

New England REZ network infrastructure project

Network operator package
Industry briefing

27 March 2025

Acknowledgment of Country

The Energy Corporation of New South Wales acknowledges that we stand on Aboriginal land.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land and we show our respect for Elders past and present through thoughtful and collaborative approaches to our work, seeking to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to providing places in which Aboriginal people are included socially, culturally and economically.



Scar tree in a field near Walcha

Overview

Welcome and introductions

The opportunity

New England REZ network infrastructure project

Network Operator Package

Audience Q&A



Chloe Hicks
Executive Director Strategy & Policy



Hannah McCaughey
Chief Executive Officer



Mark Westbrook
Chief Project Officer



Doug Parris
New England REZ Project Director

Protocols



The terms and conditions of the Call for Registrations of Interest for the Network Operator Package apply to this briefing.



A copy of this presentation will be uploaded to EnergyCo's website following today's briefing.



Attendees are to maintain their own records and notes for their own purposes (as required).



No electronic recording of this briefing is permitted.



This presentation is for information purposes only. For any enquiries relating to the Network Operator Package procurement process, please contact:
nerez.networkoperator@energyco.nsw.gov.au



For any probity enquiries, please contact:

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The opportunity

Hannah McCaughey, Chief Executive Officer

EnergyCo strategy

We are focused on **projects, partners, and people** to deliver an affordable, reliable and sustainable energy future for NSW



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New England REZ network infrastructure project

Mark Westbrook, Chief Project Officer

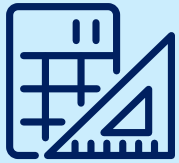
Leading the development of renewables in NSW

EnergyCo is leading the development of projects to provide between **14GW and 24 GW of network capacity** over the next 20 years to meet the EII Act objectives



