

Friday 30 September 2022

DRAFT NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY RELEASED FOR CONSULTATION

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) has today published the Draft Network Infrastructure Strategy (NIS) as part of the NSW Government's blueprint for transforming the State's energy system.

Andrew Kingsmill Executive Director at the Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) said the Draft NIS is a step toward better planning for the energy network and will enable further consultation with regulatory bodies, Transmission Network Service Providers, Distribution Network Service Providers, industry participants and the broader community.

"The Draft NIS outlines transmission options that will supplement the Australian Energy Marketing Operator's Integrated System Plan, annual network planning reports from Transgrid and NSW distribution businesses," Mr Kingsmill said.

"The aim of the Draft NIS is to ensure a coordinated approach to network planning that fits within the broader national framework.

"EnergyCo is now seeking further input from stakeholders and the broader community ahead of the delivery of the Final Network Infrastructure Strategy."

Mr Kingsmill said this early consultation will ensure the efficient development of renewable energy and storage solutions while optimising long-term benefits for energy consumers and minimising impacts on local communities as we progress to cleaner, more reliable and affordable energy in NSW.

EnergyCo proposes a range of scenarios within the draft report to test the investment proposition under different conditions. Scenario planning includes early coal-fired generator retirement and potential investment delays due to global supply chain constraints.

Consultation is open until Friday 28 October and will be used to inform the Final NIS to be handed down by EnergyCo towards the end of the year alongside the Consumer Trustee's updated optimal 20-year Developmental Pathway for electricity infrastructure in NSW.

EnergyCo welcomes input on the Draft NIS. We have crafted a series of questions to help stakeholders form submissions over the consultation period. To provide feedback on the Draft NIS, please send your submission to contact@energyco.nsw.gov.au

Find out more about the NIS at <https://www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/industry/network-infrastructure-strategy-nsw>

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