



EnergyCo



# Social Impact Management Plan

Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone  
Transmission Project (SSI-48323210)

Quarterly Monitoring Report

October 2025

# Acknowledgement of Country

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the Wiradjuri, Wailwan (also known as Weilwan and Wayilwan), and Gamilaroi (also known as Gamilaraay and Kamilaroi) countries.

We pay respect to Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People who also call the Central-West Orana home. We commit to respecting the land we walk on and the communities we walk with.

# Introduction

## Major construction of the Central-West Orana REZ transmission project began in June 2025.

The Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) Transmission Project (the Project) consists of the construction of a new high voltage electricity transmission network, energy hubs, and switching stations to connect new renewable energy generation to the grid.

The Energy Corporation of NSW (EnergyCo) is leading the development of the Central-West Orana REZ Transmission Project as the infrastructure planner for the REZs in NSW.

ACERREZ is the Project network operator, leading the design and construction of the Project and its ongoing maintenance.

EnergyCo recognises the construction of the Project will bring changes to the communities living and working near the Project. To help manage the changes, EnergyCo has developed the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone Transmission Project Social Impact Management Plan (SIM Plan).

The SIM Plan is a key tool that EnergyCo and ACERREZ will use to maximise the positive benefits of the Project and minimise any negative impacts on the community during the construction of the Project. It identifies and responds to a wide range of social impacts and opportunities, grouped into eight key themes that reflect what matters most to local communities.

A key part of the SIM Plan is a commitment to regularly monitor and report on social impact indicators. These indicators help track how the Project is affecting communities over time and ensure that any emerging issues are addressed early.

Indicators are measured at different intervals – monthly, quarterly, and annually – to provide a rounded picture of the Project’s social footprint.

A report will be published every quarter throughout the construction of the project to share progress with the community.

This is the first SIM Plan Quarterly Monitoring Report, covering the period from June to September 2025. It focuses on the indicators that are monitored monthly and quarterly. Indicators monitored on an annual basis will be included in the first annual report, scheduled for delivery in mid-2026.

To view the SIM Plan, visit [www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/publications/social-impact-management-plan-central-west-orana-renewable-energy-zone](http://www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/publications/social-impact-management-plan-central-west-orana-renewable-energy-zone)







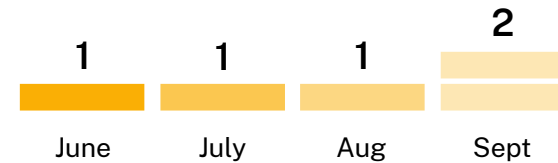
# Community

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts to community cohesion, character, sense of place as well as safety and housing availability.

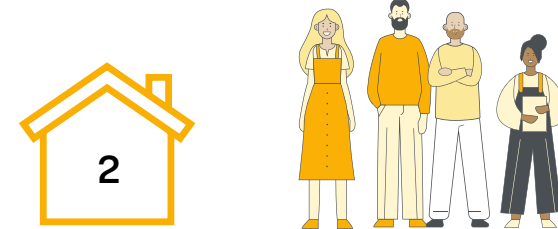
These indicators will help us to:

- Support community cohesion, preserving local character and maintaining a strong sense of place.
- Ensure community safety and wellbeing.
- Protect short term accommodation and housing availability and affordability throughout the construction of the project.

Number of verified or avoidable complaints regarding non-resident Project workforce behaviour (monthly):

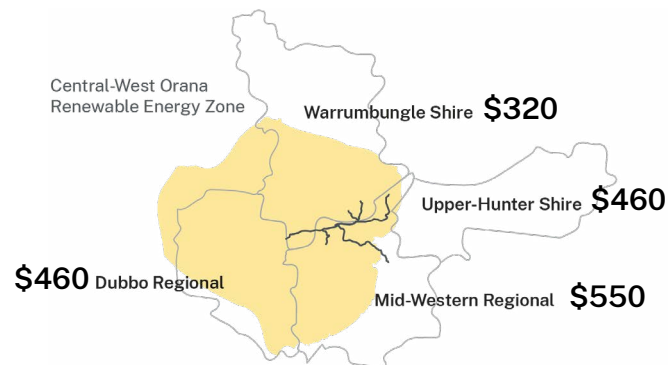


Number of short-term accommodation providers engaged (quarterly):