EnergyCo's role

Infrastructure planner for REZs in NSW



Coordinate technical
design of REZs



Coordinate
investment in REZs



Lead the delivery of
REZs under the
Roadmap

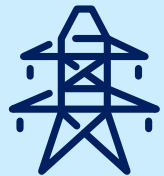


Maximise benefits
for regional
communities



Implement network
access schemes

REZ network infrastructure development



Plan REZ network
infrastructure
projects



Seek project
planning and
regulatory approvals



Consult with
communities and
key stakeholders

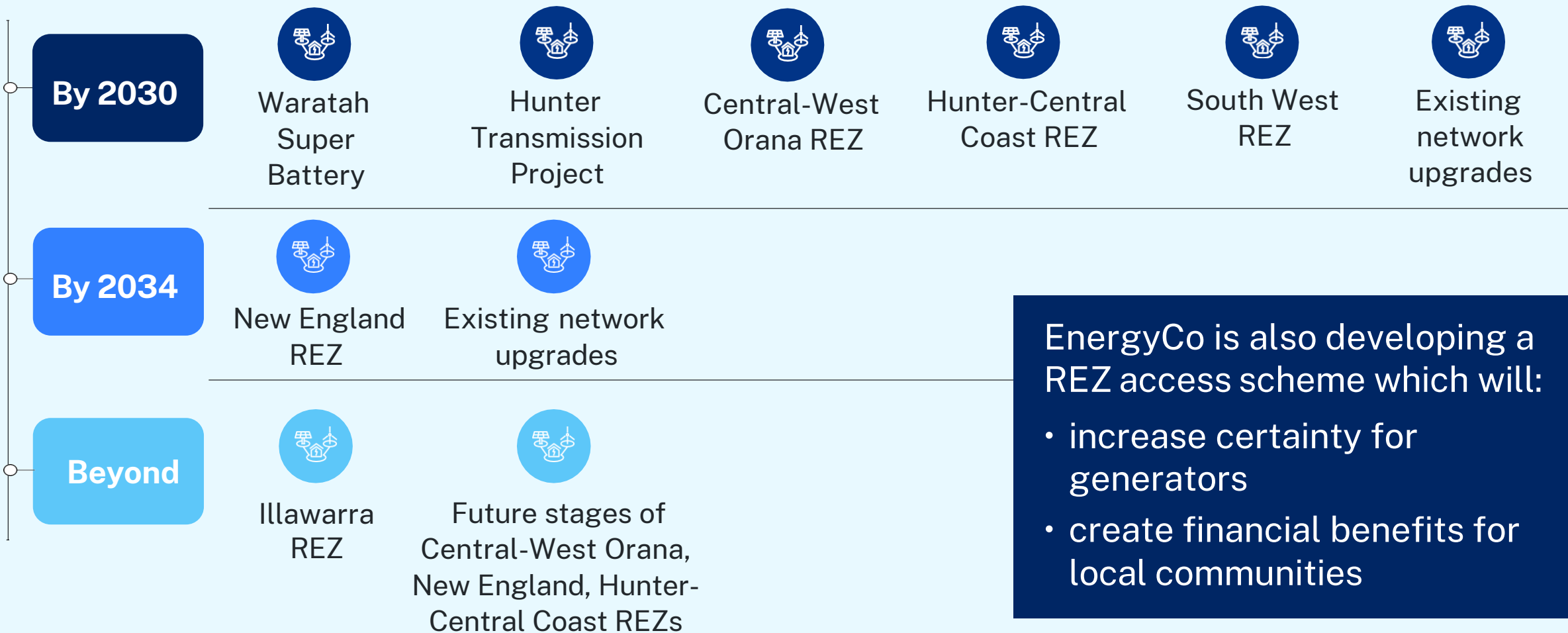


Acquire required
