

Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Regional Reference Group

Energy Corporation of NSW

22 February 2021

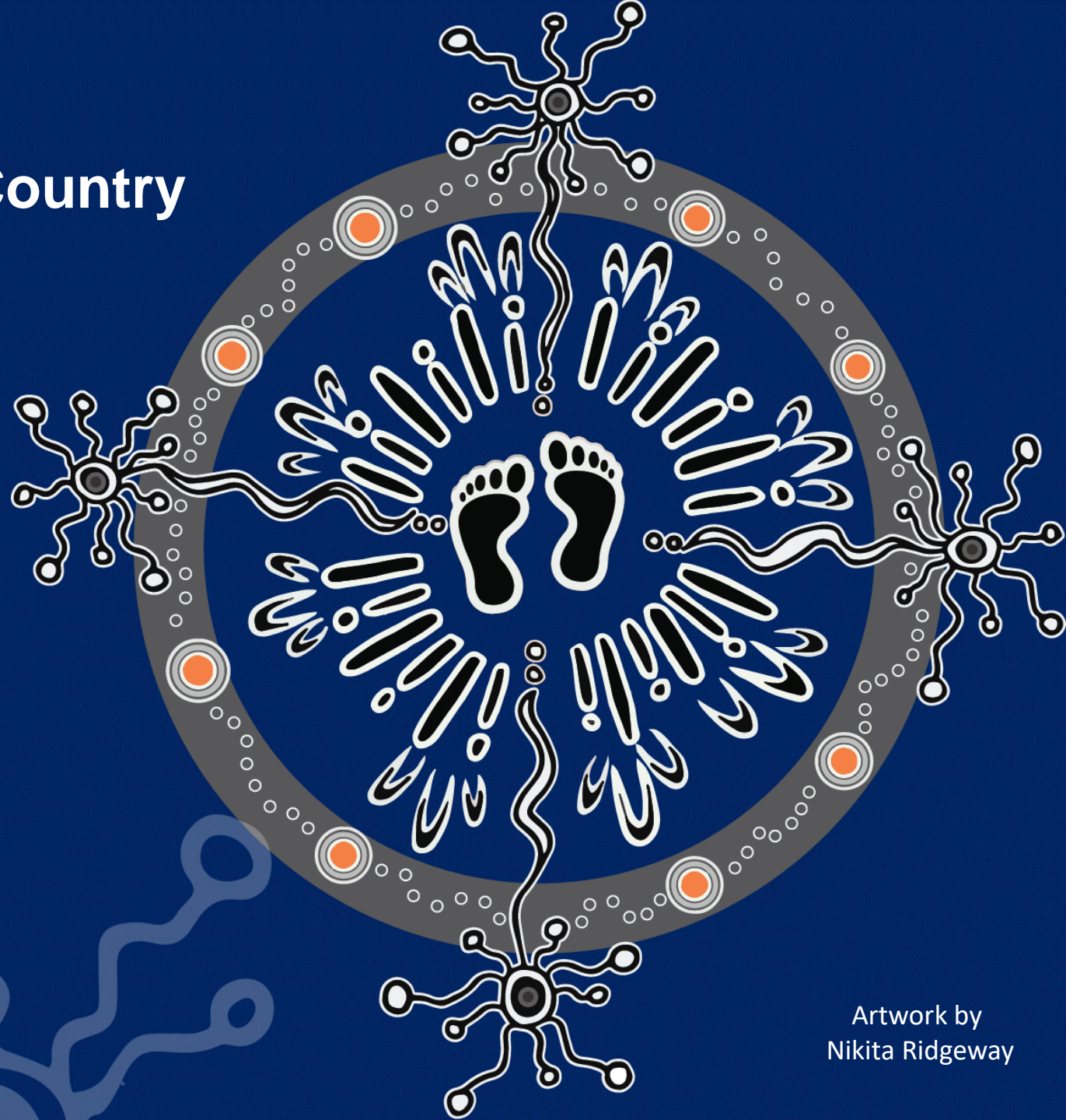
Taronga Western Plains Zoo



Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge that today we meet on many Aboriginal lands.

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands and we show our respect for elders past, present and emerging through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work.



Planning,
Industry &
Environment

Artwork by
Nikita Ridgeway

Agenda

- Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country
- Introductions and review of actions from the October 2020 meeting
- NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap & Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020
- Update on Central-West Orana REZ
- Update on Central-West Orana REZ Transmission
- Workstreams deep dive
- Next steps

