

NSW Gas Statement



Acknowledgement of Country



NSW Government acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society.

Artist and designer Nikita Ridgeway from Aboriginal design agency – Boss Lady Creative Designs, created the People and Community symbol.

NSW Gas Statement

Published by NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

energy.nsw.gov.au

First published: October 2026

ISBN/ISSN: 978-1-76186-341-7

Department or Agency reference number: EH2026/0368

Cover image: Uranquinty Power Station

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Ministerial foreword

We are pleased to share the NSW Gas Statement.

The NSW Government is committed to ensuring energy security for our state while we rebuild domestic manufacturing, support the growth of new low-carbon industries, and transform our energy system to power a net zero economy and the state's future prosperity.

NSW's energy system is changing rapidly. The coal-fired power stations that have historically supplied the bulk of our energy are ageing and need to be replaced. Renewable energy will provide a new, abundant source of electricity, firmed by a significant amount of storage and backed up by gas-fired power stations that operate infrequently when required.

At the same time, gas is an essential feedstock and energy source for many manufacturing and industrial processes, helping sustain industries that employ thousands of people across the state. Although households and businesses are increasingly pursuing electrification to reduce their bills and save money, gas also remains an important source of energy for many households and small businesses. Accordingly, gas will continue to play a critical, defined role across the NSW economy.

Forecasts indicate potential gas supply shortfalls on Australia's east coast in the years ahead, highlighting the importance of careful planning to ensure energy security throughout the transition.

The NSW Government is committed to maintaining a secure and affordable gas supply wherever it is needed. We recognise that different sectors and communities will move at different speeds through the energy transition, and that gas will continue to play an important role.

The Bancannia and Pondie Range Troughs, the Narrabri Gas Project and existing petroleum exploration licences in the north-west will support diversifying NSW's gas supply. Beyond these areas, the NSW Government does not intend to release any further areas for gas exploration.

At the same time, we will support the uptake of lower-cost and lower-emissions alternatives where they make sense for consumers and businesses, helping reduce energy costs while delivering emissions reductions.

The NSW Gas Statement provides an overview of the state's gas outlook and the actions being taken to support energy security, economic growth and the orderly transition to a net zero economy.

As we navigate a period of significant change, the NSW Government remains focused on ensuring households, businesses and industry have access to the energy they need to prosper, while building a cleaner, more resilient energy system for future generations.

Hon Penny Sharpe, MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Climate Change

Minister for Energy

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

Hon Courtney Houssos, MLC

Minister for Finance

Minister for Domestic Manufacturing and Government Procurement

Minister for Natural Resources

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NSW Gas Statement

Securing gas for industry and consumers through the energy transition

Executive summary

Gas is important in helping to power the NSW economy, and will continue to play a critical, defined role in NSW's transition to net zero. It accounts for nearly 10% of NSW's energy consumption and will continue to support our energy needs into the future.

Gas is essential for industry in the medium to long term as a high-temperature heat source for many industrial processes that cannot be easily electrified, and is an important feedstock in manufacturing products which are used across NSW's economy, including in the mining, agriculture, construction, and food and beverage sectors.

The NSW Industry Policy commits to rebuilding NSW's local manufacturing industry to secure jobs and support sovereign capability. NSW is also committed to growing new low-carbon industries, including manufacturing, that will drive economic diversification in our industrial regions. Securing diverse gas supply for NSW will support industry to access reliable, affordable energy sources and help NSW remain a competitive and attractive investment destination.

Gas also makes an important contribution to the state's electricity generation mix. AEMO's latest Integrated System Plan shows that through to 2050, gas will play a strategic role in providing critical back-up power supply during renewable lulls and at times when energy storage is insufficient to meet demand, as well as supporting peak demand and grid security as coal-fired power stations retire. By 2050, while gas-fired power is expected to provide only around 3.9% of NSW's electricity,¹ it will remain crucial to maintaining reliability at least cost.

Gas is also used for heating, hot water and cooking in households and small businesses, although this is forecast to decline given electric options are more cost-effective.

AEMO's latest Gas Statement of Opportunities and the NSW Gas Infrastructure Review identify growing challenges for NSW gas security. Peak day and annual shortfalls are forecast from 2029 and 2030 respectively as gas production in Victoria declines and infrastructure constraints limit the

¹ Based on the AEMO Integrated System Plan 2026 Step Change scenario.

amount of gas that can be imported from northern states and international sources to meet winter demand, including for gas-fired power stations.

Timely investment in local gas production, supply, transport and storage infrastructure is critical to meet forecast demand from households, businesses, industry and electricity generation.

Alongside this, electrification, energy efficiency and investment in renewable gases are also needed to help NSW meet legislated emissions reduction targets of a 50% emissions cut by 2030, 70% by 2035 and net zero by 2050.

Recent geopolitical events such as the Russia–Ukraine and Middle East conflicts further highlight NSW’s exposure to global oil and gas markets and the need for greater system resilience. NSW can play its part in contributing to secure and diverse supply through local gas production.

While the Australian Government’s proposed Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme may help shield domestic gas users from global price volatility, it must support a diverse range of supply and infrastructure options to ensure it strengthens energy security.

