Delivering community benefits to Dubbo

Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone

July 2026

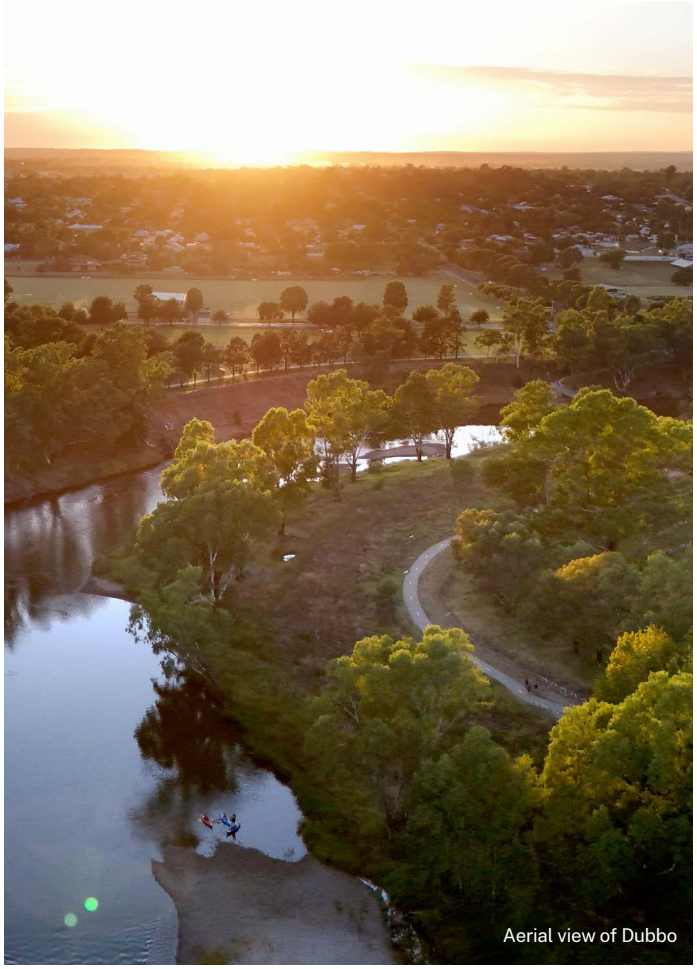
EnergyCo is delivering the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) to provide a clean, affordable and reliable power supply for energy consumers across NSW. We recognise that hosting renewable energy infrastructure represents real change for those living and working in REZs across NSW. That is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

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. Projects for the Dubbo region include:

Regional Enterprise and Training Centre (REACT): $11.25 million to establish workforce accommodation and training infrastructure that supports the attraction, retention and development of workers required to meet growing regional workforce demands associated with the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone.

Burrendong Botanic Garden & Arboretum Rejuvenation: $992,762 to upgrade key infrastructure, accessibility and environmental conservation facilities at the Burrendong Botanic Garden and Arboretum, ensuring its long-term sustainability and increasing community participation.



Aerial view of Dubbo

Central West Muslims Association Community Hall Expansion: $623,773 to expand community hall and accommodation facilities in Dubbo, including solar installations and increased space for multicultural community programs, education activities and community meals.

Cerebral Palsy Alliance Dubbo Centre for Disability: $245,150 to upgrade accessibility, safety and privacy at the Dubbo disability centre, improving services for people with disability and their families across the Central West Orana region.

Orana Early Childhood Intervention and Education Project: $97,606 to resurface and install drainage in an outdoor play area, supporting the development of gross motor skills for children with disability or developmental delay.

LeaderLife – Let's Grow Good Food and Good Kids: $503,517 to expand regenerative farming programs that support disengaged and vulnerable young people in Dubbo through education, mentoring and skills development.

PCYC Dubbo Gymnastics Upgrade & Youth Program Enhancement: $159,713 to refurbish gymnastics facilities and provide subsidised participation opportunities for First Nations and disadvantaged young people.

Dubbo Showground Bird Netting Project: $230,580 to install bird netting at major showground facilities, improving cleanliness, safety and usability for community events and visitors.

Dubbo Showground Lighting Upgrade: $617,292 to upgrade external track and arena lighting, delivering safer and more reliable facilities for the wide range of community groups using the showground.

Project BBBB (Bats, Beaks, Bills, Bears): $276,220 to connect the community with nature through environmental programs that support biodiversity, mental wellbeing and local pride across the Dubbo region.

Dubbo Junior AFL Club House Upgrade: $549,731 to create an accessible and welcoming club house through new female changerooms, accessible amenities, kitchen facilities and improved community spaces.

Ican Nursery Upgrade: $802,221 to expand an Indigenous native plant nursery, creating jobs and training opportunities while promoting environmental restoration, biodiversity and cultural education.

Woolly Conversations: $472,620 to deliver mental health awareness, suicide prevention training and support programs for shearing and wool industry workers across the Central West Orana region.

In addition to the first round of grants the **Central-West Orana Telecommunications Infrastructure Uplift Program** was announced in July 2026. This includes **$14.5 million** to expand and upgrade mobile and internet infrastructure across the Central-West Orana region, improving coverage across more than 900 square kilometres and providing hundreds of eligible premises with access to high-speed internet services.

The Community and Employment Benefit Program ensures that the benefits of renewable energy investment are shared with the community and create lasting positive impact 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:

- 1800 032 101 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)
- cwo@energyco.nsw.gov.au
- energyco.nsw.gov.au/cwo
- 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