

**Question on Notice
No. 206
Asked on Thursday, 7 March 2024**

MR P WEIR ASKED MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND CLEAN ECONOMY JOBS
(HON M DE BRENNI)

Will the Minister advise what future planning is currently being undertaken to ensure the long-term energy requirements in the fast-growing communities of Wyreema, Westbrook, Meringandan and Crows Nest are met?

ANSWER

Ergon Energy continually monitor energy demand to inform its network planning activities to ensure the appropriate investment in poles and wires to serve regional Queensland. In relation to the communities of Wyreema, Westbrook, Meringandan and Crows Nest, Energy Queensland – Ergon Energy's parent company – has advised of the following activities to meet future energy demand:

Westbrook and Wyreema

- Ergon Energy Network strategically acquired land some time ago in the Westbrook area to facilitate the construction of a new 110/11kV zone substation.
- As load growth permits, this site can be established to support both the Westbrook and Wyreema area. It is not expected that the proposed Westbrook substation will be needed for another 10 years.
- In the shorter term, the network will continue to be supported by the 11kV network extending into the area.

Meringandan

- A Network-Connected Battery has been installed next to Meringandan Substation on the future Kleinton substation site to support the local network.
- The future Kleinton substation is planned and expected to be completed by 2030. When completed this will add approximately 20MVA of capacity into the area.

Crows Nest

- Crows Nest has a substation in the community that is well positioned to meet the future energy growth of the area and there are no planned major upgrades expected to be required in the foreseeable future.