The NSW Gas Statement outlines the range of actions the NSW Government is taking to secure and diversify gas supply, overcome infrastructure constraints, reduce gas demand where it makes sense and support and maintain a strong regulatory framework to ensure gas is available when and where it is needed.

Key NSW Government actions

Securing and diversifying gas supply

- Supporting approvals for projects that can secure and diversify NSW's gas supply or address infrastructure constraints, such as the Narrabri Gas Project and its connecting pipelines and the Port Kembla Energy Terminal.
- Releasing targeted areas for gas exploration in the Far West and retaining existing petroleum exploration licences in the north-west to support future local supply options.
- Working with the Commonwealth, states and territories on the proposed Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme and related policy settings to ensure gas is available when and where it is needed.
- Ensuring gas produced in NSW supports Australian gas consumers.
- Implementing the NSW Renewable Fuel Strategy to support the production of biomethane and other low-carbon fuels.

Overcoming infrastructure constraints

- Supporting approvals for projects that can expand NSW's gas transport and storage capacity, such as the East Coast Gas Grid Expansion, or that futureproof infrastructure capacity needed for injecting renewable fuels such as biomethane into the gas network.
- Providing financial support for the operation of the Newcastle Gas Storage Facility, to ensure gas supply for NSW residents and consumers during peak demand periods.
- Directing tenders under the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap to support investment in firming capacity, including gas-powered generation.
- Implementing the findings of the NSW Gas Infrastructure Review to improve network resilience and reliability and address storage gaps.

Reducing gas demand

- Extending the Energy Savings and Peak Demand Reduction Schemes to 2050 to support efficient electric upgrades in homes and businesses.
- Introducing the Home Energy Saver program and supporting the Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative, to help NSW consumers reduce their energy bills through electrification and improve energy efficiency.
- Developing the new net zero plan to establish the NSW Government's approach for reducing emissions.
- Delivering the Low Emissions Industry and Business Decarbonisation Programs, to support emissions reductions.

Implementing strong regulatory controls

- Reviewing the *Pipelines Act 1967* (NSW) to align with best practice regulatory standards, and strengthening enforcement and regulation of pipeline proponents and licensees.
- Assessing all applications for gas production and infrastructure through a rigorous planning process under the regulatory framework, while considering impacts on greenhouse gas emissions, water, biodiversity, agricultural land, economic and social benefits and Aboriginal cultural heritage.
- Reviewing policies, guidelines and procedures under the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* (NSW), including for community consultation, well integrity, environmental management and produced water to ensure they are fit for purpose.

How gas is used in NSW, now and in the future

In 2025, the NSW region consumed 114 petajoules of natural gas, representing approximately a quarter of total east coast domestic gas consumption.

As NSW continues to transform its energy system to reduce emissions, there is a recognised need for a diverse energy mix that is reliable, affordable and secure.

AEMO forecasts (Figure 1) show overall gas demand is expected to decline over time, although gas demand will differ across sectors.

Industrial users and residential and commercial consumers face different opportunities and constraints in adopting electrification and alternative technologies. Gas demand will increase for electricity generation as it plays an important role in firming the grid as coal-fired power stations retire.

