

Media Release

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NEW COLLABORATION TO FAST TRACK SKILLS TRAINING IN RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES

People living in Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) will learn how to kick-start a clean energy career with a new microskill course designed to boost the local workforce.

A collaboration between the Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) and TAFE NSW will deliver the 'Prepare to work in the renewable energy sector' online microskill course that is expected to open in early 2024.

EnergyCo Executive Director, Planning and Communities Mike Young said EnergyCo will work closely with school students and First Nations groups in the REZs to initially provide up to 500 free passes to the course.

"We've heard directly from locals, including First Nations communities, that a key barrier to finding work in the renewable energy industry is a lack of awareness of the types of jobs in demand and the skills required," Mr Young said.

"This is an important first step in breaking down that barrier, and ensuring the REZs leave a lasting legacy of prosperity for regional communities."

TAFE NSW Chief Delivery Officer Janet Schorer said the course is targeted towards anyone seeking an introduction to the renewable energy sector.

"Microskills are short, self-directed online courses aimed at developing a specific skill," Ms Schorer said.

"Participants will gain an insight into careers available in renewable energy, an overview of REZs in NSW, and knowledge of large-scale renewable energy generation. The course will be a great launchpad for existing tradespeople, final-year apprentices, school leavers, and those looking to switch careers."

REZs and the NSW Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap (Roadmap) will inject \$32 billion of private investment into regional NSW while supporting thousands of jobs.

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) is part of the Treasury Cluster

The initiative builds on EnergyCo's plan to secure the education and training benefits of the Roadmap for communities and workers in the REZs with an initial focus on the Central-West Orana REZ.

It complements EnergyCo's Community and Employment Benefit Program, which will deliver hundreds of millions of dollars of funding Rez-wide over the next 30 years.

To learn more about employment, training and local supply opportunities, visit:

<https://www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/community/employment-training-and-local-supply-opportunities>