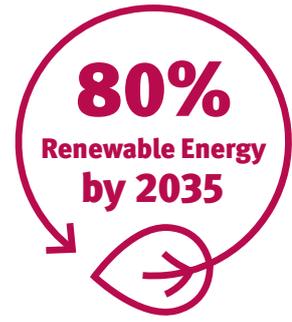


Picture: Genex Power



# Stakeholder Insights on the Energy Transformation

Summary of stakeholder insights from engagement during 2023 on the energy transformation in Queensland

March 2024



**Queensland  
Government**

## 2024 Stakeholder Insights on the Energy Transformation

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### Interpreter



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Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be aware that this document may contain images of deceased persons.

## Acknowledgement of Country

In the spirit of reconciliation, the Queensland Government acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Country throughout Queensland and their connection to land, sea and sky.

We pay our respects to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

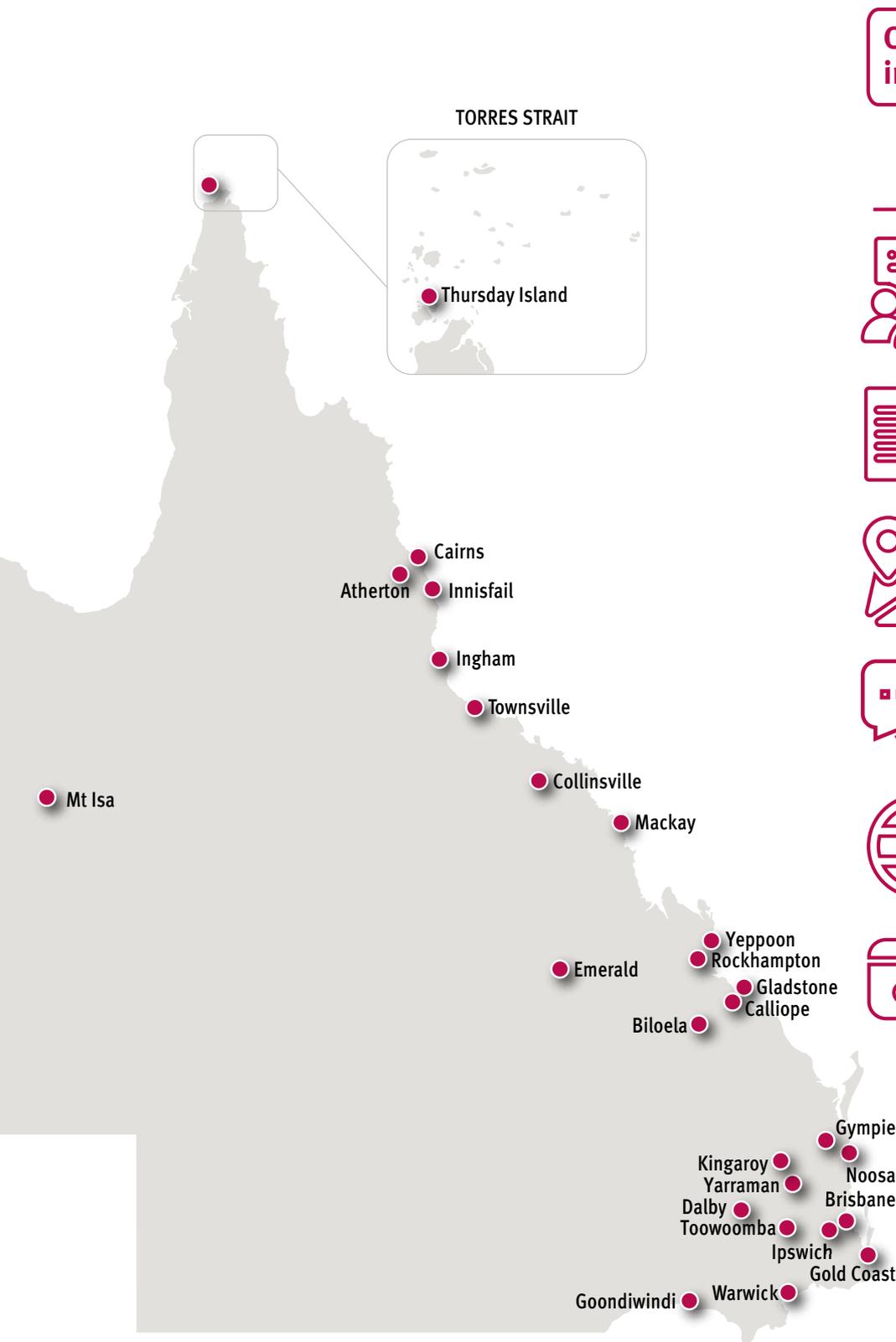
The Queensland Government acknowledges the continuous living culture of First Nations Queenslanders – their diverse languages, customs and traditions, knowledge and systems.