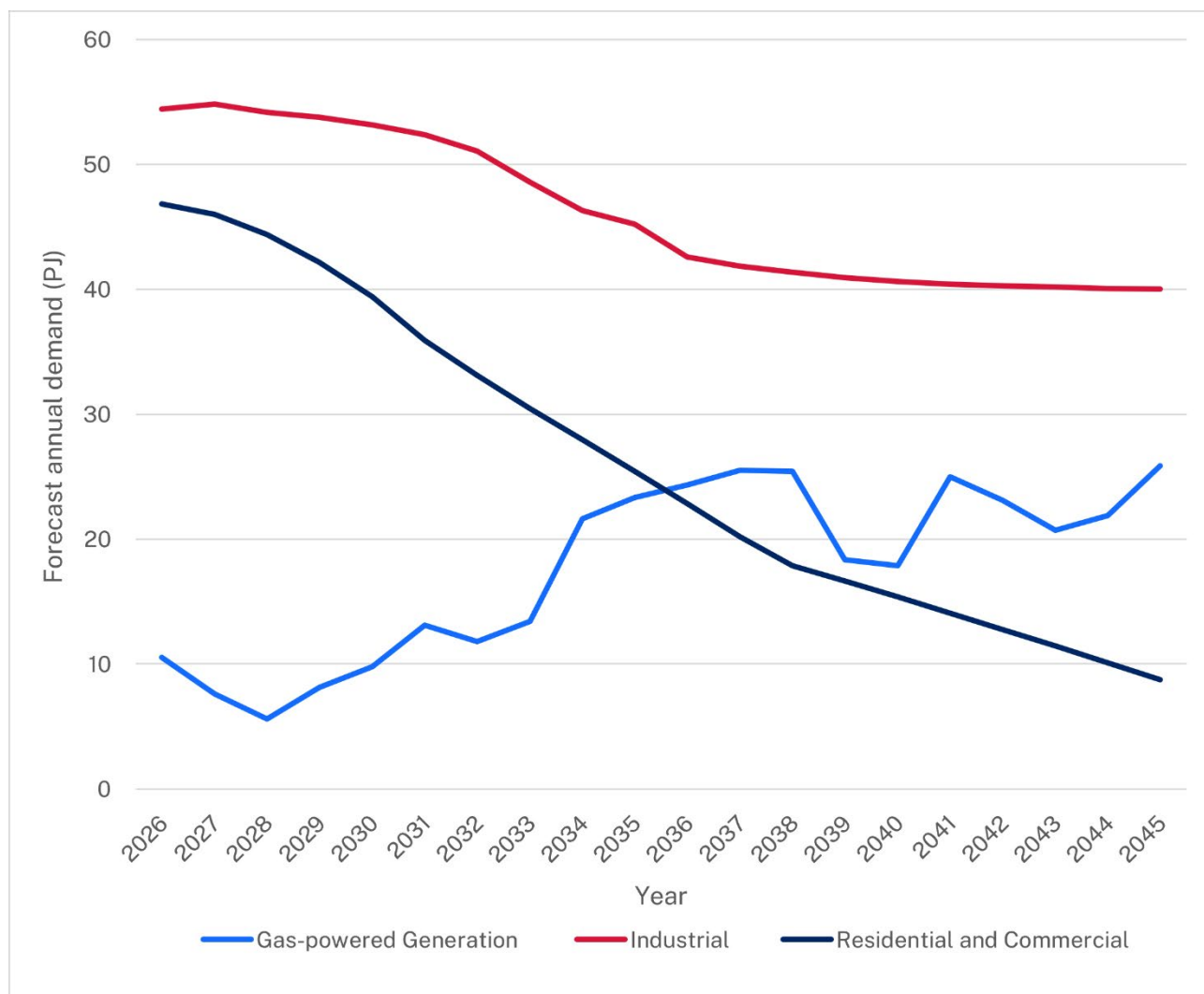


Figure 1: Forecast NSW gas demand by sector 2026 to 2045 (PJ). Source: 2026 Gas Statement of Opportunities, AEMO

Gas is used across 3 main sectors:

- **Industrial:** Industrial demand makes up approximately 50% of NSW's gas demand and is forecast to persist into the long term. By 2045, gas demand from the industrial sector is forecast to remain at around 70% of current levels. Gas is used in high-heat processes in manufacturing industries and as a chemical feedstock in fertiliser production. Long-term reliable gas supply is needed to support these critical industrial processes and maintain and grow the competitiveness of NSW's manufacturing sector.
- **Residential and commercial:** Residential and commercial demand makes up approximately 40% of NSW's gas demand. This is forecast to reduce by 45% by the mid-2030s, driven largely by electrification and energy efficiency initiatives. There are over 1.5 million active residential gas connections in NSW, mainly used by households, businesses and in commercial buildings for heating, cooking and hot water, although cooking accounts for only 7.4% of total residential and commercial gas consumption.
- **Electricity generation:** Demand from gas-fired power stations makes up approximately 10% of NSW's gas demand. This is forecast to more than double by 2034 as coal-fired power retires. NSW currently has 5 gas-fired power stations with 2.3 GW of capacity, serving approximately 2% of NSW region's annual electricity generation. These are used infrequently, providing a 'peaking' role during high seasonal demand as well as firming capacity during periods of low coal-fired or renewable output. AEMO forecasts that 3.2 GW of additional gas-powered firming capacity is needed in NSW by 2037–38 to back up the future grid. By 2038, gas-fired generation is forecast to provide around 6.6% of NSW's annual electricity generation based on the AEMO Integrated System Plan 2026 Central scenario.

Securing and diversifying supply

NSW currently has no commercial gas production and only shallow gas storage facilities. This means that NSW depends on interstate gas supply transported by pipelines. Historically, a large proportion of this gas was supplied from Victoria; however, declining Victorian production has increased NSW's supply from northern states.

Increased northern supply, local supply options, or liquefied natural gas (LNG) imports to meet forecast demand require upgrades to key pipeline and storage infrastructure to help NSW manage seasonal and peak demand.

AEMO's 2026 Gas Statement of Opportunities forecasts that peak day and annual shortfalls will emerge in southern states (including NSW) from 2029 and 2030 respectively (Figure 2). Annual shortfalls are forecast to progressively increase to over 106 petajoules by 2035. NSW has the second largest gas demand of southern states. As a net importer, NSW requires a diverse range of supply sources to support the state's industrial sector, energy transition and emissions reduction objectives.