property and
easement interests

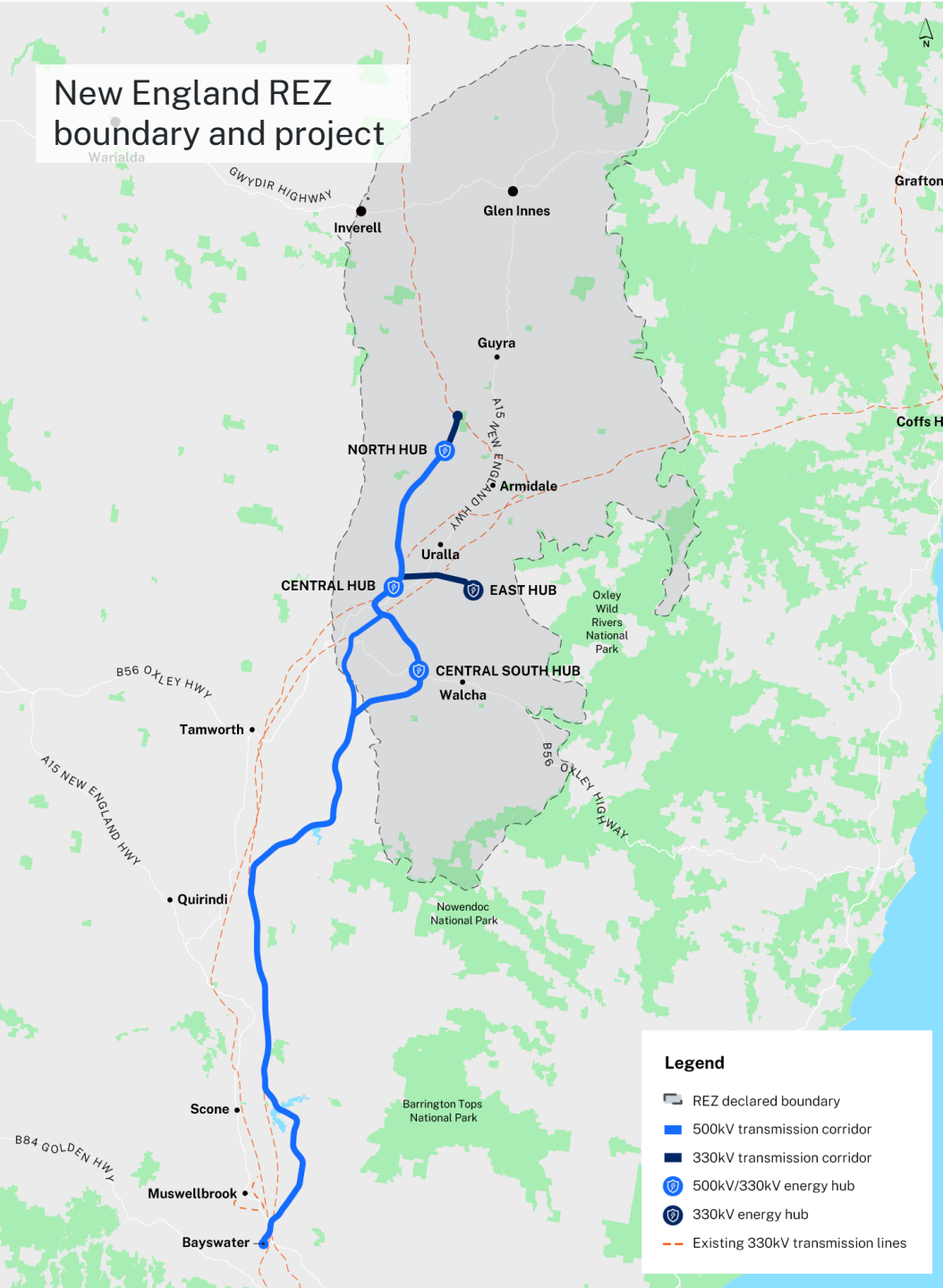


Procure Network
Operators

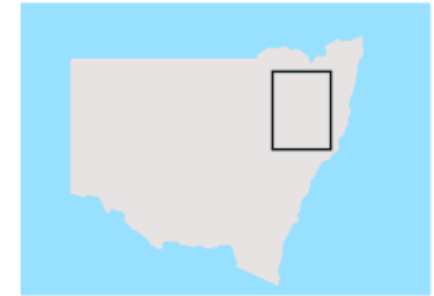
EnergyCo projects



Project overview



The New England REZ is a critical energy project for NSW that will provide clean and reliable electricity to consumers for generations to come.



Stage 1
(Deliver now)
2.4GW of network capacity

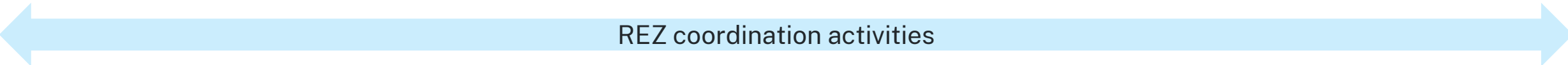
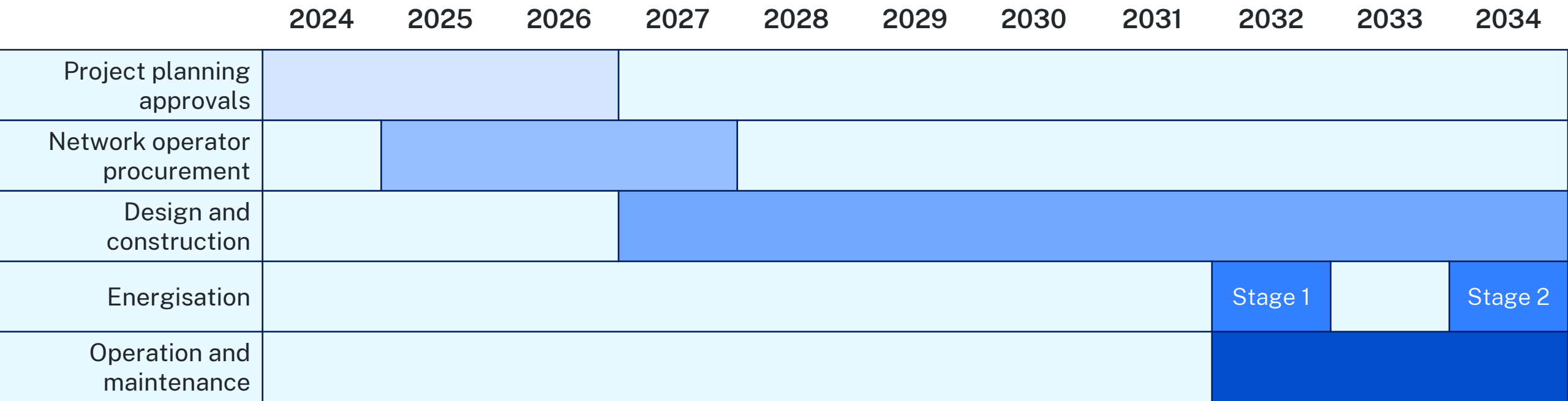
Stage 2
(Deliver now)
An additional 3.6GW of network capacity