The Queensland Government acknowledges the role that First Nations peoples had in the delivery of Queensland's energy system and is committed to ensuring they benefit from the development of a new, clean energy system. As we work together to deliver a clean, reliable and affordable energy system, the Queensland Government is committed to genuine partnerships and meaningful engagement with Queensland's First Nations peoples.



The work was commissioned as part of our commitment to strong engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, staff and stakeholders. The Department of Energy and Climate works with and in communities to build a sustainable and prosperous future for all Queenslanders. Building communities strengthens connections and creates a sense of belonging. Local First Nations graphic design artist Casey Coolwell-Fisher created the design. Casey is a Quandamooka, Nunukal woman of Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island). With her husband, Roy (a Wakka man from Cherbourg), they created their company CHABOO as a way to share their stories through their artwork.

# Summary of engagement activities



## Our engagement in 2023



**1,500+**  
Survey respondents



**200+**  
Written submissions



**18**  
Regional roadshows



**50+**  
Briefings and workshops



**56,000+**  
Website visits



**400+**  
Email subscribers

# Context

In September 2022, the Queensland Government released the **Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan (QEJP)** to set a clear vision and pathway for transforming Queensland's electricity system. The QEJP commits Queensland to achieving 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030, 70 per cent by 2032 and 80 per cent by 2035.

Queensland's transformation to renewable energy will help combat climate change, deliver jobs, new industries and new investment across the state. Queensland's regional communities are at the heart of the energy transformation and should be partners in this new wave of economic growth.

Throughout 2023, the Queensland Government engaged with communities across Queensland to understand their views and how they are experiencing the energy transformation.

# Summary of Insights

Feedback gathered through the various engagement activities converged on **four key insights** for what Queenslanders view as important for improving local outcomes through the energy transformation.

## What we heard



# Insights

Stakeholders provided critical insights on how to best deliver the energy transformation for regional communities and improve local outcomes.



OPPORTUNITIES  
& IMPACTS

## The energy transformation can be a catalyst for growth but local and cumulative impacts need to be carefully managed.

### Stakeholders were asked about their thoughts on the energy transformation.

Queenslanders indicated broad support for the energy transformation and recognition that, in many parts of the state, it is already well underway.

Stakeholders described the transformation as a catalyst for local economic development and growth, particularly through employment and training.

While many stakeholders agreed the Queensland energy transformation is worthwhile, there was growing concern about how the transformation was occurring in communities.

Some stakeholders expressed apprehension about the pace of change and potential cumulative impacts in host communities, as well as a need to build a greater understanding of the energy transformation at a local level to support trust.

Stakeholders showed support for the energy transformation principles published in the draft Regional Energy Transformation Partnership Framework, and what these principles stand for. These principles have been further refined in line with this feedback and underpin the initiatives in the Local Energy Partnerships framework.