October 2020 meeting actions

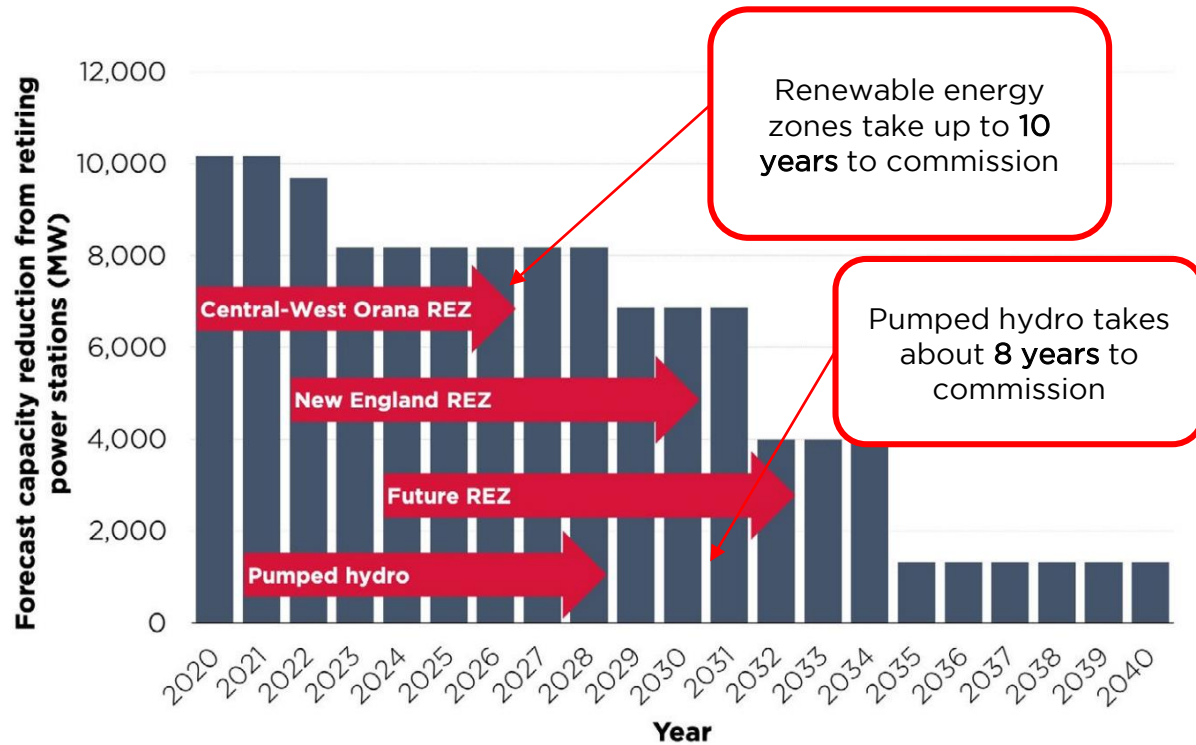
No.	Action	Responsibility	Progress
1	DPIE to produce a public engagement strategy	DPIE	Since the release of the Roadmap and Act we have been coordinating all consultation and engagement activities to ensure we produce public-facing documents that are coordinated and clear.
2	Stakeholders would like to see a map of the REZ and transmission line overlaid with topography and land use	DPIE	We are working on developing a comprehensive GIS portal for the REZs that will identify these factors and more.
3	Dubbo Council to share Wellington social study	Dubbo Regional Council	TBC
4	DPIE to share key messages with RRG and seek feedback	DPIE	<p>We shared all transmission study corridor release collateral with the RRG in December 2020.</p> <p>We want to continue to collaborate on key messaging for the CWO REZ.</p>
5	Schedule next meeting for February 2021	DPIE	Complete

NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap & Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020

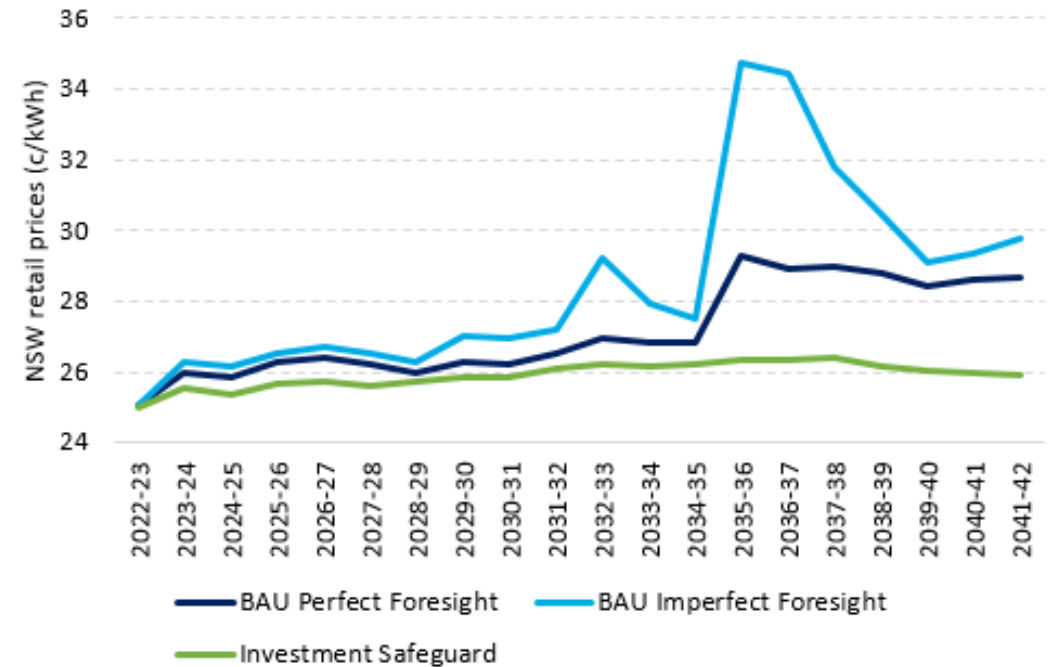


Why did we release a Roadmap?

**Our current infrastructure took 30 years to build.
We need to replace it in less than 15 years**



If the investment comes too late, NSW consumers face much higher electricity prices

