Delivering community benefits to Mudgee

Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone

May 2026

EnergyCo is delivering the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) to provide a clean, affordable and reliable power supply for energy consumers across NSW. We recognise that hosting renewable energy infrastructure represents real change for those living and working in REZs across NSW. That is why we are providing funding to communities in the REZs to deliver lasting, tangible benefits.

Mudgee worker accommodation site.

The Community and Employment Benefit Program will contribute to the long-term prosperity of regional communities hosting renewable energy and transmission lines by funding community-led initiatives, public infrastructure and First Nations projects.

More than $70 million has been delivered in the first round of program grants to community initiatives across the Central-West Orana REZ. This includes more than $14 million to the following successful projects for the Mudgee region:

- **Essential worker housing: $11.25 million** to Mid-Western Regional Council to construct affordable housing in Mudgee to attract and accommodate essential workers, including teachers, nurses and paramedics.
- **Lady Gowrie Mudgee Early Education & Care Centre expansion: $1 million** to provide new infant rooms, preschool spaces, and amenities to enhance childcare capacity and provide essential services to families, helping to attract key workers.
- **Marathon Health - Mudgee Flying Start: $982,045** to address the shortage of early intervention early childhood specialist health services in the Mudgee area.

Kildallon Spring Fair

- **Putta Bucca Wetlands redevelopment: $500,000** to transform a decommissioned landfill site at Putta Bucca Wetlands into an interactive, accessible environmental education space for recreation.
- **Mudgee Arts Council: $164,340** to support the Kildallon Events Calendar, a program of community arts and culture events including visual arts, music, theatre, education, and an annual spring fair open to the public.
- **Lake Windamere disability accommodation: $101,490** to provide inclusive accommodation opening up the lake's outdoor recreation and nature experiences to people with special needs to enjoy.
- **Mudgee Wine Association: $45,000** to develop and implement a strategic plan for local wineries focusing on sustainability, education in viticulture, winemaking, tourism, and business, while promoting renewable energy use and environmental stewardship.
- **Lifeskills: $44,640** to increase the options for disability service providers to meet clients in private, accessible spaces through the design of a new Lifeskills Plus Inclusive Community Centre.
- **Kanandah Aged Care facility: $38,000** to install new fencing to increase the safety of residents and staff.

The Community and Employment Benefit Program ensures that the benefits of renewable energy investment are shared with the community and create lasting legacies for the region.

More funding will be made available to communities over the next three decades, generated from fees paid by projects with an access right to connect to the REZ network infrastructure.

To find out more scan the QR code or visit **energyco.nsw.gov.au/our-projects/central-west-orana-rez/community-benefits**

Contact Us

If you have questions or feedback about the Central-West Orana REZ transmission project please contact us:

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Scan the QR code for more information

For construction or out of hours enquiries, please contact our network operator ACEREZ on 1800 298 379 or visit acerez.com.au