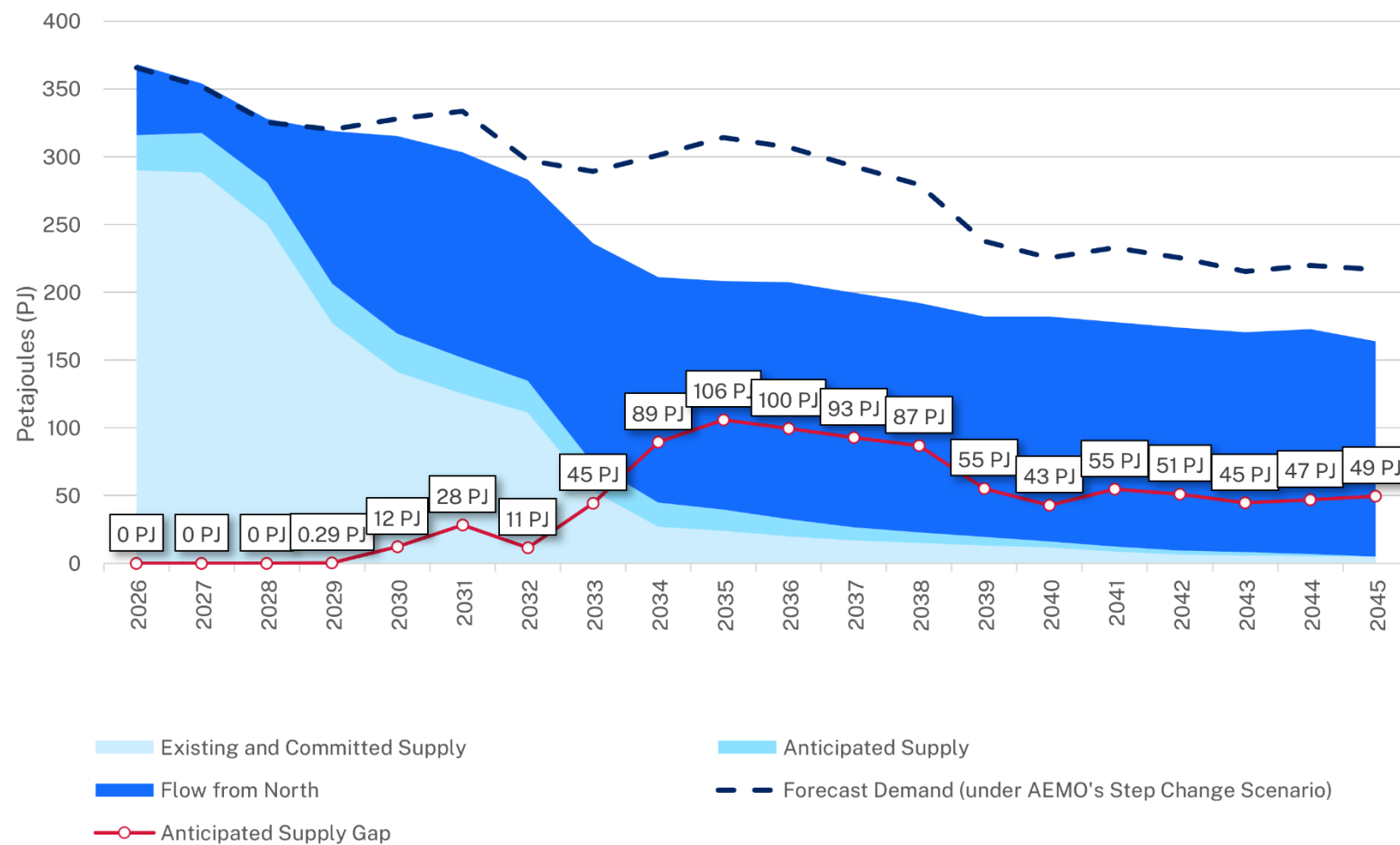


Figure 2: Forecast annual supply gap in southern states (including NSW) 2026 to 2045 (petajoules). Source: 2026 Gas Statement of Opportunities, AEMO

Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme

The Australian Government has announced it will implement a Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme from 1 January 2028. This will introduce a requirement for LNG exporters to supply gas to the domestic market equivalent to up to 20% of their LNG exports. This is intended to create a modest oversupply to the domestic market, putting downward pressure on domestic gas prices and shielding Australian gas users from global price volatility.

NSW made a submission on the draft Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme as part of the public consultation process and will continue to work with the Australian Government as it finalises the scheme. NSW is focused on ensuring the Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme provides for stable supply and investment conditions which enable gas to be delivered when and where it is needed. If the final design does not support these objectives, complementary mechanisms may be needed to support infrastructure investment.

To address these supply challenges, the NSW Government is taking the following key actions:

- **Supporting approvals for the Narrabri Gas Project:** The Narrabri Gas Project has the potential to supply up to 73 PJ per year across its 25-year life. This would provide an important source of local production, meeting over 60% of NSW's forecast gas demand in 2026. NSW has declared the Narrabri Gas Project as Critical State Significant Infrastructure and endorsed it through the Investment Delivery Authority. Further approvals and commercial arrangements are necessary for the Narrabri Gas Project to proceed, and NSW will continue to actively coordinate these approvals across government to support timely assessment of the necessary approvals for the project's delivery.
- **Supporting approvals for the Port Kembla Energy Terminal:** The Port Kembla Energy Terminal is an LNG import terminal, which can provide flexible access to both internationally and domestically produced gas. It has the potential to supply up to 500 terajoules per day or 130 PJ per year. This is equivalent to NSW's forecast peak day and annual gas demand. Onshore infrastructure is complete; however, pipeline licence approvals and commercial arrangements are required for the terminal to become operational.
- **Releasing targeted areas for new gas exploration in Far West NSW and retaining areas for gas exploration in the north-west of NSW:** Geological surveys suggest NSW is prospective for natural gas. New exploration can assess the potential for new gas production sources. The NSW Government sought applications for gas exploration in the Bancannia Trough and Pondie Range Trough in Far West NSW. These release areas, along with the Narrabri Gas Project area and existing petroleum exploration licences in the north-west will help diversify NSW's gas supply over the long term to support expected demand. Beyond these areas, the NSW Government does not intend to release any further areas for gas exploration.
- **Requiring gas produced in NSW to be supplied to the domestic market:** NSW is committed to ensuring that all gas produced in NSW supports the Australian market. This will help secure

