

New England Renewable Energy Zone

March 2024 Project Update

The New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) is a critical energy project for NSW, that will provide clean and reliable electricity to consumers for generations to come. The first two stages of the project are scheduled for completion by 2033 to ensure energy security across NSW as our coal-fired power stations retire.



Armidale

Revised study corridor for the REZ transmission project

EnergyCo has been consulting with landowners and communities on a study corridor for the New England REZ transmission project since June 2023. This feedback, along with information gathered from ongoing field investigations, has resulted in several changes to the preliminary study corridor.

EnergyCo would like to thank the community for working with us to date.

This update provides further details about the revised study corridor, including maps and information about upcoming community information sessions.

The revised study corridor will deliver:



**Better outcomes
for communities
and the
environment**



**About 80 fewer
landholders
in the study
corridor**



**A total reduction
in transmission
easements of
39 kilometres**



What changes have been made?

The revised transmission study corridor includes the deferral of the south hub, as announced earlier this year, as well as further changes in response to feedback and investigations.

Substantial line changes have been made to move the transmission line onto more government land around the Dungowan and Glenbawn areas and avoid smaller landholdings where possible, due to the relatively higher impacts hosting transmission can have on these types of landholdings.

Other adjustments have been made to account for on-farm or host concerns. The overall length of the line has reduced, the number of affected landowners has reduced, and a number of potential impacts have been mitigated.

Some new landowners would potentially be affected and this is being considered as part of the ongoing design process.

Information about the specific changes is provided in this update.

In areas where the corridor has moved, EnergyCo is contacting affected landowners to discuss how they may be impacted and next steps for consultation.

We welcome any feedback on the revised study corridor and the changes made.



Community information sessions

We will be holding information sessions in March so you can speak to our project team, view the revised study corridor, learn about the project and provide feedback.

Armidale

Monday 25 March, 2pm to 7pm at Armidale Town Hall, 127 Rusden Street, Armidale NSW 2350

Tamworth

Tuesday 26 March, 2pm to 7pm at Tamworth Community Event Centre (Heritage Room), 3 Darling Street, Tamworth NSW 2340

Muswellbrook

Wednesday 27 March, 2pm to 7pm at Muswellbrook Library (Seminar Room), 126 Bridge Street, Muswellbrook NSW 2333

No formal presentation will be given, so you can drop in any time during the sessions.

