

# Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill

Department of Energy and Public Works  
8 June 2023



## Vision

Clean, reliable and affordable energy  
providing power for generations.

### Achievement requires new legislation

- Legislation that will cement our commitments in law
- Create the frameworks we need to deliver the infrastructure at the scale and pace Queensland needs
- Governance and advisory bodies to support a smooth, coordinated transformation that continues to be based on evidence and supports workers and communities.



# Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill

## OUR JOURNEY TO A RENEWABLE FUTURE

### Commitments to the public

Values to guide our transition pathway.

**Job Security Guarantee**  
Legislative commitment and new Fund to support affected energy workers through the energy transformation.

**Public Ownership**  
Enshrine in legislation, Government's commitment to maintaining public ownership in the energy system - 100% of distribution and transmission, 100% of deep storage, and more than 50% generation.



### Governance and Advice

Advisors and Governance to make the path clear and safe.

**Queensland Energy System Advisory Board**  
Provide technical advice on the optimal infrastructure pathway.

**Energy Industry Council**  
Advice to support implementation of the Queensland Energy Workers' Charter, including on opportunities for affected energy workers and their communities.

**Queensland Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate**  
Advice on local workforce opportunities and champion future renewable energy sector jobs.

### Queensland's Renewable Energy Targets

50% renewable energy by 2030

70% renewable energy by 2032

80% renewable energy by 2035



### Frameworks

To build the SuperGrid and facilitate the right investment at the right time.

**Queensland SuperGrid Infrastructure Blueprint**  
Establish the process and requirements for updating the Infrastructure Blueprint, which outlines the optimal infrastructure pathway to transform our electricity system.

**Priority Transmission Investments**  
Establish a framework to build the backbone transmission needed to move electricity across Queensland.

**Queensland Renewable Energy Zones**  
Establish a framework to coordinate and connect the 22 gigawatts of new large-scale wind and solar needed to transform the system.

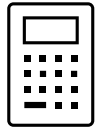
**New grid supporting technology**  
Update the definition for 'operating works' in the *Electricity Act 1994* to allow for batteries and synchronous condensers.

Frameworks to attract and streamline private sector investment in Queensland's energy system.

# Queensland Renewable Energy Targets

New legislation to enshrine, track, measure and review the Government's three renewable energy targets

## Methodology



Minister tables methodology for calculating Queensland's renewable energy levels

## Measure

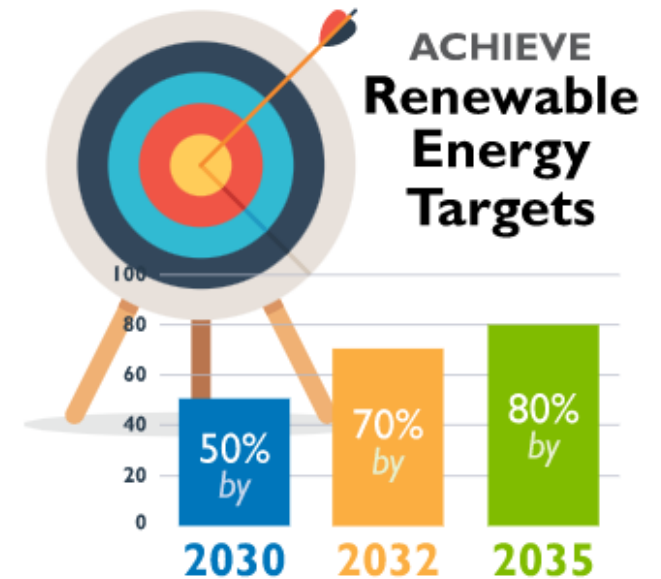


Minister publishes annual progress statement on the department's website (by March 31)

## Review



At least every 5 years, Minister must review targets to determine whether they remain appropriate



# Job Security Guarantee

Demonstrating Government's commitment to support affected energy workers by enshrining the Job Security Guarantee and Fund in new legislation