energy availability and affordability to enable investment and job creation in NSW's industrial sector. New gas projects in NSW that progress to production will be required to supply gas to the domestic market to ensure that gas resources extracted in NSW remain available to NSW users and are not sent offshore. This will complement the intent of the Australian Government's Domestic Gas Reservation Scheme to secure gas supply for the domestic market.

- **Implementing the Renewable Fuel Strategy to support alternate fuels:** Renewable gases can substitute for natural gas use but are yet to be developed at scale. Over the long term, renewable gases will help to reduce NSW's reliance on natural gas, particularly for hard-to-abate industrial uses. It will also provide opportunities for economic development and promotion of a circular economy, particularly in regional NSW. NSW's Renewable Fuel Strategy targets 15% of industrial gas use to be met with renewables by 2035. The Renewable Gas Production Program provides up to \$40 million in co-funding for biomethane production facilities, while NSW's Hydrogen Strategy provides up to \$3 billion in financial incentives to establish a domestic green hydrogen industry and support longer-term decarbonisation efforts.

Overcoming infrastructure constraints

NSW receives gas from northern states via critical transmission pipelines including APA's South West Queensland Pipeline and Moomba to Sydney Pipeline. Gas also enters NSW from Victoria via Jemena's Eastern Gas Pipeline and APA's Victorian Northern Interconnect. These transmission pipelines, together with associated lateral pipelines, feed into NSW's gas distribution network. Figure 3 illustrates how gas is transported to NSW to supply residential, commercial and industrial users, including existing and proposed gas-fired power stations, pipelines, storage and production and exploration areas.

NSW's gas demand is highly seasonal, with daily winter peak demand almost double average daily demand. During winter peaks, infrastructure constraints can restrict gas supply to NSW, affecting both gas security and electricity reliability when demand from gas-fired power stations is high.

Existing pipeline and storage capacity is expected to come under further pressure as demand from gas-fired power stations increases from the early 2030s. Infrastructure upgrades are therefore necessary to improve capacity and overall system reliability. Figure 4 illustrates how peak day shortfalls are forecast to occur in southern states (including NSW) from as early as 2029 without additional infrastructure investment.