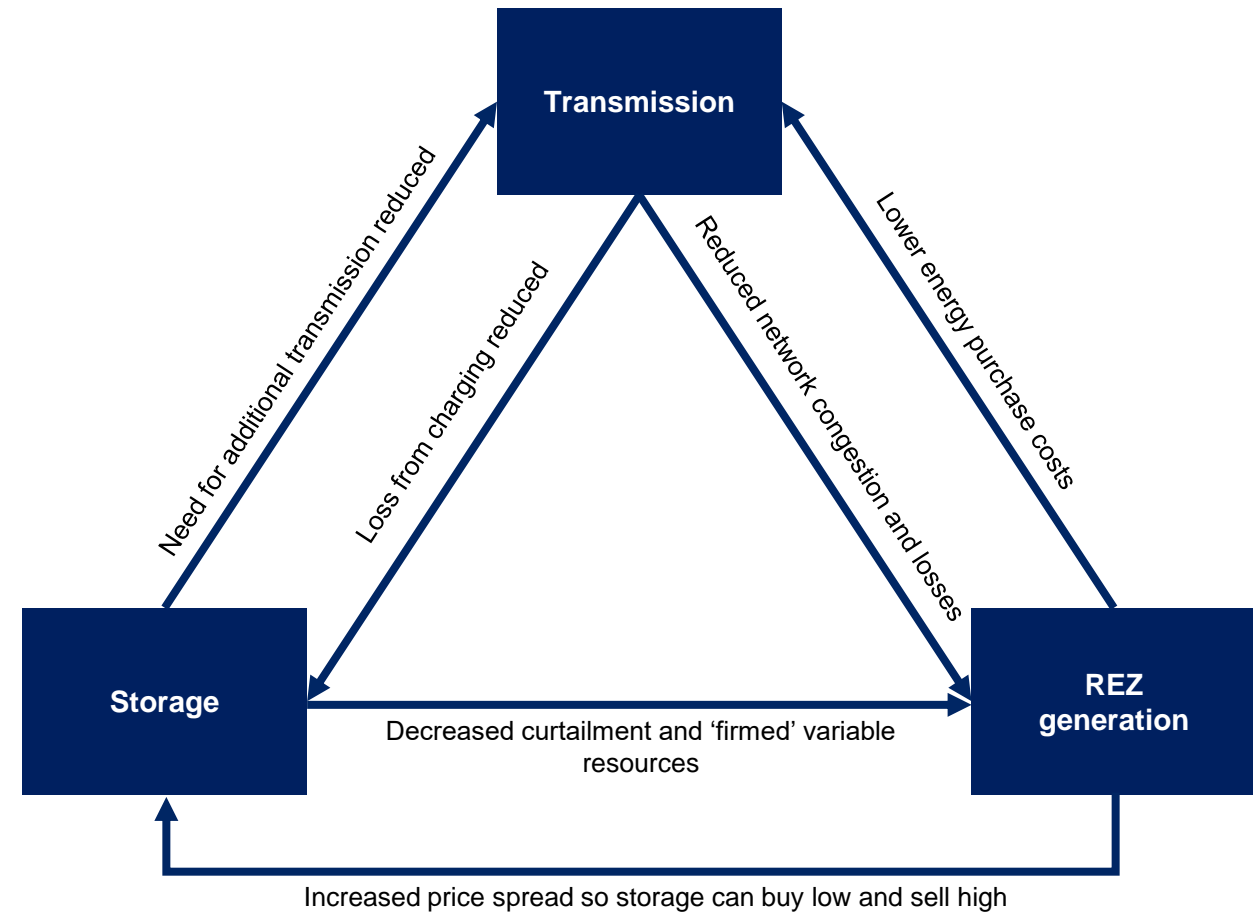


What is the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap?

The Roadmap coordinates investment in transmission, generation, storage and firming infrastructure to replace aging power stations.

The Roadmap includes actions that will work together to deliver 'whole-of-system' benefits:

- **Renewable Energy Zones**
- **Transmission Development Scheme**
- **Electricity Infrastructure Investment Safeguard**
- **Pumped Hydro Recoverable Grants Program**
- **Internationally competitive NSW industries**



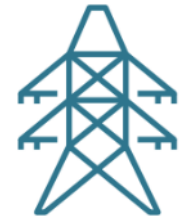
What will the Roadmap deliver?



Forecast **\$130 a year saving** on an average household electricity bill and **\$430 a year saving** on an average small business electricity bill from 2023 to 2040



\$32 billion in regional energy infrastructure investment expected to 2030



12 gigawatts in new generation and **2 gigawatts of long duration storage** estimated by 2030



90 million tonnes of reduced carbon emissions to 2030

Benefits for regional NSW



6,300 construction jobs and **2,800 ongoing jobs** expected in 2030, mostly in regional NSW



Up to **\$265 million in community enhancement funds** to host communities by 2042



\$1.5 billion in lease payments estimated by 2042 to landholders hosting new infrastructure



Improved **competitiveness of regional energy intensive industries**

What do the Roadmap and Act mean for Renewable Energy Zones?

- We now have the policy and legislative levers to deliver the REZs and employment, community benefits and best-practice engagement outcomes for host communities
- **NSW has now committed to five REZs:**
 - A pilot Central-West Orana – up to 3,000 MW REZ to be shovel-ready by 2022
 - New England – up to 8,000 MW
 - South-West – target capacity to be determined in time, linked with EnergyConnect
 - Hunter-Central Coast and Illawarra
- **They are expected to:**
 - help bring more than 12 GW of new generation online to 2030, and even more over time
 - support up to \$20.7 billion of private sector investment in the regions by 2030
 - support over 5,000 construction jobs at their peak



Regional benefits, employment opportunities and consultation for the REZ

NSW Renewables Energy Sector Board- prepare a plan to maximise use of local content, employment of local workers and opportunities for apprentices

