January 2026

Powerlink 2027-32 Revenue Proposal

Replacement capex modelling – supplementary RIN data

1 Purpose

This document provides supporting information in response to item 4.4.7 of the 2027-32 Reset Regulatory Information Notice (Reset RIN).

2 Overview

As described in Section 4.8 of the Revenue Proposal and Appendix 4.03, we have forecast reinvestment capital expenditure based on a bottom-up assessment of project needs within the 2027-32 regulatory period. Powerlink has not used the Australian Energy Regulator's (AER's) repex model to forecast reinvestment capital expenditure. Hence information is not presented in a way that aligns with the requirements of the AER's repex model.

The following table outlines how Powerlink has assured compliance with paragraph 4.4.7 of the 2027-32 Reset RIN. This information in this table is also included in Appendix 1.04 – Regulatory Information Notice (RIN) Compliance Checklist.

Table 1 – RIN compliance checklist (paragraph 4.4.7)

Reset RIN Requirement		Response
4.4.7	In relation to information provided in *Workbook 1 – Forecast, regulatory template* 2.2 and with respect to the *AER's repex model*, provide: (a) For individual *asset* categories in each *asset* group set out in the *regulatory templates*, provide in a separate document: (i) a description of the *asset* category, including: (A) the *assets* included and any boundary issues (i.e., with other *asset* categories); (B) an explanation of how these matters have been accounted for in determining quantities in the age profile; (C) an explanation of the main drivers for replacement (e.g., condition); and (D) an explanation of whether the replacement unit cost provides for a complete replacement of the *asset*, or some other activity, including an extension of the *asset's* life (e.g., *pole* staking) and whether the costs of this extension or other activity are capitalised or not.	(A) We have provided a table in a supporting document Replacement capex modelling – supplementary RIN Data, which maps Powerlink's asset categories to the corresponding AER RIN class. (B) The age profile does not form part of the Reset RIN. However, the age profile of Powerlink's network assets has recently been provided as part of the 2025 Asset Information Order, refer CA RIN 5.2 Asset Age Profile[1]. (C) As described in Section 4.8 of the Revenue proposal and Appendix 4.03, the reinvestment capital expenditure forecast is based on a bottom-up forecast of project needs within the 2027-32 regulatory period. The main drivers for replacement capital expenditure are explained in sections 4.3 and 4.4 of the Revenue Proposal and detailed in the project packs provided for specific projects. (D) The reinvestment capital expenditure forecast is based on a bottom-up forecast of project needs within the 2027-32 regulatory period. Projects included in our forecast comprise the efficient works to address the identified need; this may be full asset replacement or selected replacement of a component within the asset, such as current transformers within a switch bay.

[1] Powerlink 2024-25 - Annual Information Order | Australian Energy Regulator (AER)

3 Asset Categories

The following table provides a mapping between our asset categories by which we identify reinvestment projects and the corresponding AER RIN class.

Table 2 – Asset category mapping

Asset Category	Unit of plant – description	Corresponding RIN data items
Overhead transmission line	Built section – includes all structures, foundations, insulators, conductors and earth wires and associated hardware that were initially constructed to a common design under a single contract. A built section may comprise either a single or double circuit between two substations or a portion of the length between substations.	Transmission Towers, Transmission Support Structures, Conductors, Transmission Cables
Underground cable	Built section – includes all cables, joints, and associated hardware that were installed to a common design under a single contract. An underground cable built section will always be associated with a single circuit.	Transmission Cables
Substation switchgear	Switch bay – includes the circuit breaker together with all associated CTs, VTs, isolators, earth switches, surge arrestors including structure and foundations required to switch a power system element to the busbar of a substation. It includes bus coupler bays.	Substation Switch bays
Substation site infrastructure	Site infrastructure – includes site establishment such as road, fences, drainage and earthing, AC and DC supplies, including backup supplies.	Other
Transformer	Power transformer – includes the main transformer, tap-changer, HV and LV bushings but excludes switchgear, protection and control equipment. Includes SVC main transformers.	Substation Power Transformers
Capacitor/Reactor	Independently controlled capacitor bank – includes inrush reactors and balance CTs but excludes switchgear, protection and control equipment. Independently controlled reactor – includes bushings but excludes switchgear, protection and control equipment.	Substation Reactive Plant
SVC	Static Var Compensator – includes thyristor-controlled reactor, thyristor switched capacitor and harmonic filter but excludes the thyristor valves themselves and the main transformer	Substation Reactive Plant
SVC thyristor valves	SVC thyristor valves – includes the valve cooling system.	Substation Reactive Plant
Substation buildings	Substation buildings – includes control buildings, communications buildings and workshop buildings.	Other

Asset Category	Unit of plant – description	Corresponding RIN data items
Substation secondary systems	Secondary systems bay – includes all protection and control equipment associated with the corresponding primary plant switch bay. Protection and control equipment not directly associated with a switch bay, such as bus protection, is part of a separate non-bay asset. Secondary systems bay – the metering unit associated with a switch bay.	Scada, Network Control and Protection Systems
Communication systems	Communications link – microwave radio links, power line carrier (PLC) systems, multiplexors (MUX), fibre optic drivers.	Scada, Network Control and Protection Systems