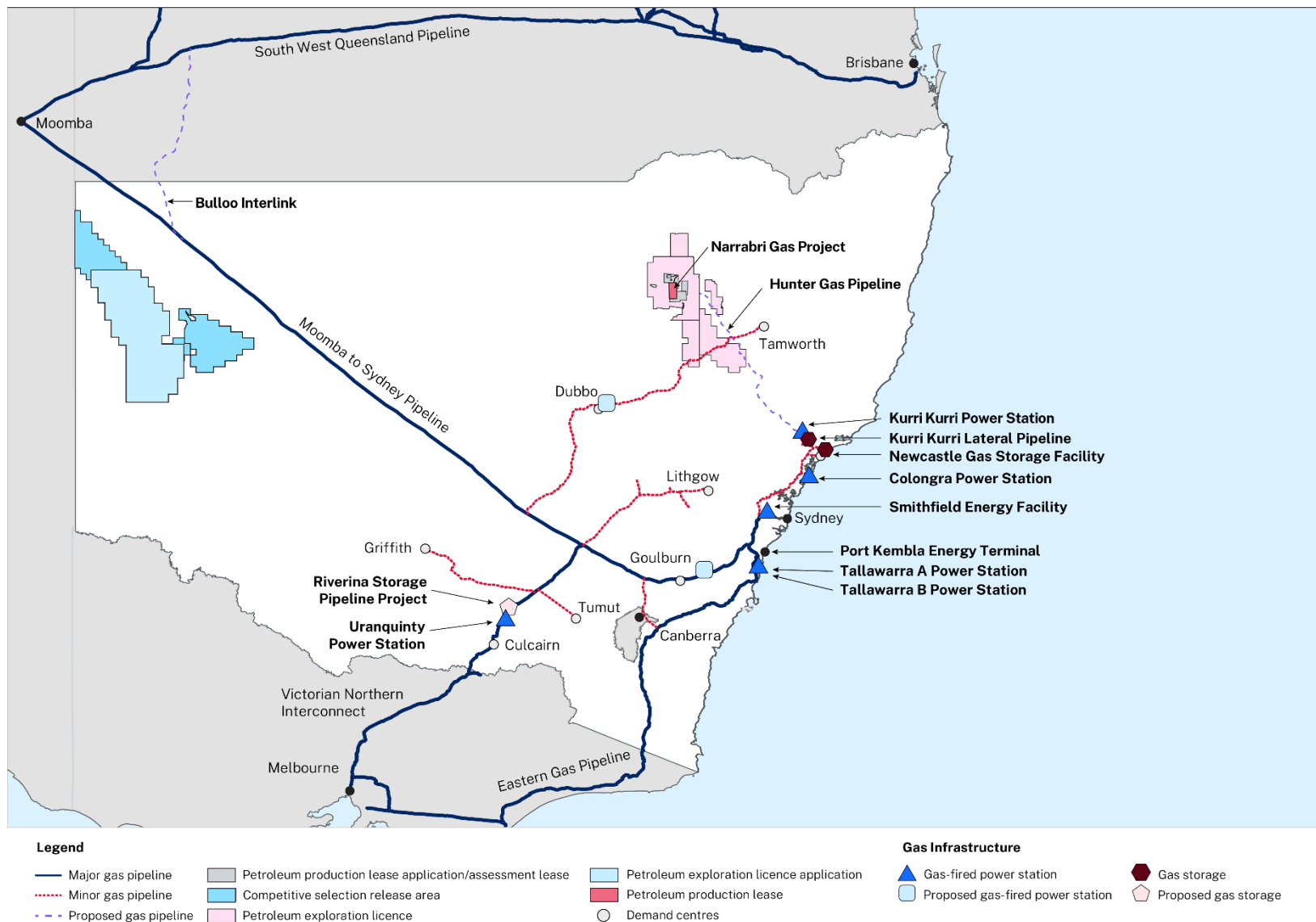


Figure 3: NSW pipeline systems and gas-fired power station locations. Source: NSW Gas Infrastructure Review, AEMO

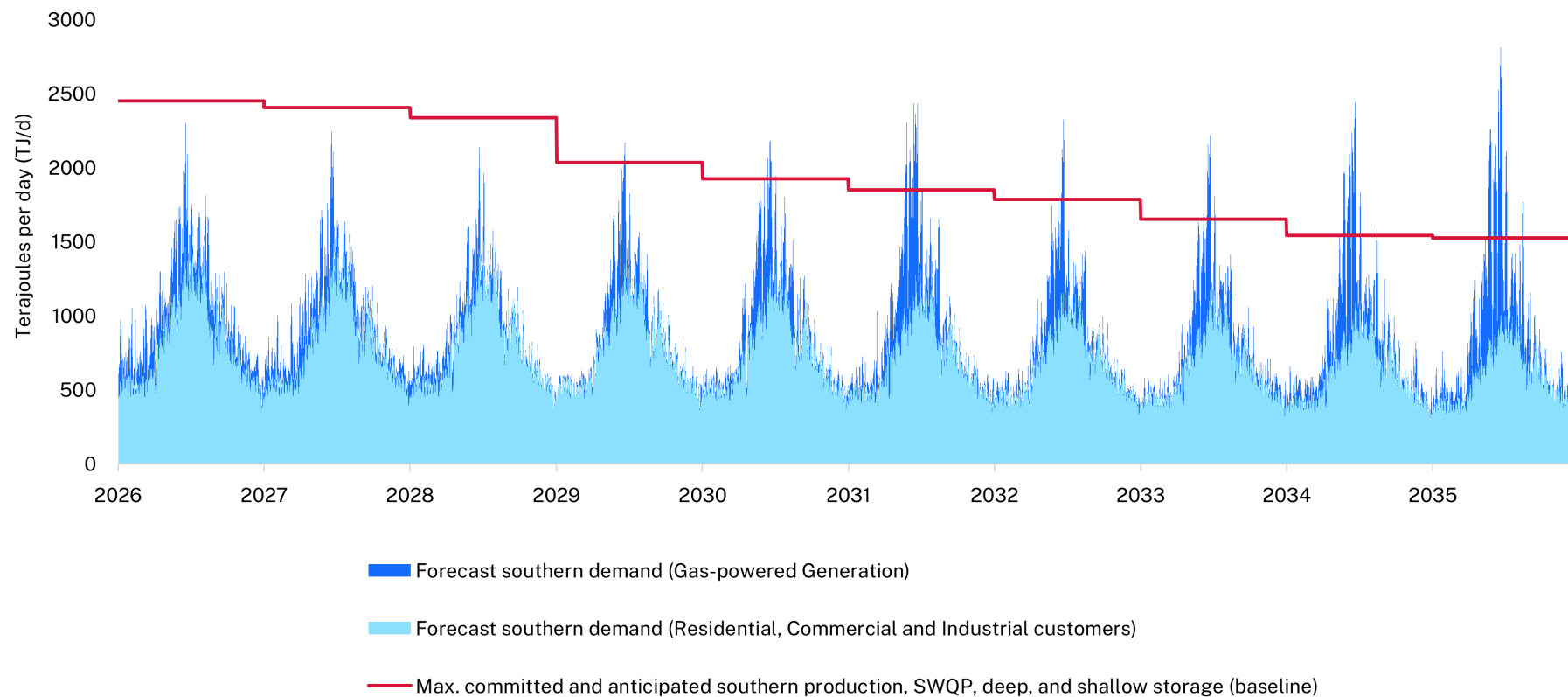


Figure 4: Forecast peak day shortfalls in southern states (including NSW) 2026 to 2035 (terajoules). Source: Gas Statement of Opportunities, AEMO

The NSW Gas Infrastructure Review identified areas where private sector investment is needed in transmission, storage and generation to build network resilience aligned with NSW's broader energy transition. To address these challenges, the NSW Government is supporting the following initiatives.