Stage 3
(Plan for the future)
An additional 2GW of network capacity

Stages 1 and 2 project development milestones



EnergyCo is engaging with key stakeholders including the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) to secure NSW and Commonwealth planning approvals for the project.



Timeline excludes generator connections and other contract packages (enabling and early works, brownfield connections).

Project objectives

STRATEGIC



Emissions reduction



Value for money



Network resilience



Private investment

DELIVERY



Stakeholder coordination



Community



Environment and land use



Safety



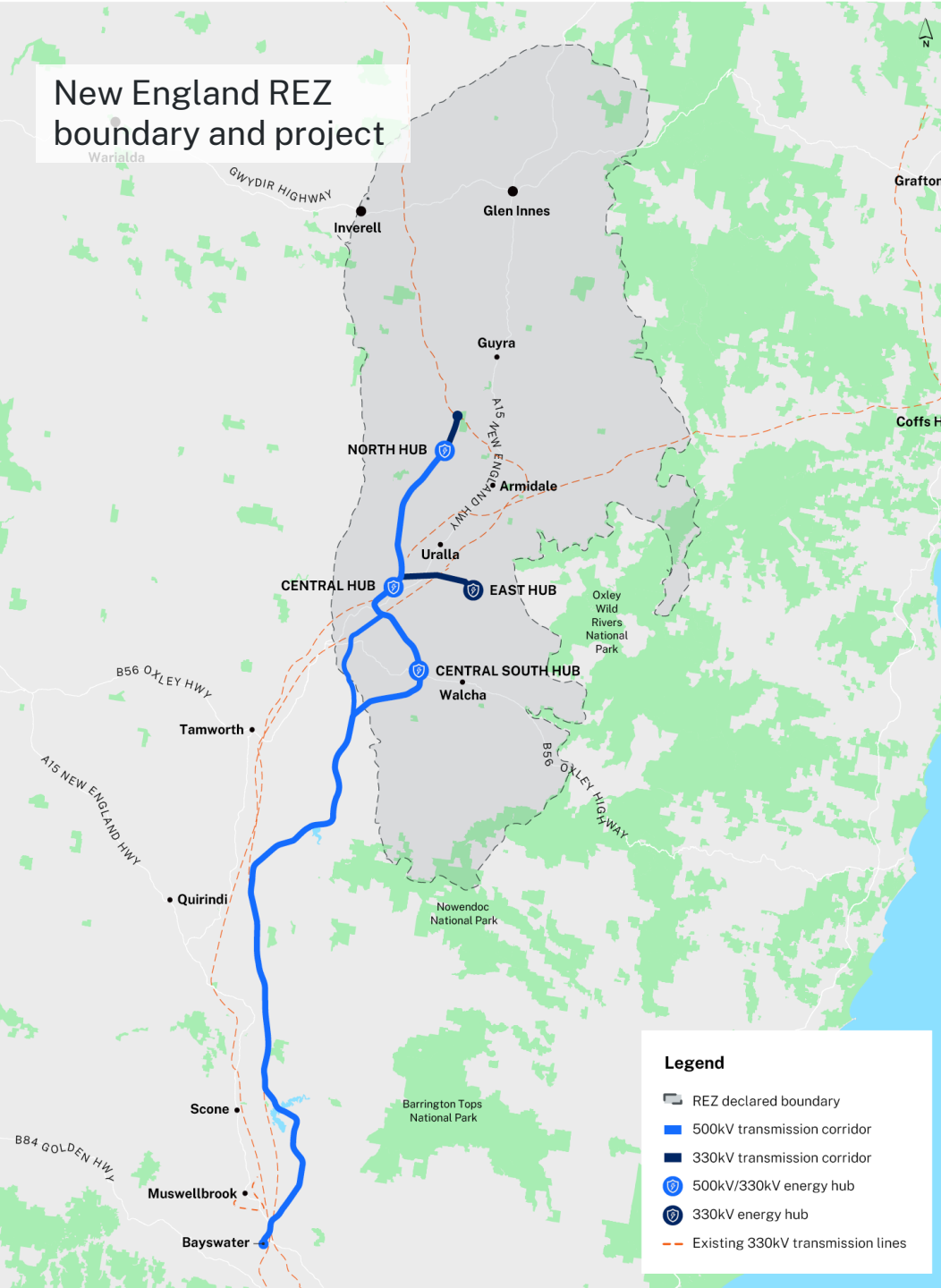
Jobs, skills and supply chain

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Network Operator Package

Doug Parris, Executive Project Director, New England REZ

Planning New England REZ



Transmission infrastructure



Connecting the New England REZ to Bayswater with 8GW of network capacity (6GW Stages 1 and 2)



Towers, lines, energy hubs, ancillary sites, access tracks

Generation and storage



Coordinating the timely connection of projects and ensuring project readiness



Planning how projects will connect with consideration to future proofing






REZ coordination



Mitigating cumulative impacts and delivering community benefits in partnership with other government agencies

Focus areas at a glance

	Establishing a corridor – managing program and community acceptance
	Landowner engagement – refining project alignment
	Building our presence in the community – trust and credibility
	Land access to undertake field studies
	Progressing planning approvals – State and Commonwealth
	Council engagement – gaining local perspectives
	Generator readiness phase of engagement

	Generator connections – physical layout and commercial model
