

Port to renewable energy zones road upgrades

Project update

June 2026

EnergyCo is delivering renewable energy zones (REZ) to provide a clean, affordable and reliable power supply for NSW. EnergyCo and Transport for NSW are upgrading sections of the state road network to enable the transport of large equipment needed to build renewable energy projects.

Overview

Upgrades along the Port to REZ route from the Port of Newcastle to the Central-West Orana REZ are nearly complete. Some sites and the pullover bays remain under construction, with all work scheduled for completion in late 2026, weather permitting.

Over the past year:



Road upgrades have been completed at 11 locations



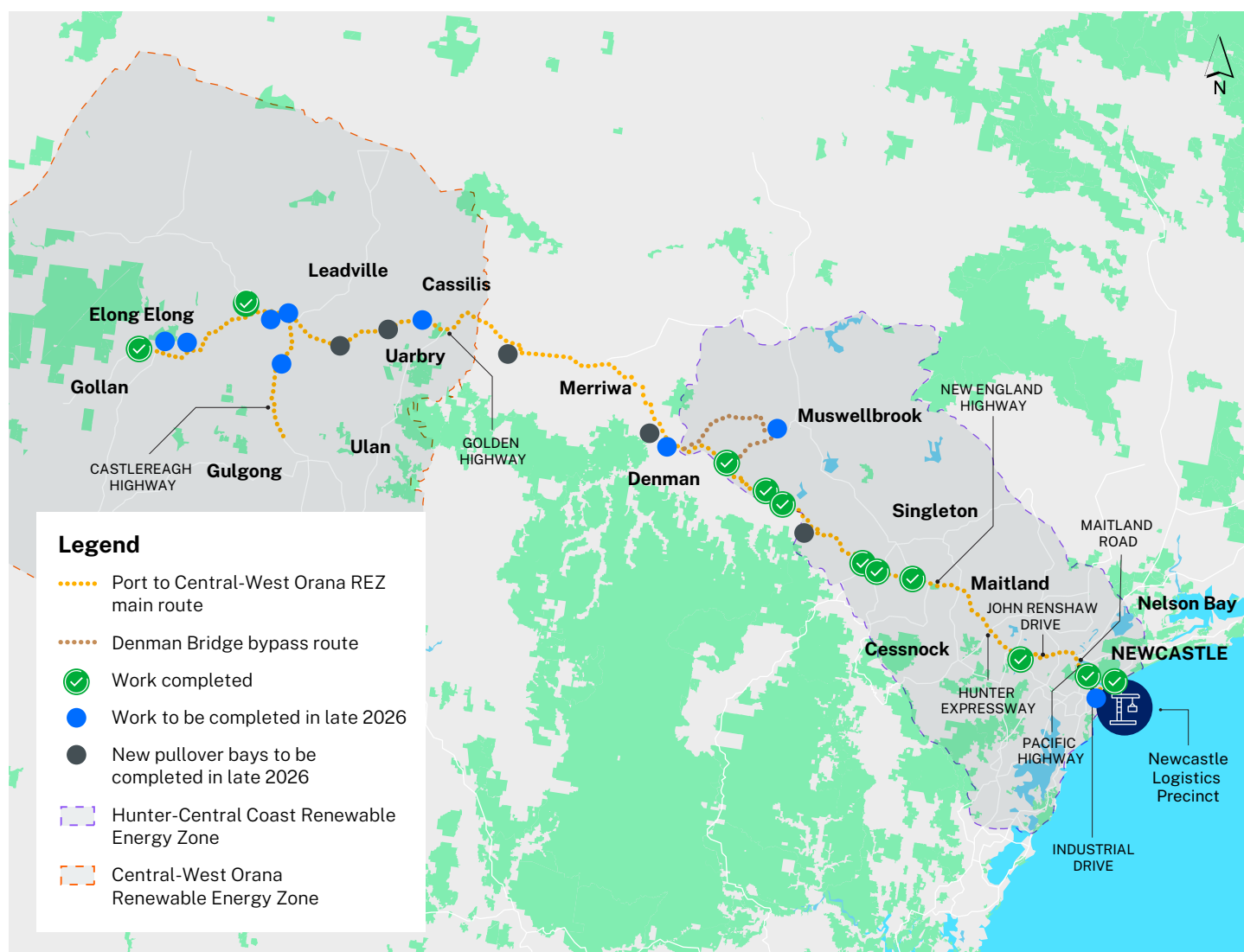
Power lines over the highway have been raised at more than 50 locations

These upgrades support the safe movement of oversize overmass (OSOM) vehicles carrying large components needed to build renewable energy projects in renewable energy zones.



Tower component on route to Ungula Wind Farm

Map of the Port to REZ Route – Port of Newcastle to Elong Elong



First use of Port to REZ route puts key energy infrastructure into action

The recent first use of the Port to REZ route following the latest upgrades is a major milestone for regional NSW and our clean energy future. As renewable energy zones progress, we're upgrading important roads to safely accommodate increased demand and the smooth delivery of renewable energy projects.

The Port to REZ route has been designed by the NSW Government, backed by more than \$110 million in funding, to safely move some of the critical construction components needed to build wind and solar projects from port to construction site, while reducing disruption for regional communities. The upgrades will benefit all drivers by improving road safety, reducing delay times and easing travel through intersections.

Construction underway on pullover bays

In mid-2025, locations for new pullover bays on the Port to REZ route between Newcastle and Elong Elong were shared.

The pullover bays will complement existing roadside facilities and provide motorists with safe opportunities to pass OSOM vehicles.

Early work on the pullover bays started earlier this year.

All bays are scheduled for completion by the end of the year, weather permitting.

Civil construction students visit Port to REZ construction site

Students from Dunedoo Central School visited the Barneys Reef Road site in April as part of a trade readiness program focused on civil construction.

The program is funded by EnergyCo and delivered by the Regional Industry Education Partnerships (RIEP) Program with the NSW Department of Education.

The program is designed to provide practical insights and exposure to construction industry pathways.

Our contractor, BMD, hosted the visit, which included a site tour, a practical road building task and discussions with industry specialists to give the students an understanding of careers in construction.



First transmission tower raised in Central-West Orana REZ

The first transmission tower has been raised in the Central-West Orana REZ, marking an important step in delivering critical energy infrastructure for NSW.

The 70 metre, 500 kilovolt tower was preassembled on the ground in 19 sections before being lifted into position by crane. The structure includes 2,862 steel components and 6,252 bolts.

This milestone signals the start of large-scale construction on the REZ transmission network, which will span around 240 kilometres and connect new renewable generation to the electricity grid.



About EnergyCo

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) is a statutory authority responsible for leading the delivery of Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) as part of the NSW Government's Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap.

EnergyCo is working closely with communities, investors and industry to deliver the state's first five REZs.

For more information about EnergyCo, visit our website at energyco.nsw.gov.au/about-energyco.

Contact us

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