Median weekly rent (quarterly) - June 2025\*

\*NSW Department of Communities and Justice - Quarterly Rent tables



To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Number of people who describes their relationship with their neighbours and members of the community as <b>good</b> and <b>very good</b>  Other indicators that will be monitored include number of people who respond <b>yes</b> to the following statements. 'I feel like I belong in my neighbourhood' 'My neighbourhood has a strong sense of community'	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual
Proportion of workforce who participate in volunteer programs	Workforce reporting	Annual
Number of crime incidents	NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research (BOCSAR) by LGA	Annual



# Livelihoods

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts on the local and regional economy. These indicators will help us to ensure:

- Local businesses, including First Nations businesses, benefit from economic opportunities generated by the project.
- Local residents, including First Nations people, gain access to employment and training opportunities.
- The availability of local workers is not negatively affected.
- Biosecurity is maintained, with no adverse impacts on livelihoods.
- The tourism industry remains strong, with no significant reduction in accommodation availability due to project activities.

To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Proportion of survey respondents who rate the biosecurity for local landowners involved in agricultural production as <b>good</b> and <b>very good</b>	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual
Number of verified complaints relating to impacts to the tourism industry as a result of the project	Complaints Management System	Annual

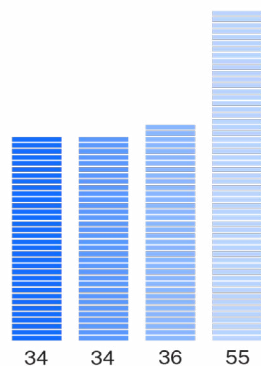
Number of incidents related to biosecurity or livestock escalated to EnergyCo through Complaints Management System escalation process



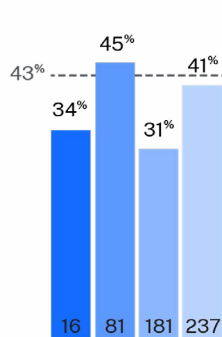
Number of local business and service providers who report or complain of loss of employees to the project and ability (time) to fill positions compared to pre-project conditions increases



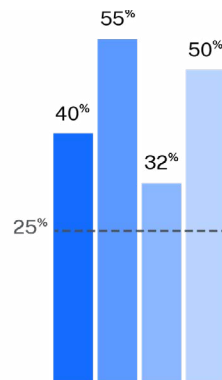
#  
Number of small-medium businesses employed by the project from the local social locality



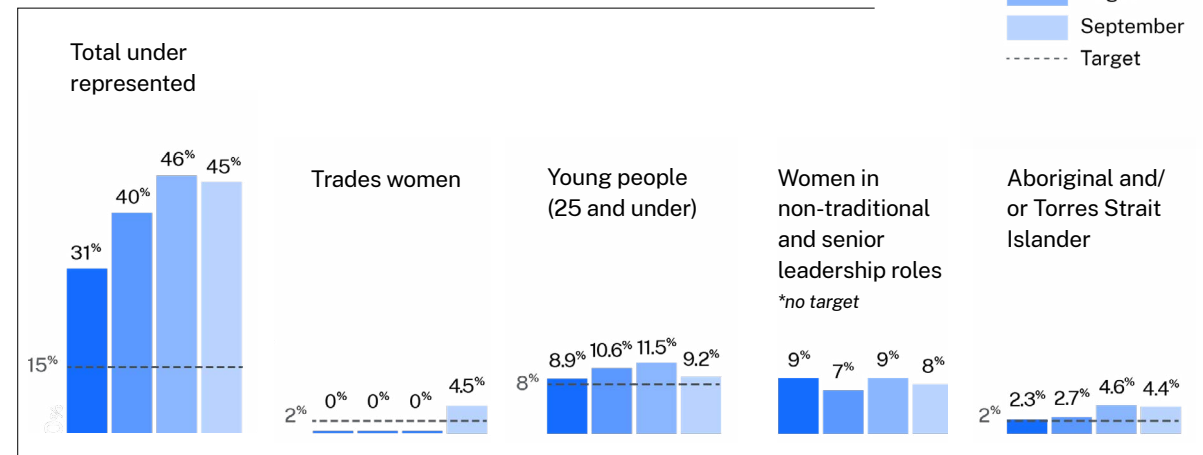
# %  
Number and proportion of the total project workforce who are Learning workers



%  
Proportion of apprentices and trainees



%  
Workforce diversity and proportion of underrepresented groups.