## Purpose

- Support affected energy workers with access to training, relocation support and other measures
- Provide funding for the Energy Industry Council and Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate

## Eligibility

- Types of affected workers and the types of support available to be prescribed in regulation

## Governance

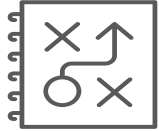
- Minister and Treasurer approve payments, EPW responsible for Fund administration
- Report on expenditure in EPW annual report

To be included in Regulation, following consultation with EIC:

1. Types of support available through the Fund
2. Eligibility for each support

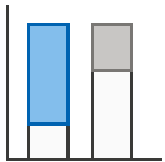
# Public ownership

## Public ownership strategy



- Minister must prepare a public ownership strategy, including public ownership targets for generation, transmission, distribution and deep storage
- Targets: 100% for transmission, distribution and deep storage, and more than 50% for generation

## Report



- Minister must publish an annual ownership report about:
  - Progress made towards achieving the targets set out in the strategy
  - the percentage of public ownership of generation, transmission, distribution and deep storage and how the percentages were calculated

# New Governance and Advice Functions

To ensure Queensland has a smooth, coordinated energy transformation and ensures workers and communities are supported

## Queensland Energy System Advisory Board

Advice: Expert Technical

Role: Advice on Blueprint updates, publish annual progress report on renewable energy targets and Blueprint progress

Membership: 3 to 5 appointed members plus DG EPW and Under Treasurer

## Energy Industry Council

Advice: Workforce support

Role: Support implementation of Charter and advice to support design and delivery of Job Security Guarantee Fund

Membership: 5 relevant unions, 5 energy GOCs, chairperson and EPW, membership to be via regulation

## Renewable Energy Jobs Advocate

Advice: Emerging Opportunities

Role: Championing jobs in energy industry, act as consultation intermediary between community and energy infrastructure proponents

Membership: one individual appointed

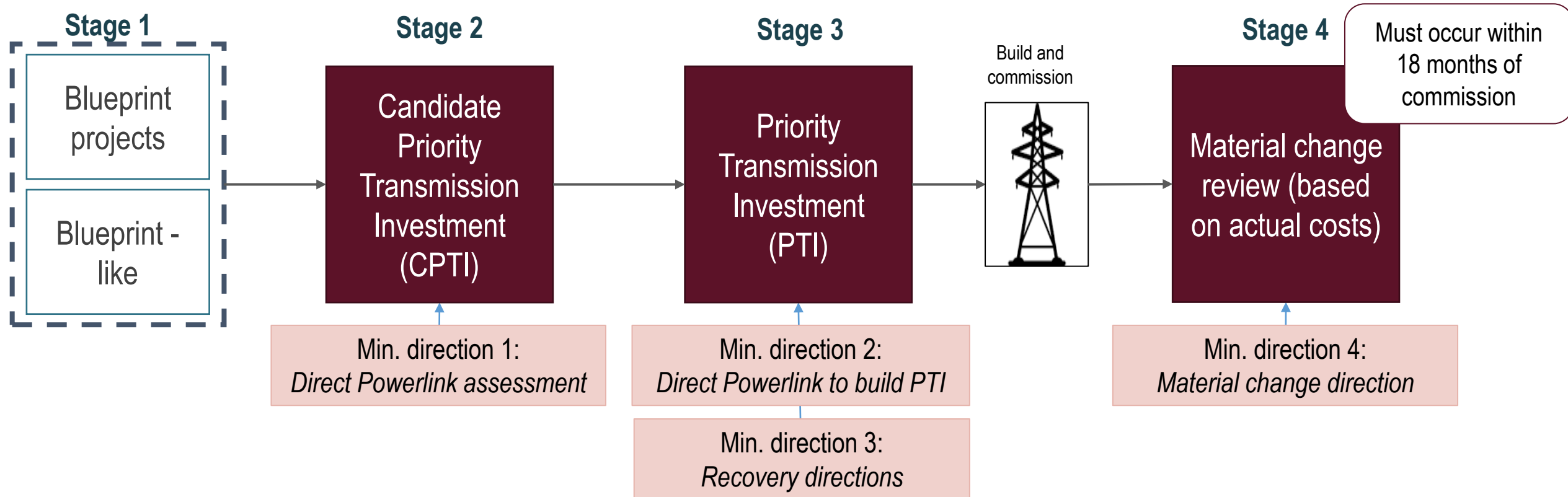
# Queensland's new transmission frameworks