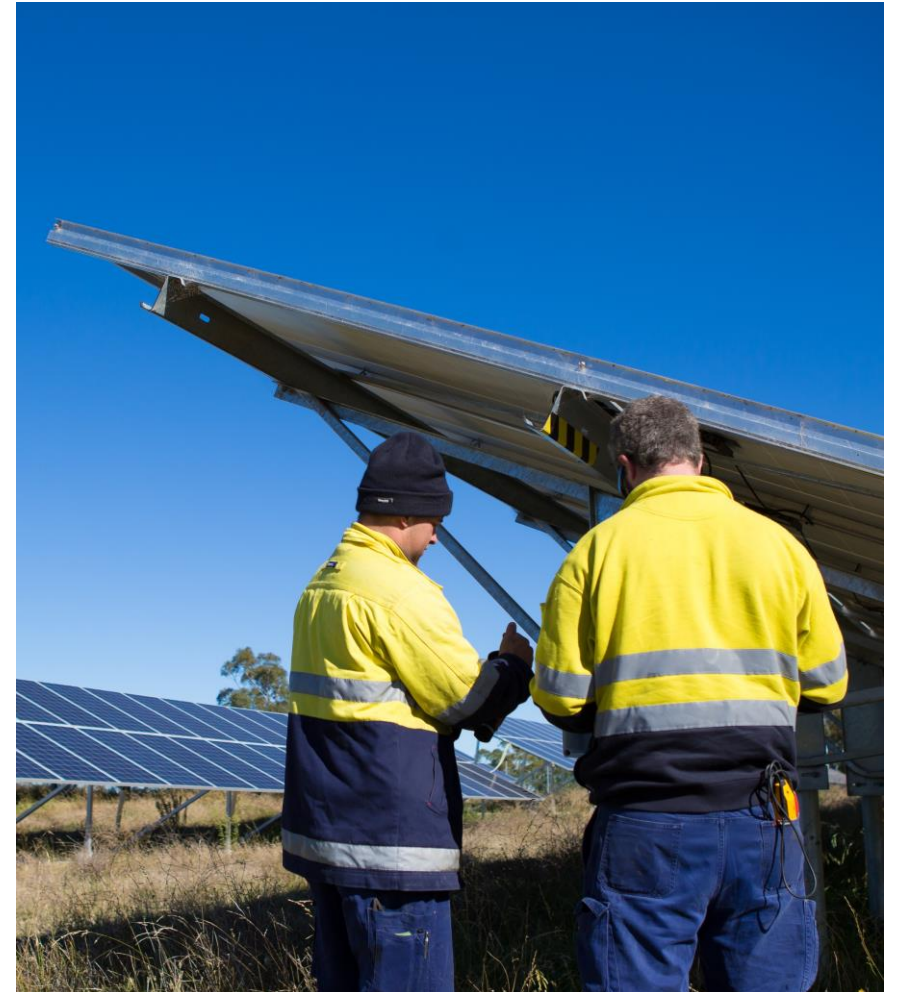
Electricity Infrastructure Jobs Advocate- advise Minister on employment, education and training in regions and infrastructure to promote export opportunities

REZ declaration- the Minister will declare the Central-West Orana, New England, South-West, Hunter and Central Coast and Illawarra REZs

Guidelines on consultation and negotiation with local Aboriginal communities- to promote employment and income opportunities from REZ projects

Power to prohibit network connection in the REZ for projects >30 MW- Energy Corporation of NSW can exercise when needed to maintain social licence

Access fees- component included for community and employment purposes





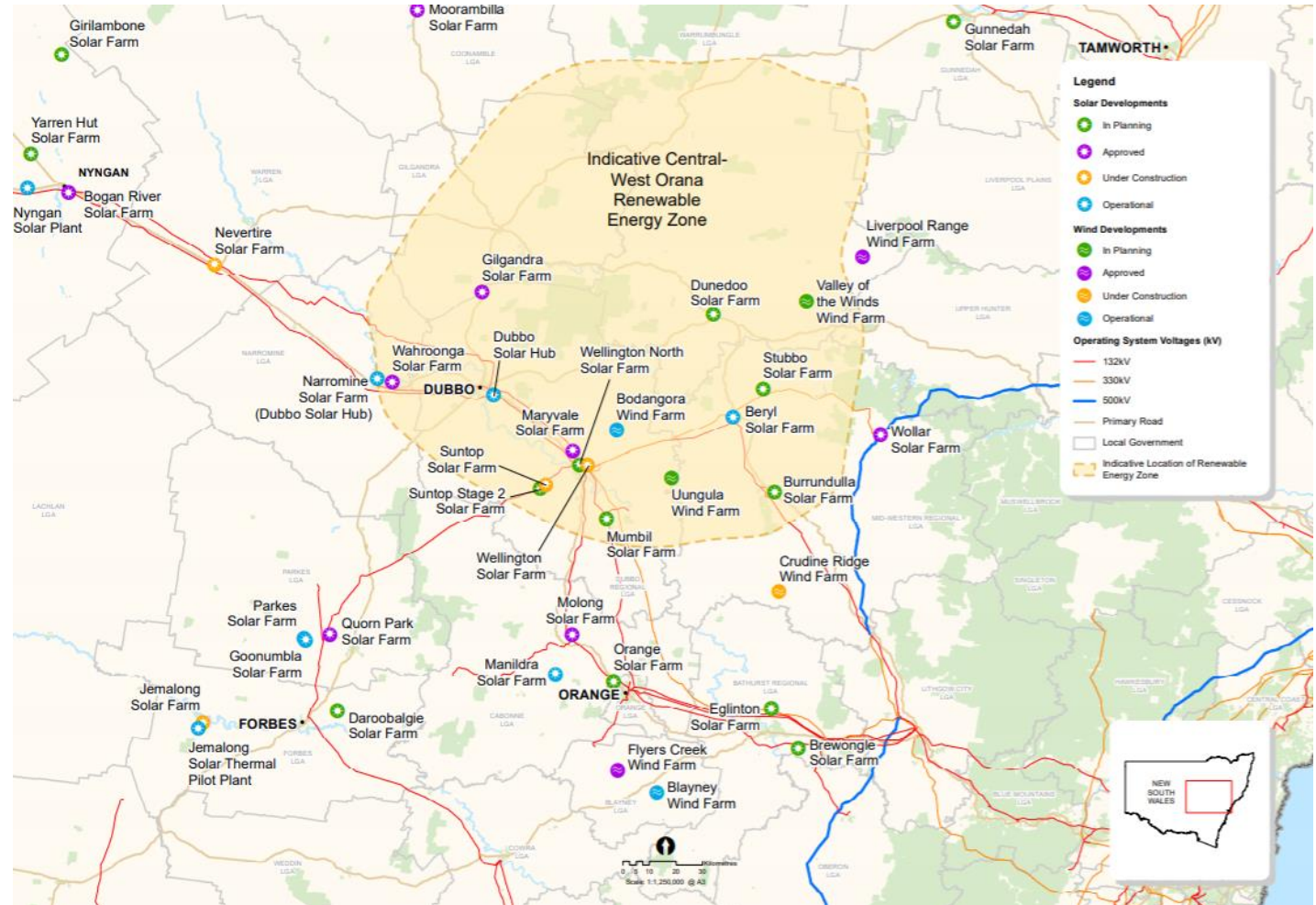
Update on the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone



