



# Cambooya Shire Council

Council Chambers, Hodgson Street, Greenmount  
P.O. Box 21, Greenmount, Q. 4359

Telephone (07) 4697 0200  
Fax (07) 4697 0290  
info@cambooya.qld.gov.au

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Acting General Manager  
Regulatory Affairs – Electricity  
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission  
PO Box 1199  
DICKSON ACT 2602

FILE No:
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**Attention: Sebastian Roberts**

Dear Sir

## Guidelines for assessing power line installations

Powerlink is proposing the establishment of a new 330kV power transmission line from Millmerran to Middle Ridge. There is a requirement for Powerlink to maintain a reliable supply to Middle Ridge which serves the entire Darling Downs region of Queensland.

There has been considerable objection to the powerline in this area, particularly in the more settled parts of Cambooya Shire. While Council acknowledges that Powerlink must plan its network to meet supply needs in an integrated manner, Council has expressed its concern that the current guidelines (set down by the ACCC) do not take into account the social and economic costs that impact on the community. This does not reflect the true costs of such installations and in a Shire that is experiencing significant rural residential development, the impacts are not quantified in financial terms.

Council understands that Powerlink currently does not have the ability to include these costs when assessing a proposal and must select the solution which delivers the lowest cost to electricity consumers.

In view of the considerable costs that our community will be faced with as a result of the proposed installation, Council strongly encourages you to give consideration to amending your guidelines so that social and economic costs (such as reduced development opportunities) are factored into the overall assessment of power line installations.

Yours faithfully

IH Slader  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