	Access scheme – in development
	Joint planning with Transgrid
	Engaging with key stakeholders – including AEMO, AER and ASL
	REZ coordination – road upgrades and REZ-wide studies
	Early & enabling works – scoping packages
	Network operator – preparation for procurement process

Coordinating the delivery of the REZ

EnergyCo is working with key stakeholders to coordinate the REZ including:



Landowners



Local communities including First Nations people



Councils and other government agencies



Generation and storage project developers



Industry

REZ-wide studies



Social infrastructure



Housing and accommodation



Traffic and transportation



Water and wastewater security



Local supply chain



Telecommunications



Training and skills



Waste and circular economy



Biodiversity offsets

Delivering community and landowner benefits

EnergyCo is committed to planning and delivering the New England REZ in a way that minimises impacts and provides long-term benefits to regional communities who are hosting renewable energy infrastructure.



New income streams
for landowners



Reliable clean
energy supply



Employment and
training programs



Community and
employment benefits



Landowner benefit
payments

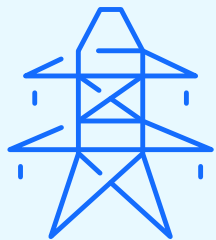


Employment
opportunities

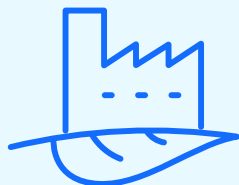
Network Operator scope and interfaces

Stages 1 and 2 scope

Core design and construction scope



Transmission
lines



Energy
hubs



Construction
facilities



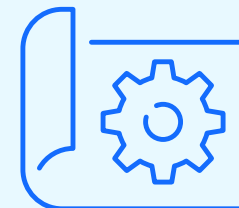
Road
upgrades

Financing



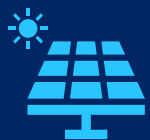
Financing

O&M



Operations
and
maintenance

Key interfaces



Generator and
storage projects



Other key positions to
be detailed in
Invitation for EOI
(system strength and
Transgrid interface)