Central-West Orana REZ Milestones

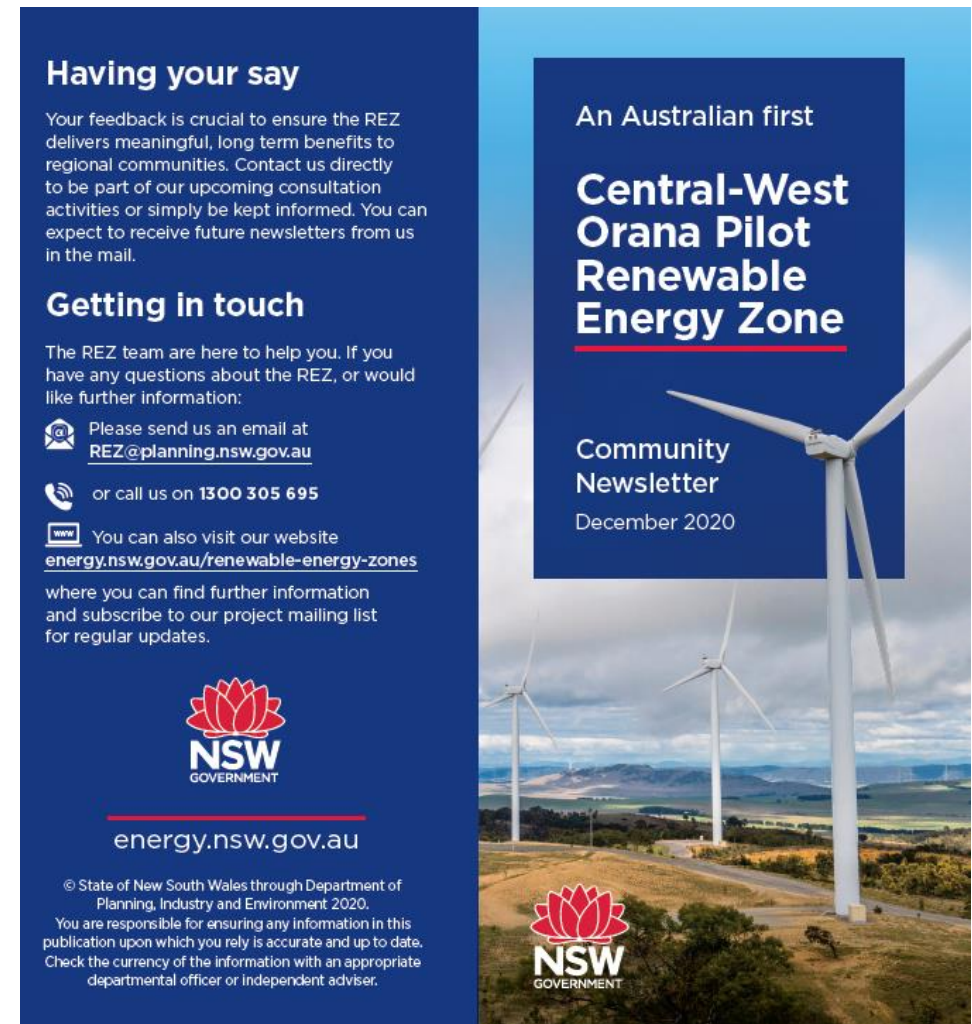
Since October 2020, the Central-West Orana REZ has reached a number of milestones including:

- Release of the Roadmap which sets out a plan for how REZs will be delivered and making of the Act- **November-December 2020**
- Public release of the Central-West Orana REZ Transmission study corridor- **December 2020**
- Central-West Orana REZ Transmission declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure by the Minister for Planning & Public Spaces- **December 2020**
- On-the-ground community consultation and engagement commences on the Central-West Orana REZ and Transmission- **February 2021**



Central-West Orana REZ Consultation & Engagement

- Consultation on the study corridor begun in December 2020, including a community newsletter on the REZ to landowners and residents and businesses in Dubbo, Wellington, Gulgong & Gilgandra
- **Upcoming consultation:**
- Community deliberative forums including around 20 invited people from a representative sample of local residents and other key stakeholders:
 - Monday 22 February 2021: Dubbo
 - Tuesday 23 February 2021: Wellington
 - Wednesday 24 February 2021: Gulgong
- Next community newsletter to landowners in the study corridor in March 2020 including a copy of the 'Renewable Energy Landholder Guide' we supported NSW Farmers in developing
- Building an on-the-ground presence in the Central-West Orana region





Having your say


Your feedback is crucial to ensure the REZ delivers meaningful, long term benefits to regional communities. Contact us directly to be part of our upcoming consultation activities or simply be kept informed. You can expect to receive future newsletters from us in the mail.


Getting in touch

The REZ team are here to help you. If you have any questions about the REZ, or would like further information:

 Please send us an email at REZ@planning.nsw.gov.au

 or call us on **1300 305 695**

 You can also visit our website energy.nsw.gov.au/renewable-energy-zones where you can find further information and subscribe to our project mailing list for regular updates.


energy.nsw.gov.au

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An Australian first

Central-West Orana Pilot Renewable Energy Zone

Community Newsletter
December 2020

Energy Corporation of NSW

Energy Corporation of NSW is the 'Infrastructure Planner' for REZs under the Act. The Energy Corporation will:

Lead community and stakeholder engagement to deliver social licence for REZs

Coordinate the strategic planning, design and delivery of generation, transmission and storage for REZs

Administer the REZ network access scheme- including powers to prohibit network connection for social licence

Provide a Case Management service for businesses investing in large scale energy infrastructure

Promote local development opportunities and engage with the local community and industry