	Relevant legislation to enable state-led transmission projects
NSW	<i>Electricity Infrastructure Investment Act 2020</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Priority transmission infrastructure projects”</li><li>• “REZ and access schemes”</li></ul>
VIC	<i>National Electricity (Victoria) Amendment Act 2020</i> Modify or disapply NEL and NER, to facilitate or expedite specified transmission system augmentations or services
QLD	Energy (Renewable Transformation and Jobs) Bill <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• “Priority Transmission Investments”</li><li>• “Queensland Renewable Energy Zones”</li></ul>





# Priority Transmission Investment Process



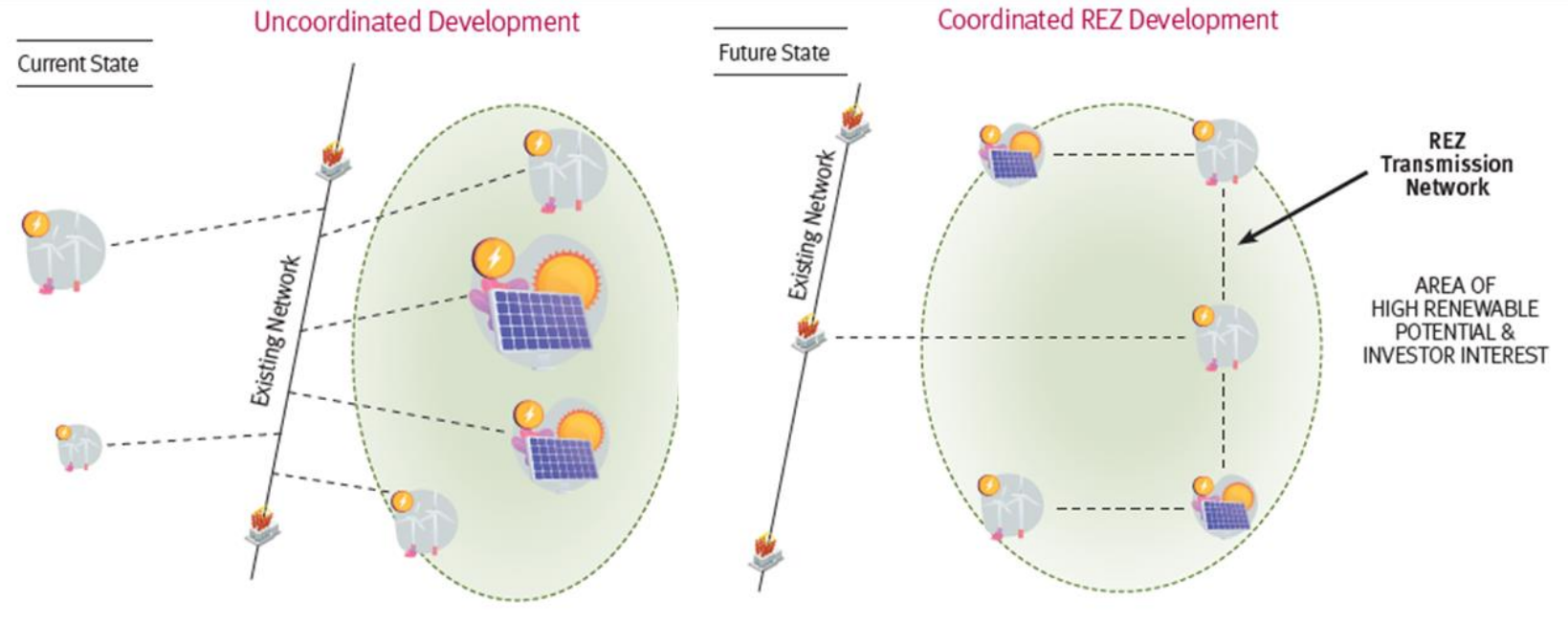
*Recovery may be staged and extend across multiple regulatory periods*