“The transformation is our ticket to a greener future.”  
– Community advocate

“I'm really pleased with our solar panels. They've significantly reduced our electricity bills, and I feel like we're doing something good for the environment.”  
– Queensland resident

### Summary of stakeholder views on the energy transformation principles:

- Locals should be listened to about ways to build local capacity and improve liveability to ensure thriving regions.
- Government should work with trusted locals and encourage developers to conduct early, genuine, ongoing and coordinated engagement to shape development in regions.
- Engagement and inclusion of First Nations peoples should be targeted to enable active participation in the transformation that respects First Nations culture and connection to Country.
- Benefits of the energy transformation should be shared early and directly with local communities hosting projects through a transparent and coordinated framework.
- Renewable energy must coexist with different land uses to strengthen local economies and maintain food security.
- The transition away from fossil fuels should properly take into account impacts to our natural ecosystems.
- Workforce and training opportunities should be visible to communities in renewable energy and other industries.
- Local strengths should be maximised to ensure local businesses have visibility of the pipeline of future work in renewable energy while supporting existing industries such as agriculture and resources to thrive.

This feedback is shaping the roll out of the Local Energy Partnerships framework and the implementation of Renewable Energy Zones (REZs) throughout 2024.

In response to stakeholder feedback, the energy transformation principles that were consulted on have been further refined and now underpin the Local Energy Partnerships framework:

### Local Voices



#### Drive genuine and ongoing engagement

Demonstrate an inclusive and collaborative approach to engaging and supporting communities in the energy transformation, both now and into the future.



#### Engage, value and involve First Nations peoples

Recognise and value the unique connection First Nations peoples have to Country and enhance opportunities for active participation and economic benefit from the energy transformation.

### Local Choices



#### Build local capacity

Build the capacity of local communities to positively manage change and unlock benefits associated with the energy transformation.



#### Promote diverse economies

Enable diverse land uses, and coexistence between industries where possible, to maintain and strengthen local economies.



#### Foster environmental resilience

Deliver better biodiversity outcomes and contribute towards meeting climate targets.

### Local Benefits



#### Share lasting benefits with communities

Create opportunities for communities to share in the economic, social and environmental benefits of energy development.



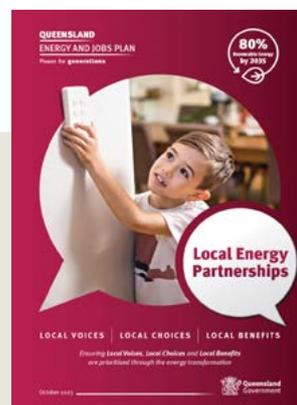
#### Expand workforce opportunities and secure livelihoods

Foster local employment through developing training opportunities, promoting workforce diversity, and embedding secure work throughout the energy transformation.



#### Buy local, build local

Expand local procurement, manufacturing, and supply chain opportunities from energy infrastructure development, and work with local businesses to enable greater participation.



These principles are guiding the ways that the Queensland Government supports better local outcomes as part of the energy transformation.



## COORDINATION

# Improved strategic coordination and planning is crucial for the success of the energy transformation.

## Stakeholders were asked about the role of REZ Readiness Assessments to support strategic coordination.

Queenslanders highlighted the need for coordination and planning due to the complexity, scale and pace of the energy transformation in Queensland regions. Stakeholders also identified a clear role for government in supporting these efforts.

Some stakeholders emphasised the role of the Office of the Coordinator General, given its ability to facilitate large-scale development of infrastructure projects.

Many stakeholders indicated that significant renewable developer activity is already occurring throughout the state, with developers actively negotiating and signing agreements with landholders. Strategic planning was seen as crucial to guarantee the successful development of renewable energy projects in the most suitable areas and safeguard other priorities in regions, while unlocking the opportunities that this development represents.

Stakeholders were supportive of strategic and detailed Readiness Assessments for Queensland REZs as tools for comprehensive planning. Feedback indicated that strategic assessments should focus on regional implications, while detailed assessments should address local issues and opportunities for each specific potential REZ. Stakeholders also stressed that coordination and planning shouldn't be reserved just for REZ development. Similar coordination frameworks should apply to rural and remote communities as well.

Stakeholders were supportive of reviews of planning and legislative frameworks to safeguard environmental, cultural and social outcomes. End-of-life planning and recycling will reassure communities about the complete lifecycle of infrastructure development.

