



New England Renewable Energy Zone

In December 2021, the NSW Government formally declared a Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) in the New England region. This REZ will deliver new network capacity to host up to 8 gigawatts of new generation.

A REZ can be considered as a modern-day power stations. They combine renewable energy generation such as wind and solar, storage such as pumped hydro energy storage, and high-voltage poles and wires to deliver energy to the homes, businesses and industries that need it.

The NSW Government expects that REZs will deliver multiple benefits to NSW, including more reliable energy from significant amounts of new energy supply; energy bill savings from reduced wholesale electricity costs; emissions reduction from a cleaner energy sector; and community partnership.

The development of the New England REZ is being coordinated by the NSW Energy Corporation (EnergyCo) and includes extensive consultation with the community, government, and industry stakeholders.

The inclusion of the Oven Mountain project within the New England REZ recognises the abundance of natural energy sources in the New England region – including the potential for pumped-hydro development – and the need for long-duration storage (of over 8 hours) to meet current and future energy requirements.

The NSW Government is developing five REZ's across NSW, which will help deliver large amounts of new energy to regions and cities as ageing coal-fired power stations retire.

To find out more information about the New England REZ, please visit the Energy NSW website at www.energy.nsw.gov.au/renewables/renewable-energy-zones.

The Oven Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage project is in the New England REZ.

The project has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure.

Local economic opportunities

Australia is undergoing a 'once-in-a-century' transformation in the way society considers and consumes energy. As we make the collective step away from coal generation towards varied renewable energy, we need to ensure the ongoing resilience of our energy system.

The development of the REZ's will provide the integration, coordination and investment required to modernise our electricity network, ensure future resilience, and help reduce carbon emissions. This will be done by delivering a greater mix of renewable energy sources to the National Electricity Market.

Under current modelling, the NSW Government believes the New England REZ has the potential to become one of the largest REZs in the National Electricity Market.

The New England REZ is expected to support:

- **830 Operational jobs and 1,250 construction jobs**
- **Deliver up to \$10.7 billion in private sector investment**
- **Deliver 8 Gigawatts of clean, renewable energy**



Pumped Hydro Energy Storage has an important role to play in the development of the New England REZ. It will provide much needed long duration storage, offer dispatchable energy when needed, and support the integration of other renewable energy sources, such as wind and solar.

Specifically, early studies show that the Ovens Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage project – operating at 900 megawatts – can support at least 1,100 megawatts of new renewable generation in the New England REZ.

The Ovens Mountain project will also deliver local economic and community benefits. During construction, which will span over four years, the project will create up to 1,000 jobs spanning a wide range of skills and activities.

Once constructed, around 30 to 50 operational jobs will also be required to support the project over its 50-plus year life span.

The Ovens Mountain project is committed to working with the community as planning progresses. We believe in fostering an environment that offers Australian businesses full, fair, and reasonable opportunity to participate in the project, and will work hard to offer local communities the chance to enhance their skills and work in the region.

To find out more about the **Ovens Mountain Pumped Hydro Energy Storage** project, or to sign up for our mailing list visit: www.ompshydro.com

You can also contact the team at: info@ompshydro.com or on **1800 518 194**



OVENS MOUNTAIN
PUMPED HYDRO STORAGE