# What is a REZ

The objective is to develop REZs in a coordinated way to:

- ✓ Unlock more investment
- ✓ Lower system costs
- ✓ Optimise scale efficient transmission
- ✓ Maximise community benefits
- ✓ Minimise land use conflicts

**Queensland declared REZ will be smaller areas within the three broader REZ regions – northern, central and southern**



**REZ will help connect the next 22GW in Queensland by 2035**

# What makes a REZ attractive?

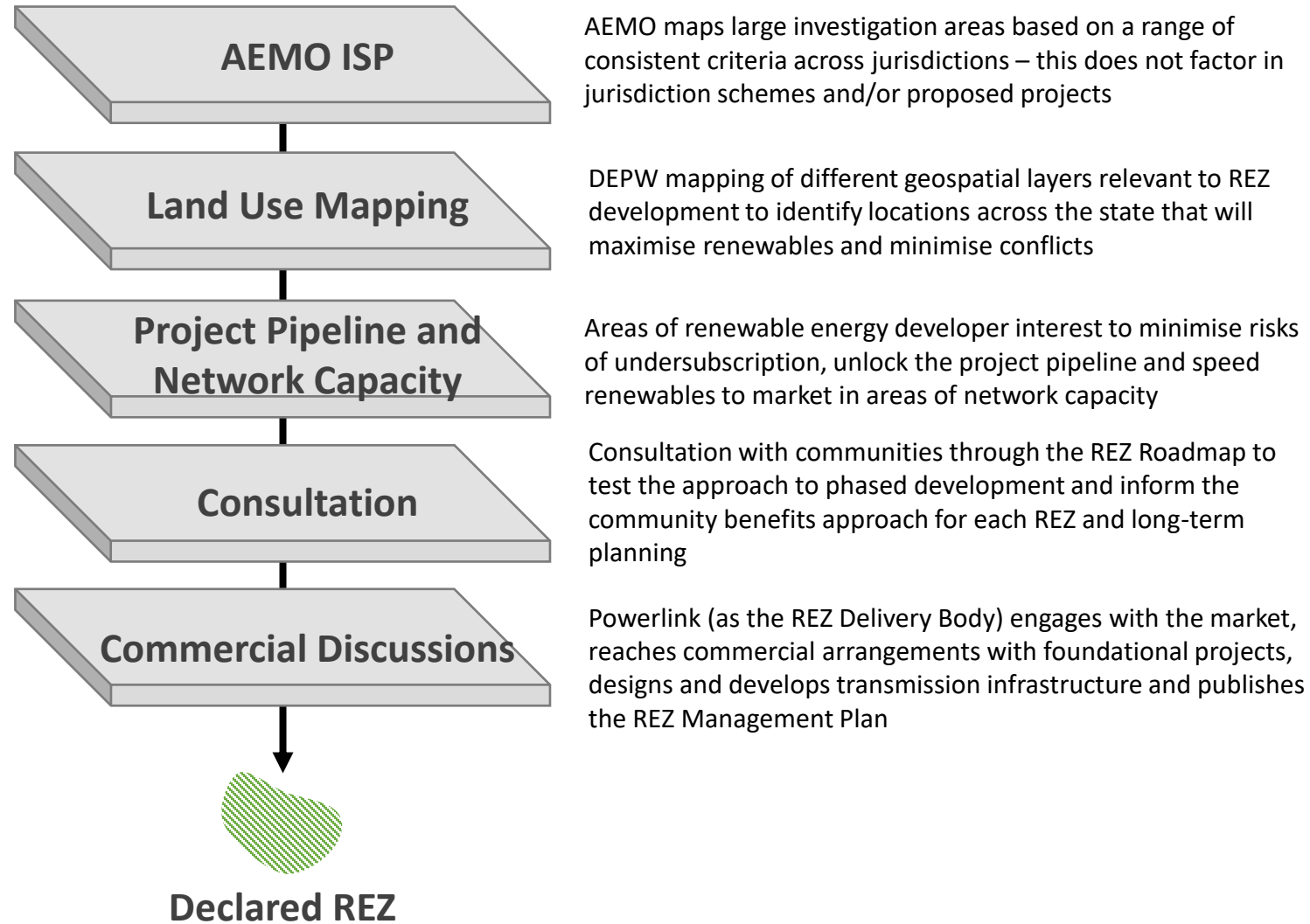
## **Electricity advantages:**

- Reducing risks and lowers costs of investing
- Best locations in the grid
- Investment in transmission capacity
- Minimises congestion (including alignment with national congestion reform)
- Degree of physical access certainty (capacity targets for transmission)
- Streamlined connections process
- GOC partnerships (PPA and equity partnerships – REZ a QREHJF criteria)

## **Other potential advantages:**

- Greater project facilitation
- Coordinated and prioritised planning (e.g. transport routes, housing)
- Coexistence - embedding in planning schemes (Regional Plan, RIPs and Local Planning)
- Other government levers (REFF, transition strategies etc)

# Identifying a REZ



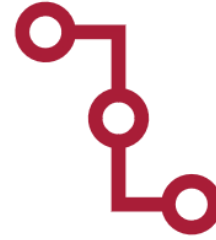


# QREZ Legislative Elements



## Electricity Planning

- Appointment of a REZ Delivery Body (RDB)
- REZ Management Plan approval and publication
- Process for REZ declaration



## Access & Connection

- Role of RDB in streamlining connections
- Process for enabling access and connection to REZ transmission network



## Cost Recovery

- As commercial as possible with negotiations through Connection and Access Agreements

# Key Documents

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**Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan** ✓