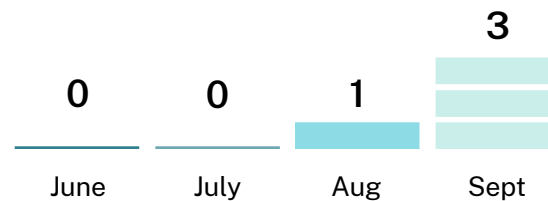
# Way of life

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts to the local way of life-how people move around, work, socialise, and connect with their community each day.

These indicators will help us to ensure:

- Construction-related impacts on local amenity are minimised.
- The local road network functions safely and efficiently.

Number of verified and/or avoidable landowner complaints relating to amenity impacts (air quality, visual, and noise)



To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Proportion of people who describe their sense of safety and experience with local traffic as <b>poor</b> and <b>none/very poor</b>	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual
Proportion of people who declare to be unsatisfied or very unsatisfied with the way in which traffic impacts are managed	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual



# Accessibility

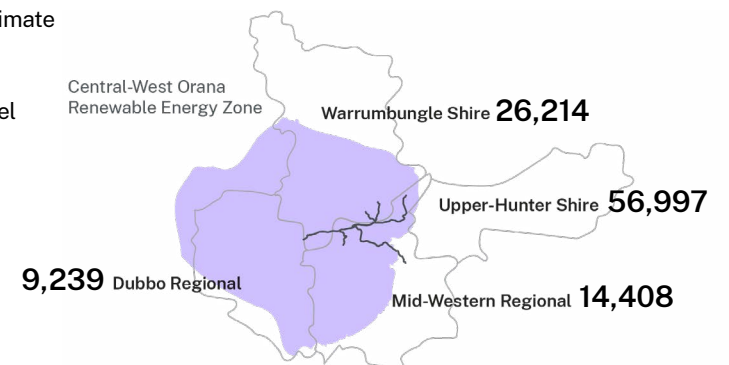
This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts on how people can access and use health, social, telecommunications services, infrastructure and facilities.

These indicators will help us to ensure:

- Access to health, social, and retail services is maintained or improved.
- Essential services remain operational with no interruptions caused by project activities.

Population estimate at the Local Government Area (LGA) level

(2024 census)\*  
ABS data



Number of Project non-resident workforce who have accessed local health services –outside of what is provided on camp site



To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Number of people who describe their access to telecommunications as <b>poor</b> or <b>none</b>	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual



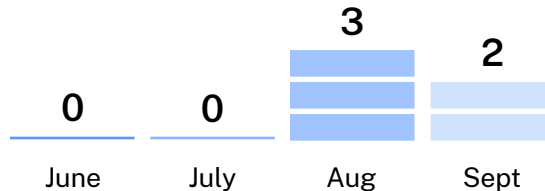
# Health and Wellbeing

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts to physical and mental health, psychological stress resulting from financial and other pressures, access to open spaces and effects on public health.

These indicators will help us to ensure:

- The mental health and wellbeing of landowners and nearby residents is supported and not negatively impacted by the project.
- Construction activities do not diminish overall community health and wellbeing, by avoiding unnecessary stress or disruption.

Proportion of complaints relating to dust, noise and vibration responded according to Community Communications Strategy and to the satisfaction of the complainant



To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Number of landowners who report to be <b>very satisfied</b> or <b>satisfied</b> with the mental health support available for landowners and community members	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual



# Culture

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts on shared beliefs, customs, practices, obligation, values and stories, and connections to Country, land, waterways, places, and buildings, both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal.