Other contract
packages
(enabling & early
works, port to
REZ, roadworks)



Other third party
interfaces
(landowners,
utilities, councils,
agencies)



Key success factors



Partnership



Realise benefits for
NSW electricity
consumers



Active equity
participation



Design optimisation



Energisation and
program certainty



Network integration



Maximise private
finance



Highly reliable and
available network



Value-for-money risk
allocation



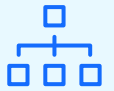
Foster local
community support



Flexibility, including potential future augmentations

Commercial framework

EnergyCo is seeking a long-term, experienced partner led by an operator with capability and capacity in the delivery and operations of high voltage transmission networks



Regulated concession enhanced by efficiencies and improvements



Single point of accountability over concession period



D&C component is expected to include lump sum and collaborative pricing elements



Organisational, governance, contractual and ownership structures promote active equity



Optimise value-for-money via appropriate and efficient risk allocation

Financial framework

EnergyCo is seeking to maximise the use of private finance to deliver the scope of the project



Financing solution to cover Network Operator Package and EnergyCo's project development costs as Infrastructure Planner



No NSW Government funding proposed for the Project (except potential terminal value payment at end of concession period)



Robust and innovative financial structure for equity and debt to enhance financeability and facilitate flexibility



Availability of concessional financing by Clean Energy Finance Corporation is under consideration

Key features of the Procurement Process

EnergyCo is incorporating improvements and best-practice process from recent and relevant projects

-  Early and ongoing collaboration with market through Interactive EOI Stage and RFP Stage
-  EOI shortlisting approach of potentially two but no more than three Applicants for RFP Stage
-  Clear scope and interface requirements definition at RFP release
-  Early regulatory stakeholder engagement to manage approvals (AER, ASL, AEMO)
-  Alignment with EnergyCo's key probity principles and ensuring a level-playing field
-  Implementation of the NSW Government Principles for Partnership

Indicative timeline

Milestones	Target dates
Interactive EOI Stage (including Call for Registrations of Interest process)	
Close Date of Registrations	3pm AEST 14 April 2025
Notification of Registrants	week commencing 28 April 2025
Issue of the Invitation for EOI	week commencing 12 May 2025
Submission of EOIs	week commencing 23 June 2025
Announcement of shortlisted Applicants	September 2025
RFP Stage	
Mobilisation period (of shortlisted Applicants)	approximately 6 weeks commencing in September 2025
Issue of the RFP	October 2025
Submission of Proposals	April 2026
Announcement of first-ranked Proponent	Q4 2026
Execution of commitment deed	Q4 2026
Contract and financial close	mid 2027

Submission of Registration



Who can submit a Registration

Experienced and capable entities, partly-formed consortia and fully-formed consortia.

Content and format of Registration

Includes all Returnable Schedules completed and duly executed where required.

Electronic lodgement

By email to EnergyCo at:
nerez.networkoperator@energyco.nsw.gov.au

Close date: 3pm AEST Monday 14 April 2025.

Takeaways



NSW is leading the development of renewables



NSW Government is committed to delivering the New England REZ network infrastructure project



There is on-the-ground support from local stakeholders including landowners, communities, First Nations people, local councils, other groups



We have a **strong, well-resourced team** who are leveraging lessons from recent EnergyCo projects and bring extensive PPP transaction experience



We are seeking a **long-term partner led by an experienced operator**

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Audience Q&A

Thank you

For any enquiries relating to the Network Operator Package procurement process, please contact:

New England REZ Transaction Team

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