Transmission

- **East Coast Gas Grid Expansion approvals:** Stage 3A of the East Coast Gas Grid Expansion has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure. This involves upgrades to key transmission pipelines that are expected to increase north to south transport capacity by 107 terajoules per day, helping bring more gas south to meet demand and fill storage inventories prior to winter. NSW is also assessing approvals for the proposed Bulloo Interlink as part of Stage 3B of the East Coast Gas Grid Expansion, increasing the maximum north to south transport capacity for flows into NSW up to 800 terajoules per day.
 - **Approvals for pipelines servicing key supply-side projects:** the Hunter Gas Pipeline and Narrabri Lateral Pipeline enable key supply-side projects such as the Narrabri Gas Project. Both have been declared as Critical State Significant Infrastructure and endorsed through the Investment Delivery Authority (which does not constitute an approval). The Port Kembla Lateral Looping Pipeline connects the Port Kembla Energy Terminal to the Eastern Gas Pipeline and is progressing with pipeline licence approvals.
 - **Pipeline augmentation needed to support renewable fuels:** NSW's Renewable Fuel Strategy also supports augmentation of distribution networks, particularly in regional areas, to enable the future supply of renewable gases such as biomethane at scale.
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Storage

- **Operations of the Newcastle Gas Storage Facility:** the Newcastle Gas Storage Facility provides a supply buffer of 1.5 petajoules, helping maintain gas reliability for consumers during peak periods. In June 2026, NSW provided a grant to support continued operation of the facility.
 - **Port Kembla Energy Terminal's storage capabilities:** The proposed Port Kembla Energy Terminal also provides storage capacity capable of supplying gas continuously for up to 12 days to help manage system and gas-fired power station demand during winter peak periods.
 - **Riverina Storage Pipeline Project:** The proposed Riverina Storage Pipeline Project forms part of Stage 4 of the East Coast Gas Grid Expansion and is expected to add additional shallow storage capability in NSW from 2029. This will help support the operation of the Uranquinty Power Station as well as meet local demand when required.
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Gas-fired power stations

Gas-fired power stations play an increasingly important role in supporting electricity system reliability throughout the energy transition. NSW is supporting new gas-powered generation and other firming infrastructure through the following initiatives:

- **Assessment of new gas-fired power stations:** The NSW Government is currently assessing 4 gas-fired generation projects through the planning approvals process, including modifications to 2 existing approved projects and 2 new proposed projects. This assessment is to determine whether they meet relevant environmental, planning and technical requirements. This includes ensuring any new gas-fired power stations are fitted with a clutch to ensure system security and meet requirements to offset greenhouse gas emissions, as required under the Electricity Infrastructure Investment Regulation 2021 (NSW).
- **Directing firming tenders under the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap:** the latest Infrastructure Investment Objectives Report highlights the need for greater firming capacity. The NSW Energy Minister has directed AusEnergy Services Limited to run a firming infrastructure tender to address any electricity reliability gaps that may emerge from the 2030s, including consideration of new gas-fired power stations. AusEnergy Services Limited is expected to release its tender plan in Q4 2026.

Reducing gas demand

Reducing demand, particularly in the residential and commercial sectors, supports gas security by easing pressure on peak demand and preserves gas for NSW's hard to electrify industrial and manufacturing uses.

Electrification and energy efficiency initiatives in the residential, commercial and industrial sector are expected to help reduce overall gas demand in NSW by 11 PJ by 2030, increasing to 35 PJ by 2035 and 49 PJ by 2040. This helps reduce energy bills for NSW consumers as well as supporting NSW's emissions reduction targets.

To help households and businesses electrify and reduce gas demand, the NSW Government is taking the following key actions:

- **Delivering the Energy Savings Scheme and Peak Demand Reduction Scheme:** the Energy Savings Scheme and Peak Demand Reduction Scheme support efficient electric upgrades in homes and businesses, as well as reductions in electricity consumption during peak periods. Both schemes operate to 2050 to support the transition towards a renewable energy system.
- **Delivering the Home Energy Saver and supporting the Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative:** both programs help NSW consumers reduce their energy bills and lower greenhouse gas emissions. The Home Energy Saver provides \$557 million in zero-interest loans and discounts to help households lower their energy bills and increase access to efficient electric appliances. The Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative also provides \$175 million to upgrade 24,000 social housing homes to efficient electric appliances as well.
- **Developing the new net zero plan:** NSW will release a new net zero plan which will establish the NSW Government's approach for reducing emissions. The plan will take a sector-by-sector approach to decarbonisation and for the first time bring together all the relevant portfolio ministers to provide guidance and input.