These indicators will help us to ensure:

- Aboriginal culture is protected, respected, and preserved.
- Understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal culture is strengthened, through the use of interpretive installations and devices.
- Key project personnel build their cultural awareness.

Proportion of unexpected finds addressed in line with Unexpected Heritage Finds and Human Remains Procedure:

All unexpected finds have been addressed in line with the Unexpected Heritage Finds and Human Remains Procedure

To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Proportion of responses reporting <b>satisfied</b> or <b>very satisfied</b> with management of Aboriginal cultural heritage	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual
Interpretative installations and devices are designed and implemented in consultation with the Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs)	Aboriginal heritage interpretation strategy and plan	Annual



# Surroundings

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts on the built and natural environment that people live and work in, this includes its aesthetic value.

These indicators will help us to ensure:

- Agricultural land and food production are protected, with minimal disruption from construction activities.
- The way people enjoy and connect with the natural environment is preserved.

To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Proportion of responses indicating <b>unsatisfied</b> or <b>very unsatisfied</b> with management of impacts to agricultural land	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual
Proportion of responses indicating their enjoyment of the environment is <b>poor</b> or <b>none</b>	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual

Tree coverage and preservation is completed in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan. The Biodiversity Offset Package is delivered as per Condition B22:

- Biodiversity management (including tree protection and preservation) is being completed in accordance with the Biodiversity Management Plan, no non-compliances with this plan have been identified.
- EnergyCo is investing in long-term environmental protection through a **Strategic Offset Delivery Agreement (SODA)** with the NSW Environment Agency Head (Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water). This agreement will help us meet important biodiversity commitments under Condition B22.
- The Environment Agency will lead this initiative, guided by the **Central-West Orana Conservation Investment Strategy** — focused on protecting and improving important local habitats. Visit : [Central-West Orana Conservation Investment Strategy](#) to read more about this strategy.
- EnergyCo has purchased two properties and is pursuing **Biodiversity Stewardship Agreements** for these sites. These agreements will protect land for conservation, helping preserve them well into the future.





# Decision making systems

This section outlines the indicators we are monitoring to help manage potential impacts related to people's ability to influence decision making systems in the Central-West Orana REZ and its associated projects.

These indicators will help us to ensure:

- Community feedback is actively considered and incorporated into relevant project management plans.
- Both identified and emerging social impacts are addressed early and effectively.
- The Social Impact Management (SIM) Plan remains effective and responsive, ensuring it continues to reflect community needs and priorities.

To be included in subsequent reporting:

Indicator	Collection mechanism	Monitoring frequency
Level of satisfaction of community and stakeholders about the management of social impacts	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual
Level of satisfaction of community and stakeholders about access to project information	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual,
Level of satisfaction of community and stakeholders about ability to lodge queries, complaints and receive a response	Community Attitudes Survey	Annual



## Where can I find more information

[Read the full Central-West Orana REZ transmission Project Social Impact Management Plan](#) on the EnergyCo website.

[Read the EIS documents](#) which identified the initial social and environmental management measures for the transmission project.


[www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/central-west-orana-rez-transmission](http://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/central-west-orana-rez-transmission)

Visit the ACEREZ website to read the transmission project's individual management plans  
[www.acerez.com.au/resources](http://www.acerez.com.au/resources)

Register to receive SIM Plan updates and a link to the annual Community Attitudes Survey here  
[cwo@energyco.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cwo@energyco.nsw.gov.au)

## Contact Us

If you have questions or feedback about the Central-West Orana REZ transmission project please contact us:

 1800 849 794 (9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday)

 [cwo@energyco.nsw.gov.au](mailto:cwo@energyco.nsw.gov.au)

 [energyco.nsw.gov.au/cwo](http://energyco.nsw.gov.au/cwo)

 Scan the QR code for more information



For construction or out of hours enquiries, please contact our network operator ACEREZ on 1800 298 379 or visit [acerez.com.au](http://acerez.com.au)

If you need the Translating and Interpreting Service call 131 450 and ask them to call us on 1800 849 794.

