



## NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap

### A message to our valued stakeholders

Welcome to the third NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap newsletter. This update includes:

1. Sharing some exciting news about key appointments and program announcements
2. Outlining further opportunities for involvement over the coming months.

Thank you again for your ongoing interest and feedback. We greatly appreciate the level of participation in recent consultation processes, including the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Access Scheme consultation, Tranche 2 Regulation Issues Paper consultation, and industry briefings.

Your ongoing input is critical to ensuring the Roadmap is a success. Engagement on further rounds of regulation and design issues will continue through online engagement sessions in late August. We are also hoping to be able to hold an in-person Roadmap open day in Sydney in September and workshops with landholders in the Central-West Orana region towards the end of August. We will provide further information about possible in-person sessions once the current COVID-19 situation in NSW becomes clearer.

Since the last newsletter, there have been a number of exciting developments, including the Treasurer's announcement as part of the 2021-22 NSW budget

that \$380 million will be invested in implementing the Roadmap. The funding will be injected over the next four years to support further set-up of the Roadmap and to ensure REZ network upgrades are ready for construction.

I am also really pleased to share the news that the Minister for Energy and Environment, the Hon Matt Kean MP, has appointed AEMO Services Ltd, a subsidiary of the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), as the NSW Consumer Trustee. This is a critical appointment and is vital in unlocking investment at lowest cost to NSW consumers and in a way that supports NSW regional communities. We look forward to working with AEMO Services Ltd to bring the Roadmap to life.

We have also opened the [\\$50 million Pumped Hydro Recoverable Grants program](#). Applications can be submitted until 20 August 2021.

EnergyCo NSW has also moved forward with critical appointments and now has a fully formed leadership team with Mike Young, Alexandra Finley and Andrew Kingsmill all joining as Executive Directors. Further information about Mike, Alex, and Andrew is provided below.

There is a lot happening and we will be providing monthly updates to keep you informed and involved. Again, thank you and I encourage you to continue to provide input and feedback.

Kind regards,

James Hay

Chief Executive, Energy Corporation of NSW  
Deputy Secretary, Energy, Climate Change & Sustainability  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

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## Milestone updates

Key highlights of the work underway are set out below together with further details on opportunities to get involved. You can find more detailed information on the Roadmap [website](#).

### **Opportunities to stay involved**

Thank you to all those who have provided feedback on how we can continue to get your input into critical aspects of Roadmap implementation. We have taken this feedback on and are delivering additional briefing sessions to industry and stakeholder groups. We also continue to hold targeted sessions with Roadmap working and advisory groups in the lead up to the public release of the next round of regulation and design issues papers.

As outlined above, online sessions for the next round of regulation and design issues will commence in late August, with details on how you can participate released shortly. The focus of these sessions will be on: Renewable Energy Zones including Access Schemes; Network Infrastructure Projects; the Infrastructure Investment Safeguard; and the Electricity Infrastructure Fund. The consultation paper on the terms and conditions of Long-Term Energy Service Agreements (LTESA) will also be released shortly.

We will also be launching a number of new communications channels to improve how we provide information about the Roadmap and get your ongoing feedback so stay tuned for some exciting developments in this space!

## **Consumer Trustee**

The Roadmap reached an important delivery milestone this week with the appointment of AEMO Services Ltd, a subsidiary of the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO), as the NSW Consumer Trustee. The Consumer Trustee will operate as an independent body to protect the long-term financial interests of NSW electricity consumers.

The appointment was made following a rigorous evaluation process undertaken by the Department. The evaluation was guided by [strategic principles and criteria we publicly released in March](#). Targeted consultation with industry, our counterparts in state and federal government and AEMO itself was undertaken to inform this process.

## **Pumped Hydro Recoverable Grants Program launched**

Applications are now open for the Pumped Hydro Recoverable Grants Program, which will provide up to \$50 million in recoverable grants to developers to assist with the cost of early stage, detailed project feasibility studies for new pumped hydro projects. Applications are open until 20 August 2021. Details can be accessed [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact us at [pumped.hydro@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:pumped.hydro@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

## **Jobs Advocate**

A Jobs Advocate is being appointed to provide expert advice to the Minister for Energy and Environment on how to maximise opportunities for local workers and export infrastructure during the implementation of the Roadmap, in particular the establishment of the Renewable Energy Zones (REZs).

Further information about the application process and the role is available [here](#).

# **EnergyCo NSW**

## **EnergyCo NSW leadership team in place**

The EnergyCo NSW Leadership team is now in place and we warmly welcome Mike, Alex and Andrew in joining James Hay, Chief Executive and Chloe Hicks, Head of Strategy and Delivery.

### **Mike Young – Executive Director Planning and Communities**

Mike has extensive experience in the environmental field and is a leader in NSW energy and resource planning and assessments. Prior to joining EnergyCo NSW Mike was Executive Director - Energy, Industry & Compliance at the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Mike will be core to supporting the Consumer Trustee to meet the generation targets, schedule auctions and set and assess the social licence aspects of project bids. Mike also has deep knowledge of the mining sector, enabling EnergyCo NSW to maximise the economic and community opportunities arising from NSW's energy transformation.

### **Alexandra Finley - Executive Director Commercial**

Alex has extensive knowledge and expertise across the commercial, risk and legal aspects of electricity infrastructure and outstanding knowledge of industry operations and commercial models. Alex was formerly the Chief Risk and Commercial Officer at Spark Infrastructure. Alex's deep knowledge of networks and her commercial skills will be core to designing, negotiating and managing innovative, constructive and enduring relationships with our network partners and relationships between REZ generators, the networks and the State through EnergyCo NSW.

### **Andrew Kingsmill - Executive Director Technical Advisory Services**

Andrew Kingsmill has extensive experience in electricity infrastructure planning,

operations regulation and asset management. Andrew was formerly Head of Network Planning at TransGrid where he led the planning and economic evaluation of new transmission with a total value of \$3 billion and managed technical due diligence for connection of new generators and customers totalling 5 gigawatts. Andrew provides technical leadership, ensuring successful and optimal integration of REZ infrastructure.

## **Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Access Scheme Issues Paper submissions now public**

The Central-West Orana REZ Access Scheme will be the first of its kind in the National Electricity Market and we thank you for your strong participation. Around 300 participants attended our public consultation webinar and we received over 50 written submissions. Non-confidential submissions are available for download from the [Access Scheme consultation website](#). You can also email us with any questions or comments at [rez@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:rez@planning.nsw.gov.au).

## **New England Renewable Energy Zone Registration of Interest closes 23 July**

Today we close our registration of interest process for projects interested in participating in the intended 8,000 MW New England Renewable Energy Zone. We thank all generation, storage and network projects who have expressed interest. We are reviewing registrations of interest and will release further information shortly.

For further information please visit our [New England REZ ROI webpage](#).

## **Tranche two submissions now public**

Thank you to everyone who made submissions to the [Issues Paper on the Tranche two regulations](#). We received 34 submissions, and these will be

considered in the regulation development process. Non-confidential submissions are now public and can be found [here](#).

## How to get involved

If you have any questions or would like to be part of any of our engagement activities, please email [Electricity.Roadmap@dpie.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Electricity.Roadmap@dpie.nsw.gov.au).

For the latest updates on the Roadmap, please visit the [Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap webpage](#). You can also join the REZ Mailing list by emailing [REZ@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:REZ@planning.nsw.gov.au) or replying to this email.

This newsletter has been sent to recipients who have expressed interest in receiving updates on the NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap. You can [subscribe to this list](#), [update your profile](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

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