View our interactive map



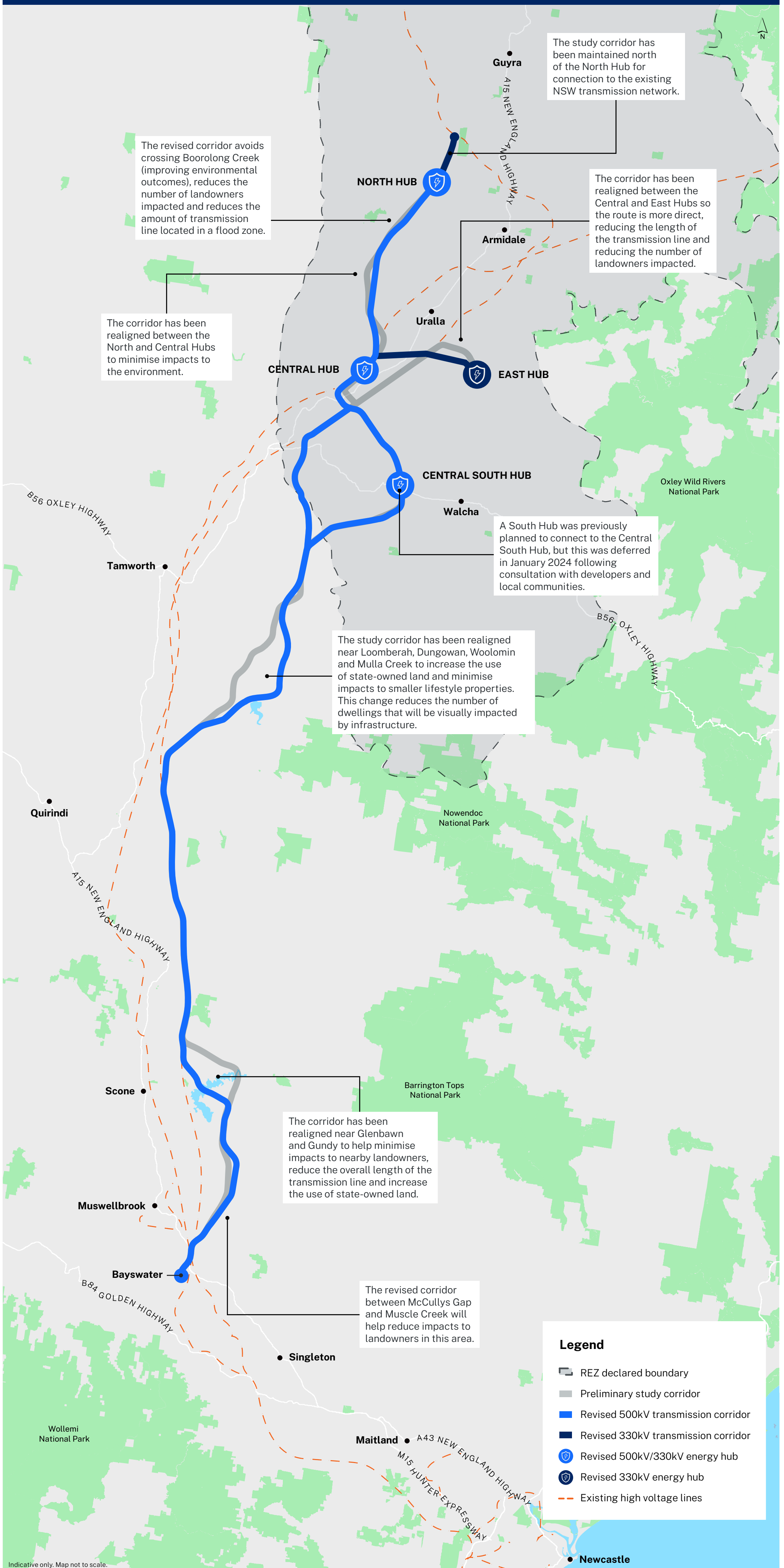
To view the transmission study corridor in more detail, visit our interactive map online at caportal.com.au/energyco/rez. The map includes key features of the New England REZ such as the preliminary and revised study corridors, proposed energy hub locations, existing high voltage network and land boundaries. Get in touch with our team if you have any questions about how to navigate the interactive map.



Scan the QR code to view the interactive map.

New England REZ transmission project study corridor

The revised study corridor is one kilometre wide. It is the same width as the preliminary study corridor announced in June 2023.



Indicative only. Map not to scale.

Next steps

EnergyCo is committed to ongoing engagement with the community as we develop the New England REZ. In the coming months we will continue to carry out field investigations and gather feedback from landowners and the wider community.

We are planning to lodge a Scoping Report to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in the second quarter of this year. The Scoping Report will provide a detailed overview of the project and potential impacts that will require further consideration under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

Once the Scoping Report is lodged, DPHI will provide Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements which will guide the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project. EnergyCo will prepare the EIS to comprehensively assess the impacts and overall merits of the project, and identify options to avoid, minimise and mitigate potential adverse impacts. The EIS will be submitted to DPHI for public exhibition and assessment.

We will keep you informed once the Scoping Report and preferred study corridor are available.

Contact us

If you have any questions or would like to provide feedback, please contact us on the details below. We look forward to hearing from you.



nerez@energyco.nsw.gov.au



1800 061 114 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)



energyco.nsw.gov.au/ne-rez



Scan the QR code for more information.



If you need help understanding this information, please contact the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call us on **1800 061 114**.

Project development timeline

