

## Meeting summary

### Central-West Orana REZ Steering Committee No. 10

Monday, 23 September 2024  
2pm to 3.11pm  
Microsoft Teams

#### Attendance

Name	Organisation	Position	Attendance
Steering committee members: Local Government			
Murray Wood	Dubbo Regional Council (DRC)	Chief Executive Officer (Co-Chair SteerCo)	Present
Brad Cam	Mid-Western Regional Council (MWRC)	General Manager	Present
Lindsay Mason	Warrumbungle Shire Council (WSC)	Acting General Manager	Present
Greg McDonald	Upper Hunter Shire Council (UHSC)	General Manager	Present
Mathew Pringle	UHSC	Director, Environmental and Community Services	Present
Steering committee members: NSW Government			
Yvette Lloyd	EnergyCo	Director Regional Coordination (Co-Chair SteerCo)	Present
Gerard Reiter	EnergyCo	Project Director, CWO REZ	Apology
Christopher Ritchie	DPHI	Director Industry Assessments, Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI)	Present
Ian Smith	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD)	Executive Director, Office of Regional Economic Development	Present
Angela Shepherd	DPIRD	Deputy Director Regional Development, Office of Regional Economic Development	Apology
Kate Meagher	PD	Deputy Secretary, Community and Engagement	Present

Other			
Gerry Collins	PD	Director Western, Regional Coordination	Apology
Dena Jacobs	Infrastructure NSW (INSW)	Executive Director, Strategy Planning and Innovation	Present
Erica Friesz	INSW	Director	Present
Damien Pfeiffer	Transport for NSW (TfNSW)	Director, Development Service	Present
Lisa Grisinger	DRC	Executive Assistant	Present
Cara Inia	EnergyCo	Director, Project Interface and Strategic Coordination	Apology
Amer Hussein	EnergyCo	Director, Community and Place CWO	Present
Natalia Tubb	EnergyCo	Manager, Project Interface and Strategic Coordination	Apology
Azaria Dobson	EnergyCo	Executive Director, Project Interface and Strategic Interface	Present
Adam Clarke	EnergyCo	Manager, Program Delivery	Present
Alexandra Hall	EnergyCo	A/Director, Community Benefits and Outcomes	Present

## Agenda items

Item	Details	Responsibility
1	Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions	Co-Chair
2	Previous Meeting's Actions	Co-Chair
3	Co-Chair Update	Co-Chairs
4	Whole of Government Update	PD, INSW, DPHI
5	Port to REZ Update	TfNSW / EnergyCo
6	Central-West Orana REZ Project Update	EnergyCo
7	Community and Employment Benefit Program Update	EnergyCo
8	New Items	All
9	Other Business	All
10	Meeting Close	Co-Chair

# Meeting minutes

Item.	Description	Lead	Updates
1	Acknowledgement of Country and Introductions	Co-Chair	
2	Previous Meeting Actions	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing Strategy under development by DPHI and with input through newly established Housing &amp; Accommodation Project Group – scheduled to meet 10 October</li> <li>Work progressing on WofG Strategic Risk Registers and is part of the Environment Delivery Project Group scope</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: Key Messaging to be provided as interim update before next SteerCo meeting</b></p> <p><b>Action: Councils to include Roadmap Key Messaging in new Councillor induction packs</b></p> <p><b>Action: EnergyCo to provide briefings for all newly elected Councillors</b></p>
3	Update from Co-Chairs	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EnergyCo signed MOU with NSW Farmers</li> <li>Discussion related to local industry capability statement and procurement training</li> </ul>
4	Whole of Government (WofG) Update	PD INSW DPHI	<p><u>PD</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Launch of Roadmap communications campaign that aim to be amplified across local government media channels</li> <li>Renewable Energy Guidelines soon to be finalised</li> </ul> <p><u>DPHI</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cumulative Impact studies progressing, data requests are now due with preliminary findings to be shared November</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: DPHI to provide copy of Water scope of Cumulative Impact strategy to council</b></p>
5	Port to REZ Update	TfNSW EnergyCo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project looking to coordinate common transport corridor for generators</li> <li>Program of works CWO REZ Stage 1a – Port of Newcastle to Elong Elong. Will also be assessing other corridors in future stages including Upper Hunter, New England, South West, etc).</li> <li>Further information will be released – although most are relatively minor. Will include 19 sections and passing bays.</li> <li>Stage 1a utilises State highways except for Muswellbrook and Denman Bridge.</li> <li>Detour routes may require reclassifying local roads (on a case-by-case basis).</li> </ul> <p><b>Action: EnergyCo to provide further detail to UHSC on Port to REZ scope</b></p>
6	Central-West Orana REZ Update	EnergyCo	<p>Since last meeting (July 2024):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EnergyCo handed over land required for Energy Hubs to Network Operator (31 July 2024)</li> <li>Received Commonwealth EPBC Approvals (8 August 2024)</li> <li>Third Party Agreements all been reached</li> <li>EnergyCo introducing Network Operator to landholder and commencing property access plan discussions</li> <li>Lodged modification to Planning Consent – seeking to reduce potential ambiguity and maintain compliance</li> </ul>

Item.	Description	Lead	Updates
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed first round of Information Sessions with local industry in conjunction with ICN, Network Operator. Well attended and received strong interest for future workshops</li> <li>Strong interest received across Community &amp; Employment Benefit Program funding streams – expect to announce first round successful Legacy Infrastructure Fund; First Nations Fund; and Local Small Community Grants Fund recipients before end-2024</li> <li>On track to receive Transmission Operator Licence; award Access Rights toward end-2024</li> </ul> <b>Action: Amer and Ian to discuss ICN Interface and continue to provide support to network providers</b>
7	Community & Employment Benefits Program	EnergyCo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outlined Access Fees for Access Rights Holders and uses of fees for community and employment purposes.</li> <li>Community and Employment Benefits Program informed by several rounds of community consultation which formed policy and program parameters</li> <li>All Fees collected must be spent within the declared geographic boundary of the specific REZ</li> <li>Legacy Infrastructure Fund applications have been received from Councils and are now in assessment phase.</li> </ul>
8	New Items	All	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Murray Wood (Co-Chair) provided SteerCo an update on the Project Groups that will continue: Transport and Logistics; Housing and Accommodation; Environmental Delivery</li> <li>Azaria Dobson provided SteerCo an update on EnergyCo Project Interface and Strategic Coordination responsibilities and project delivery. Will support driving business cases and funding opportunities across government.</li> </ul>
9	Other Business	All	Nil
10	Meeting Close	Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Next meeting will be in two months – proposed dates to be circulated</li> <li>Meeting closed at 3.11pm</li> </ul>

## Acronym Reference List

Term	Definition
CEBP	Community Employment Benefits Program
CI	Cumulative Impacts
CWO	Central-West Orana
DPHI	Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure
DPIRD	Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development
DRC	Dubbo Regional Council
EPA	NSW Environment Protection Authority
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
INSW	Infrastructure NSW

Term	Definition
GM	General Manager
LGA	Local Government Area
MWRC	Mid-Western Regional Council
NO	Network Operator
PD	NSW Premier's Department
REACT	Renewable Energy Awareness and Career Training
REZ	Renewable Energy Zone
SteerCo	Steering Committee
TfNSW	Transport for New South Wales
ToR	Terms of Reference
TWA	Temporary Workers Accommodation
UHSC	Upper Hunter Shire Council
WofG	Whole of Government
WSC	Warrumbungle Shire Council