- **Delivering the Low Emissions Industry Program and Business Decarbonisation Program:** the program provides \$40 million in co-funding to eligible facilities in the manufacturing and mining sector to reduce emissions. The \$22 million Business Decarbonisation Program supports businesses to identify and implement practical measures to reduce emissions and enhance long-term sustainability, including funding for heat pump feasibility studies, net zero planning, and improved energy metering and monitoring.

Together, these measures will help reduce emissions while ensuring gas remains available for consumers and industries that continue to rely on it.

Implementing strong regulatory controls

The extent of private sector investment needed to support supply, infrastructure and demand-related actions requires a robust regulatory and legislative framework that promotes gas security and adequacy, protects our valued environmental assets, provides transparency and ensures the economic benefits of investment in the gas supply chain flow to NSW consumers and industry.

Managing the impacts of gas production and infrastructure development in NSW

The NSW Government recognises that gas projects must be carefully managed and assessed to ensure that risks to the environment and agriculture, including water and biodiversity, are considered before an application for gas development is determined. NSW is committed to ensuring that the impacts of gas exploration and development are managed.

All gas projects in NSW, whether for exploration, production or transmission/distribution are subject to NSW's robust regulatory framework and are subject to consent conditions. Under the framework, applications for production and infrastructure will be assessed through a rigorous planning process and must demonstrate effective management strategies and post-approval management plans.

The regulatory framework has specific provisions relating to the management of impacts to the environment, water, biodiversity, land access and landholder consultation processes designed to manage impacts associated with gas exploration, production, transmission and their associated physical infrastructure.

The NSW Government takes a coordinated approach to the regulation of gas development, with key roles for the NSW Environment Protection Authority, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure, Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water, and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development.

The regulatory framework includes:

- *The Petroleum Onshore Act 1991* (NSW) which governs the issuing of titles and licences for petroleum exploration and production, and conditions imposed to ensure effective regulation.
- *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW) governing the determination of activity approvals and development consent for gas projects, which includes mandatory consideration of impacts to heritage sites and the environment.
- *Water Management Act 2000* (NSW) which governs the issuing of water access licences and assessment of applications for new bores. Potential impacts on groundwater sources are subject to comprehensive assessment and licensing requirements under this Act and the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979* (NSW).
- *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997* (NSW) which governs the issuing of environment protection licences by the NSW Environment Protection Authority and establishes the framework for the NSW Environment Protection Authority to monitor and enforce compliance matters under other environmental legislation.
- *Pipelines Act 1967* (NSW) which governs the issuing of authorities for the purposes of accessing private land to perform surveys and take samples required to facilitate the finalisation of a pipeline route, pipelines licences and their construction, operation and maintenance. It establishes the regulatory framework for the NSW Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water as licensing, safety and technical regulator under the Act.
- *Gas Supply Act 1996* (NSW) which governs the licensing and supply of gas through gas networks by operators under the Act. The Act establishes the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water and the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal as regulators under the Act, the former for safety and technical matters and the latter for licensing activities.

Strengthening regulatory frameworks

To maintain strong regulatory controls, the NSW Government is taking the following key actions:

- **Ensuring exploration is regulated for land access, environmental assessment and community consultation:** exploration activities must have appropriate land access arrangements in place and comply with statutory environmental assessment requirements. Project proponents must also engage with landholders, communities and Traditional Owners in accordance with legislative requirements, including the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth) and NSW's Code of Practice for Community Consultation.
- **Reviewing pipeline legislation:** considering updates to the *Pipelines Act 1967* (NSW) to improve transparency in dealings between landholders and pipeline proponents, alongside compliance, enforcement and safety measures that support the efficient delivery of critical gas infrastructure.
- **Maintaining rigorous assessment of gas projects:** all gas exploration, production and infrastructure projects in NSW are subject to a comprehensive planning, environmental and regulatory framework. Project proponents must demonstrate appropriate management measures, environmental protections and post-approval monitoring arrangements before projects can proceed.

- **Continuing to monitor compliance throughout project life cycles:** project proponents must comply with all approval conditions, land access arrangements, rehabilitation obligations and legislative requirements. Compliance is monitored by NSW regulatory authorities throughout the life of a project.
- **Undertaking a review of existing codes of practice:** NSW will review existing codes of practice, policies and guidelines under the *Petroleum (Onshore) Act 1991* (NSW) to ensure they are fit for purpose. Where the need for updates is identified, these will be progressed through standard processes including consultation.
- **Developing a petroleum royalty determination:** NSW will develop a petroleum royalty determination to provide clarity on allowable deductions and improve compliance and audit capabilities.
- **Developing a Strategic Benefit Payments Scheme:** NSW is considering developing a new Strategic Benefit Payments Scheme for eligible landholders that host eligible gas pipeline infrastructure.
- **Providing transparency around Narrabri Gas Project community benefits fund:** NSW will develop guidelines to provide clarity to communities around the governance and use of funds committed to the Narrabri Gas Community Benefits Fund, promoting fair, transparent and accountable decision-making.

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