

Whitsundays Network Upgrade Project Update



January 2023

The new year heralds new milestones for the Whitsundays Network Upgrade Project.

Cannonvale Substation

Although the area has seen several weather events in recent weeks, the team has made good progress at the Cannonvale substation throughout December to prepare for the arrival of the new control building, pouring concrete foundations and installing the building's steel risers – see figures 1 and 2.



Fig 1 - Concrete foundation is poured and left to cure.



Fig 2 - Ergon crew prepares steelwork for the new control building.

The project reached a major milestone in January when the control building arrived on site in Cannonvale. The building, which was transported on the back of a semi-trailer, made the journey of almost 1,100 kilometres from where it was fabricated at our Banyo workshop to its new home.

It took a series of highly complex manoeuvres and millimetre perfect precision by Universal Cranes North Queensland's lift team, to lift the building into place. Ergon's specialised team then secured it to the foundations and attached external structures like staircases and verandas – see figures 3 and 4.

With only a very small window of time available before the subsequent intense rainfall that caused significant flooding across the Whitsundays, great communication and teamwork were vital to land the building without a hitch and keep the project on track. Well done to everyone involved!



Fig 3 - Universal Cranes NQ lifts the building into place.



Fig 4 - specialised Ergon crew fit the steel verandas and staircases.

Slight schedule delays due to intense rain and flooding

Although the team got the building in place before the worst of the weather arrived, some other project activities have been delayed because of the flooding rains.

Activities requiring excavation have been delayed, such as the installation of the new sewerage pipe for Whitsunday Regional Council, which was scheduled to commence in mid-January.

The sewerage pipe and specialised casing, which allows Whitsunday Regional Council to access and maintain the pipe without disturbing the substation above it, have been fabricated and are on site at the Cannonvale substation, ready to be installed when weather permits – see figure 5.



Fig 5 - The new Whitsunday Regional Council sewerage pipe will be installed when weather permits.

The installation of around 700 metres of conduit along a section of Dodd Street in Proserpine, which

will house fibre optic communications cable to the planned new communications tower, has also been delayed.

Once the ground dries out a little more in these locations, the activities will be rescheduled.

Getting in touch with us

To keep up to date on the project, to provide feedback, or to **register for future updates via email or SMS**, scan the QR code or visit our project web page [Whitsundays network upgrade - Ergon Energy](https://www.ergon.com.au/whitsundays-network-upgrade).



You can also contact our Senior Community Engagement Advisor, Kate Austin on 1300 653 055 or email us at: NetworkProjectEngagement@energyq.com.au

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