Dear Catriona McLeod,

Thank You for Your Non-Confidential Submission on the Draft Assessment Report – Gladstone Project PTI

Powerlink Queensland thanks you and your colleagues for taking the time to provide your perspectives on our Draft Assessment Report for the Gladstone Project Priority Transmission Investment (PTI).

We appreciate the effort involved in preparing a submission and recognise the value of your contribution to this consultation process.

All submissions have been considered in the development of our Final Assessment Report. A snapshot of Powerlink's written response to the key matters raised is included below. Further information is included within the Final Assessment Report.

Issue	Powerlink response
Option 1(a) European Energy agreed that Option 1(a) is a credible option but expressed concern that the anticipated completion date (December 2028) for Stage 1 does not adequately reflect the urgency of the project, with the proposed Calvale to Upper Calliope 275kV transmission line critical to the power supply and decarbonisation of Rio Tinto's Boyne Smelter and other Gladstone operations.	• Powerlink acknowledges European Energy's support for the Gladstone project along with its concerns regarding the urgency of these investments to enable electrification in the Gladstone region. • Powerlink considers that, at this time, December 2028 is the earliest date that this stage of the Gladstone project can be delivered on a timeline that is consistent with the Assessment Direction.
PTI process European Energy urged a swift conclusion to the consultation and decision-making process and noted that it cannot submit its connection application for the Upper Calliope Solar Farm until the Calvale to Calliope River 275kV line is a committed project.	• Powerlink notes the importance of the Calvale to Calliope River 275kV line to the connection of European Energy's Calliope Solar Farm. • Powerlink has completed the consultation in accordance with the timeframes required by the Responsible Ministers as part of the Assessment Direction. • Powerlink will progress the Gladstone project through the PTI process in a prudent and efficient matter that enables completion consistent with the timing required as part of the identified need.

Kind regards,

Wendy Miller
Customer Strategist
on behalf of the PTI Consultations Team
Powerlink Queensland

Powerlink Queensland is the registered business name of the Queensland Electricity Transmission Corporation Limited. ABN 82 078 849 233

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15 May 2025

Gladstone Project: Candidate Priority Transmission Investment Assessment

European Energy welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback on the Priority Transmission Investment (PTI) draft assessment paper for the Gladstone PTI. This submission reiterates European Energy's position as communicated in August 2024 through the previous rounds of consultation.

European Energy develops, finances, constructs and operates wind and solar farms, as well as large-scale Power-to-X plants. Based in Copenhagen, Denmark, the company has a strong track record as a renewable energy operator. Founded in 2004, European Energy has a development pipeline of more than 60 GW of renewable energy projects and has built more than 280 large scale wind and solar projects around the world.

Rio Tinto is a global metals and mining and leader in global aluminium production, a vital material in a low-carbon economy. Rio Tinto is committed to decarbonising its assets by reducing scope 1 and 2 emissions to net zero by 2050 and making significant investments towards decarbonisation by 2030. In Gladstone, Rio Tinto operates the Yarwun and Queensland Alumina Limited refineries, and Boyne Smelter. These operations are a significant contributor to the Gladstone economy, and support over 8000 direct and indirect jobs.

A Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) has been signed between European Energy and Rio Tinto, with Rio Tinto agreeing to purchase all energy from the 1.3GW Upper Calliope Solar Farm. The electricity generated will supply Rio Tinto's Gladstone operations. Since the announcement of the Gladstone Project, the preferred connection option for the project has been the Calvale – Calliope River 275kV line.

Based on the information provided in Powerlink's Candidate Priority Transmission Investment Assessment, European Energy is pleased to provide the following submission to Powerlink.

Credible option assessed to meet the identified need

The Draft Assessment Report includes the identification of one credible option, Option 1(a), to meet the identified need. Whilst European Energy agrees with Option 1(a), there is significant concern that the anticipated completion of construction date seemingly contradicts the statement from the Responsible Ministers that construction of the Gladstone Project PTI will be completed "as soon as practicable to meet the proposed identified need". The Stage 1 anticipated completion date of December 2028 does not adequately reflect the urgency of the project need, with the proposed Calvale – Upper Calliope 275kV transmission line critical to the power supply and decarbonisation of Rio Tinto's Boyne Smelter and other Gladstone operations.

European Energy urges a swift conclusion to the consultation and decision-making process, avoiding delays detrimental to the meeting the objectives of Queensland's emissions reduction targets, and the Gladstone Project. Upper Calliope Solar Farm is unable to submit its connection application until the Calvale – Calliope River 275kV line is a committed project, and therefore cannot reach FID and begin the multi-year design, procurement and construction period until at least 18 months after Powerlink formally commits to this line.

Any delay in delivering the Gladstone Project PTI, specifically the Calvale – Calliope River 275kV line as part of Stage 1, will have significant impacts for investment, electricity supply and prices, and carbon emissions. Based on delay in delivery of the Upper Calliope Solar Farm alone, this is a loss of 2.8 TWh of competitively priced, clean electricity per year costing $280 million and 2.8 million tonnes of unnecessary carbon emissions due to continued supply from coal generation. These are clear, near-term benefits to committing to and delivering the project as quickly as possible.

European Energy urges Powerlink to commit to the first stage of the Gladstone Project as soon as possible, and accelerate initial energisation of the Calvale – Calliope River 275kV to avoid delay to the benefits of the project.

Yours faithfully,

Catriona McLeod
Country Manager, Australia
European Energy