**Queensland SuperGrid Infrastructure Blueprint** ✓



**Queensland REZ Roadmap** (In 2023)



**REZ Management Plans** (From 2024)

# Improving community outcomes

## We're guided by principles for the Energy Transformation

Seven principles form the foundation of the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan and how we will partner with communities.



1. Drive genuine and ongoing engagement



2. Share benefits with communities



3. Buy local, build local



4. Increase local jobs and secure work



5. Preserve QLD's environment



6. Empower First Nations People



7. Build local capacity

## We're boosting our institutions, guidance and standards to lift practices across the renewable sector and drive better outcomes

- Local economic opportunities network
  - \$200M Regional Economic Futures Fund
  - Gas Fields Commission Queensland insights on coexistence
  - Review of the planning framework for renewable energy
  - Bioregional planning with federal government
- In development:
- Renewable Energy Landholder Toolkit
  - Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing Renewable Energy Developer Guide
  - First Nations Best Practice Engagement Guidelines
  - Local Council Guidance Material
  - Policies for offshore wind, end-of-life and recycling of renewable components

## We will collaborate through reference groups

The Queensland Government will be establishing three reference groups for improved coordination and consultation at the regional level for REZ and energy planning

Northern Reference Group

Central Reference Group

Southern Reference Group

# Next Steps

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- Public consultation on draft Bill ends Friday 30 June 2023
- Energy Ministers will vote on derogations from national regulatory framework
- Aim to have legislation introduced in second half of 2023, with commencement likely in early 2024