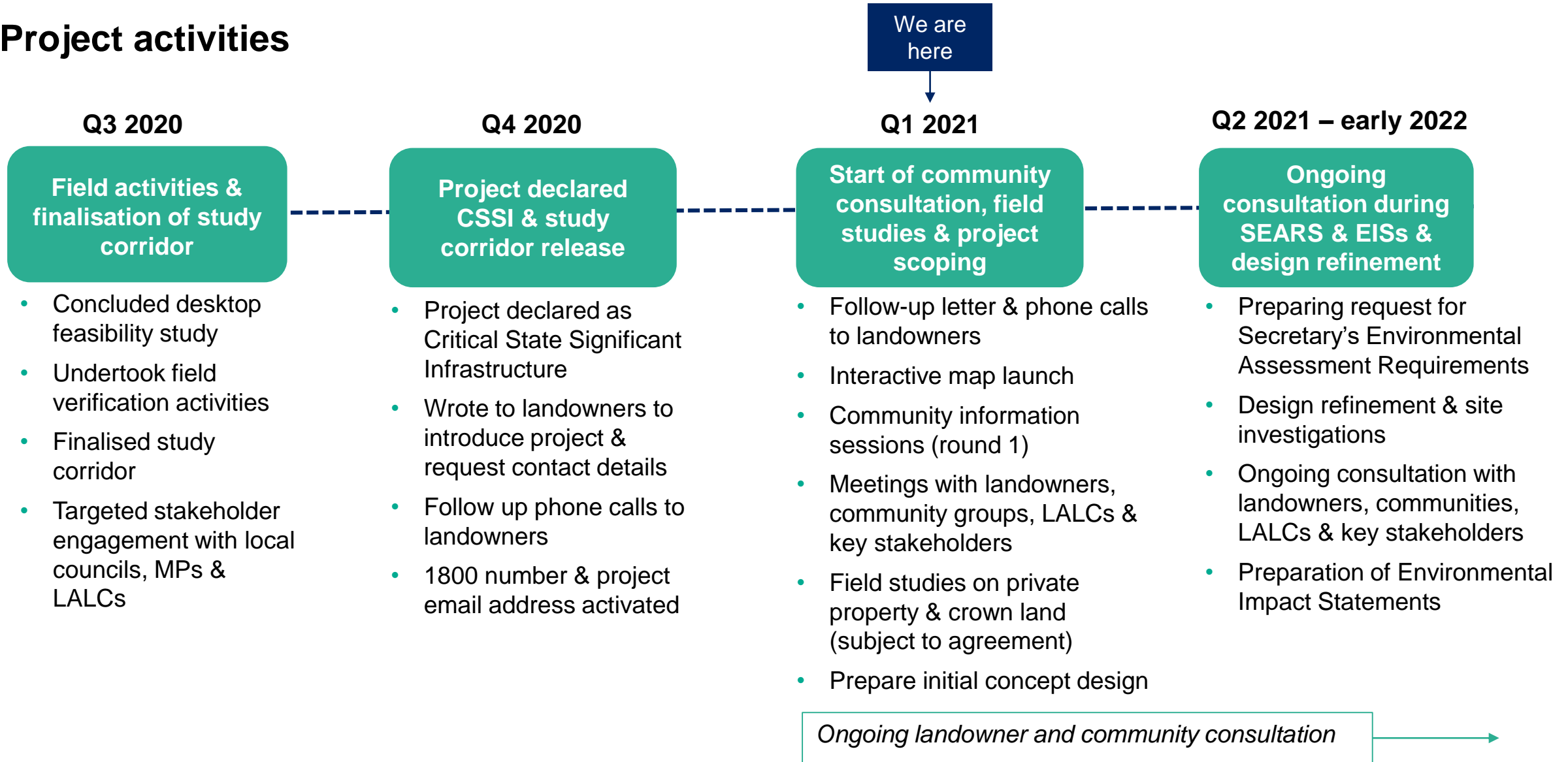
Update on Central-West Orana REZ Transmission



Study corridor



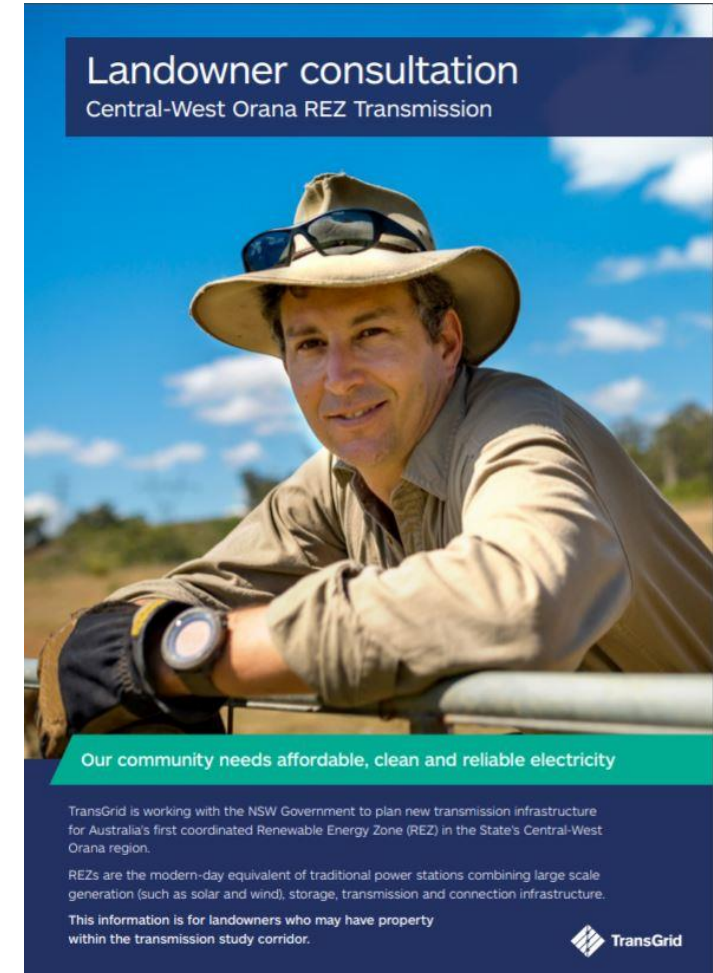
Project activities



TransGrid landowner and community engagement

Communication & engagement methods during Q4 2020 & Q1 2021:

