ABOUT INLAND RAIL

Inland Rail is a once-in-a-generation project connecting regional Australia to domestic and international markets, transforming the way we move freight around the country. It will complete the ‘spine’ of the national freight network between Melbourne and Brisbane via regional Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland.

This new 1,700 kilometre line is the largest freight rail infrastructure project in Australia. It will connect our farms, mines, cities and ports to domestic and international markets. It will support Australia’s four richest farming regions, as well as providing supply chain benefits and substantial cost savings for producers.

ABOUT HELIDON TO CALVERT PROJECT

The Helidon to Calvert (H2C) section of Inland Rail comprises 47 kilometres of new dual gauge track connecting Helidon and Calvert in Queensland, via Placid Hills, Gatton, Laidley and Grandchester.

It will include building a new 1.1 kilometre tunnel through the Little Liverpool Range. This section uses the existing rail corridor and the Department of Transport and Main Roads’ Gowrie to Grandchester 2003 protected corridor, with possible refinements being considered within a defined study area.

NEIGHBOURING PROJECTS

H2C connects to the Gowrie to Helidon (G2H) project in the west and the Calvert to Kagaru (C2K) project in the east.
INLAND RAIL PROJECTS
Inland Rail has been divided into 13 projects to deliver the 1,700 kilometre rail line by 2024/25 and H2C is one of five projects in Queensland. H2C is one of three projects (along with Gowrie to Helidon and Calvert to Kagaru) that are considered the most technically complex sections of Inland Rail, and will therefore be delivered using an innovative Public Private Partnership (PPP) funding arrangement.

WHAT HAS BEEN HAPPENING
The Coordinator-General declared H2C a Coordinated Project in 2017. Following public consultation on the draft Terms of Reference, the Coordinator-General issued the final Terms of Reference (ToR). The ToR document provides the framework for Inland Rail to develop an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). This process involves collecting community input regarding the social, economic and environmental impacts that may be generated by the project. To collect such information, in 2017-2018, we set up the Lockyer Valley Community Consultative Committee, and conducted face-to-face and online consultation.

NEXT STEPS
The H2C project is currently in the project feasibility phase and we are in the process of developing the EIS and a feasibility design for the project. The aim of this phase is to finalise the optimal alignment by gathering baseline data, analysing potential impacts, and developing mitigation measures to address these impacts.

During the preparation of the EIS, the project team will be conducting a range of investigations throughout the project study area, including:
- Geotechnical surveys – to obtain information about the physical properties of the soil and rock
- Hydrology studies – to obtain information about flooding, surface water movements, and monitoring ground water
- Ecological surveys – to identify habitats and/or species that exist within the area of investigation
- Noise, air quality and vibration surveys – to measure background noise, air quality and vibration levels at key sites
- Land surveys – to identify property boundaries and any easements and to install survey pegs if required
- Utility identification surveys – to identify underground infrastructure such as gas and water pipelines
- Heritage surveys – investigations for any evidence of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal artefacts/heritage

We will continue to engage with landowners, residents, businesses, community groups and other key stakeholders during the project feasibility phase.

There will be a range of consultation opportunities throughout this phase and we encourage you to be involved to ensure community issues and concerns are considered and addressed in the EIS and feasibility design.

WANT TO KNOW MORE?
ARTC is committed to working with landowners, communities, state and local governments as a vital part of our planning and consultation work, and we value your input. If you have any questions or comments about this fact sheet, please let us know.

1800 732 761
inlandrailqld@artc.com.au
ARTC Inland Rail, GPO Box 2462, Brisbane Qld 4000
inlandrail.com.au