

**Question on Notice
No. 435
Asked on Thursday, 18 April 2024**

MRS D FRECKLINGTON ASKED MINISTER FOR ENERGY AND CLEAN ECONOMY JOBS (HON M DE BRENNI)

With reference to the government's announcement on 30 October 2023 of \$1.3b to commence construction of the Copperstring 2032 project—

Will the Minister advise (a) whether construction has officially commenced and (b) when the project is scheduled to be linked to the national electricity grid?

ANSWER

(a) The \$1.3 billion Delivery Launch Package for Copperstring 2032 approved in October 2023 is enabling Powerlink Queensland, alongside its construction partners UGL and CPB, to undertake detailed design and engineering and environmental assessments with the project calling for response to tenders from local North Queensland companies and will also secure the easements for the project.

On ground works including surveying, geotechnical and preparatory works have begun as part of the launch package which allows for formal ground-breaking activities to commence on schedule in mid-2024.

This package builds on more than 50 works packages that have already been released for Expression of Interest for a range of activities and services such as engineering, environmental management, logistics, camp construction, haulage and communications.

(b) The transmission connection from Townsville to Mount Isa will connect the North West Minerals Province to 6000MW of renewable energy resources unlocking a \$500 billion critical minerals reserve and thousands of new jobs with connection to grid on track for 2029.