- Direct communication including letters and phone calls
- Interactive online map (launched in February)
- COVID-safe meetings with landowners & community groups (in progress)
- Community information sessions along the study corridor (in progress)
- Project website
- Project email address & 1800 number
- Landowner consultation booklet (available on website)



TransGrid's Landowner consultation booklet

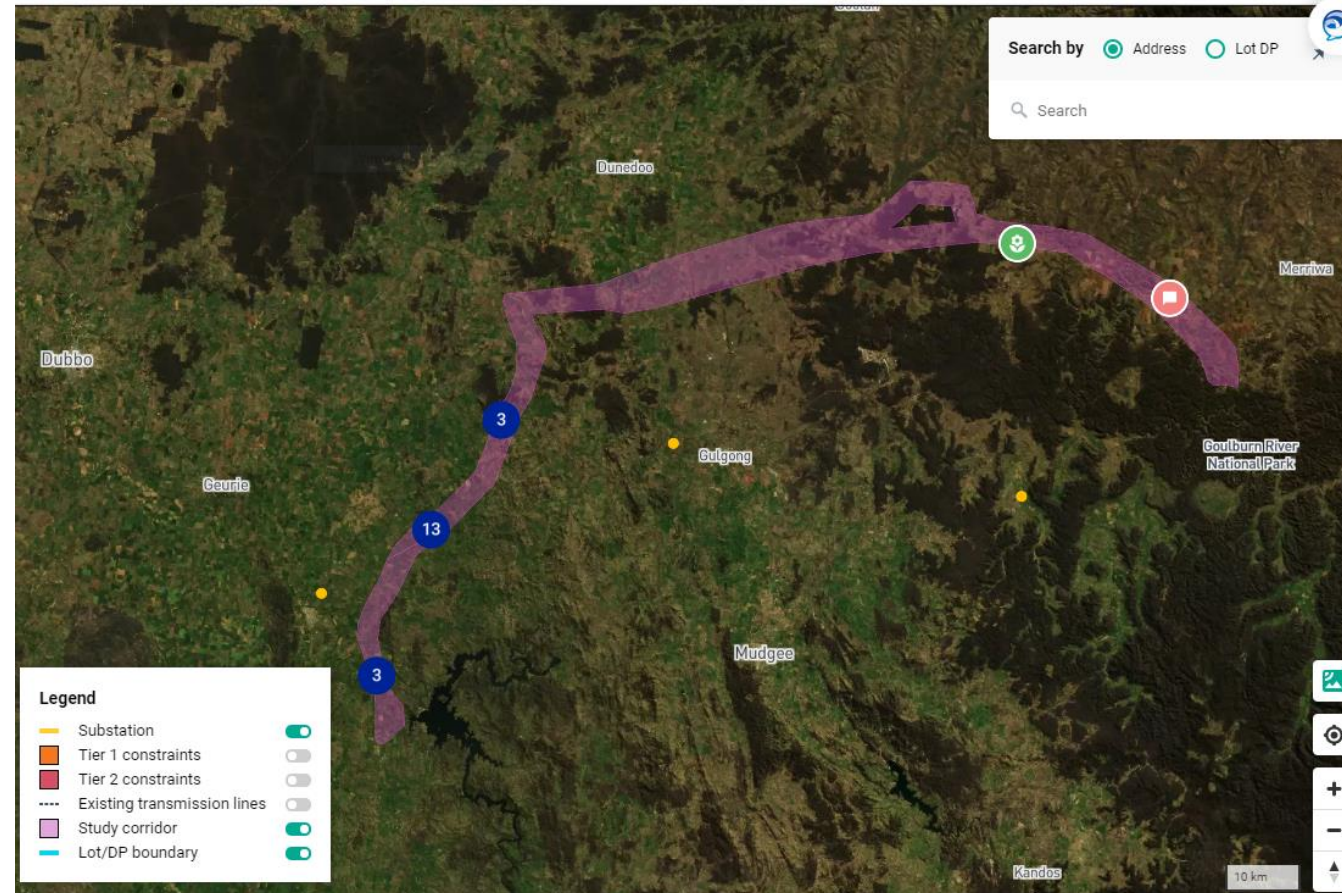
Study corridor

Feedback about the identification of:

- airstrips
- bores
- residences not found in current mapping
- residences with DA approval but not yet built
- an old cemetery
- tree species
- cultivation paddocks

Questions about:

- Impact on land use & land value
- Operational impacts including noise
- Compensation
- Location of new substations
- Voltage of new transmission lines
- What the new transmission structures will look like



Still of TransGrid's interactive map

What's coming up

In the community

- Meetings with landowners, community groups, LALCs & key stakeholders (on-going)
- Field studies on private property & crown land (subject to consent)
- Aerial laser surveys of the study corridor – April 2021
- Community information sessions (round 2) – Q2 2021
- Site investigations – mid-2021

Behind the scenes

- Preparation of EIS Scoping Reports & request SEARs – Q2 2021
- Initial concept design (Q1 2021) followed by design refinement – mid-2021
- Collaborating with DPIE and AEMO to adapt connection processes so generators and storage projects can get connected
- Modelling power system to determine how much generation capacity the REZ transmission can sensibly support



Stall at Dunedoo Show on 13 February 2021

Workstream deep dives



Guidelines for consultation and negotiation with local Aboriginal community

- Promoting Aboriginal participation in the Central-West Orana REZ is a key object of the Act
- The Act requires the Minister to issue guidelines about consultation and negotiation with the local Aboriginal community for relevant projects for the purposes of increasing employment and income opportunities
- Relevant projects include REZ infrastructure projects (such as transmission) and solar, wind and storage projects that have a Long Term Energy Service Agreement
- The objectives of the guidelines are to set out:
 - Who, how and when consultation and negotiation with local Aboriginal communities will occur and;
 - How these communities will be engaged and empowered to maximise employment and income opportunities from energy infrastructure delivered under the Roadmap and Act.
- A Working Group will be established by Q1 2021 to oversee the development of the Guidelines and may include representatives from Aboriginal Land Council/s, peak body organisations and Government agencies.



Social licence and community benefit sharing

- There are a number of initiatives that will help support build social licence and ensure benefits are equitably shared throughout the community for the Central-West Orana REZ, such as:
 - Developing merit criteria for projects to compete on community engagement and local economic benefits through the commercial process
 - Exploring regional development opportunities
 - Developing community benefit sharing schemes
 - Developing guidelines on how the Energy Corporation of NSW uses its powers to restrict network connection of REZ projects on social licence grounds



REZ Regional Energy Strategy

- The REZ Regional Energy Strategy will look at ways to ensure regional communities have access to cheap and more reliable energy within the REZ
- The desired outcomes of the Strategy are:

Ground truthing

Gaining a better understanding of distribution level network constraints and needs

Regional benefits

Facilitate benefit realisation of the REZ to the distribution network and host communities- cheap and reliable energy, jobs and community values, infrastructure

Collaboration

Working with the Distributed Network Service Providers and community to deliver network, consumer and community focused outcomes

Innovation

Identifying innovative ways to transition and support new industries and within REZ communities and use load in regions to provide technical benefits to the REZ network



Communications and messaging

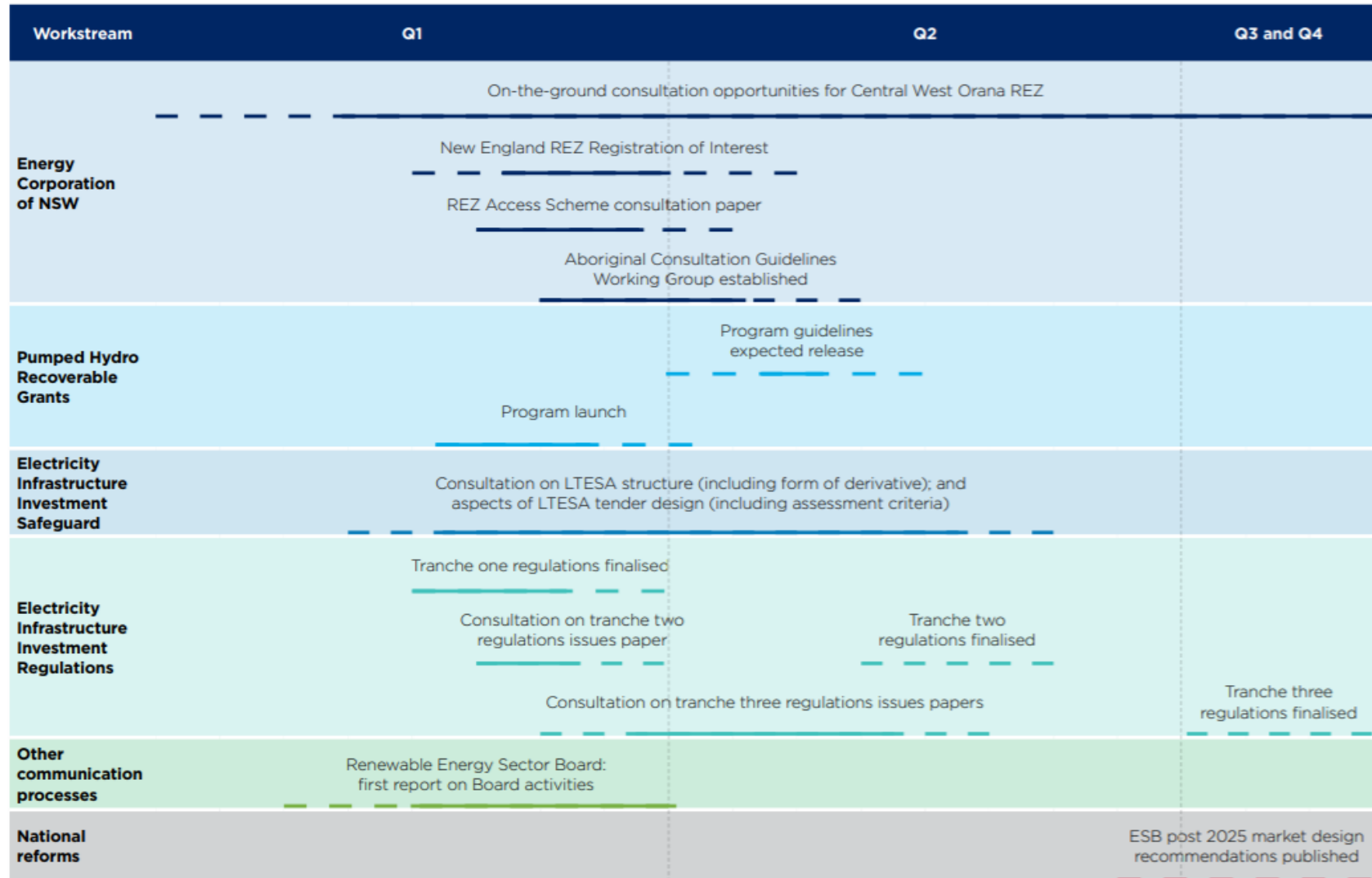
- The REZ will take a number of years to deliver and we want to make sure we support communities understand what the REZ is and what it means for them
- Community feedback so far is that there could be more clarity on what the REZ is and what Government's role is, particularly for wind, solar and storage projects
- We are working on a number of initiatives to improve our messaging and provide better information to the community such as:
 - Supporting community information sessions on hosting energy infrastructure for landowners and supporting training for local solicitors
 - Establishing an on-the-ground presence in Dubbo and attending local events and shows
 - Sending a copy of the 'Renewable Energy Landholder Guide (2019)' developed in collaboration with NSW Farmers to landowners in the transmission study corridor with our next community newsletter
- What issues and information does your local community care about and what more can we do provide information and be accessible?





Consultation

Indicative Roadmap Consultation Opportunities (2021)



Next steps