“ Coordination is really important in terms of the impacts for planners... To solve these problems going forward, we're going to need to have a Coordinator General type role. ”  
– Local government representative

“ It's gonna be helpful...gonna be seen as a means of development ... ”  
– Queensland resident

## Stakeholder views on REZ Readiness Assessments:

- Strong coordination and proactive planning is needed to maximise opportunities.
- Government must work with local councils, First Nations peoples, landholders and communities to identify economic and social opportunities.
- REZ Readiness Assessments should be supported by legislated frameworks to address cumulative impacts.
- Early engagement with impacted communities should be prioritised to define the scope of REZ Readiness Assessments.
- The REZ Readiness Assessment framework needs to align reference groups, community investment mechanisms, and other regional planning, including Statutory Regional Plans and Bioregional Plans.
- Government must provide reassurance to host communities that cumulative impacts will be identified, managed and monitored throughout the lifecycle of REZ development.
- REZ Readiness Assessments should consider environmental impacts, housing, workforce, cultural impacts, co-existence, transport infrastructure, health services, education, local business opportunities, supply chains, waste management and end-of-life of energy infrastructure projects.

This feedback is guiding the approach to REZ Readiness Assessments which will kick-off in 2024. The Office of the Coordinator General is set to play a lead role in these assessments and the resulting program of works to ensure communities are supported with future renewable development. A review of the planning framework is underway as an action in the QEJP, and REZs and areas suitable for renewable development will be a key focus of upcoming updates to Regional Plans, supporting a more strategic approach to land use priorities.



## Communities want to see more genuine, early and ongoing engagement.

### Stakeholders were asked about engagement practices and the role of local reference groups, particularly for REZ development.

Queenslanders emphasised the importance of genuine, early and ongoing engagement throughout the energy transformation.

Stakeholders wanted to see coordination in how they are engaged. This includes prioritising local decision-making where possible. This will ensure consistent communication and streamlined processes while maximising local expertise and knowledge.

The importance of reliable, transparent information sources was highlighted to prevent confusion and enhance understanding of the energy transformation.

Additionally, there was strong support for forming diverse reference groups with local representation and transparent governance processes, which can influence decision-making processes. This approach underscores a community-driven, inclusive strategy for managing energy sector changes.

Some stakeholders called for an increased regional presence from government in communities that will host significant infrastructure to support ongoing coordination and increase awareness of local priorities.

There was strong support for the expansion of the GasFields Commission Queensland. This would support landholders and other industries, such as agriculture and resources, to engage on improving coexistence with renewable energy development.

There was an emphasis on the importance of First Nations peoples in the energy transformation, including improving engagement practices and reducing barriers to participation.

**“Community engagement is a crucial requirement to gaining the social license. Allowing communities to be active participants will foster enthusiastic support.”**  
– Queensland resident

### Stakeholder views on local reference groups:

- Regional reference groups should be involved in the strategic planning of REZs.
- Local reference groups should be established to provide advice on specific community needs and report up to regional reference groups.
- Local reference groups should be coordinated across projects in a REZ to improve transparency and reduce engagement fatigue.
- Participation in reference groups should be made via a transparent expression of interest process, with members selected based on skills and local credentials.
- First Nations peoples should play an important role and dedicated advisory opportunities should be explored.
- Reference groups could leverage existing forums run by the GasFields Commission Queensland to support coexistence in renewable energy.
- Reference groups should be involved in both the Strategic REZ Readiness Assessments and Detailed REZ Readiness Assessments.

This feedback has informed the expansion of the GasFields Commission Queensland role into renewables, and establishment of future Community Leader Energy Councils with regional representatives. As part of the Local Energy Partnerships framework, the Queensland Government is also working directly with the renewable energy sector to improve practices. Support for local councils under the Local Energy Partnerships framework will also help address local challenges for engaging on the energy transformation.



## BENEFITS

# There needs to be increased focus on delivering tangible and enduring benefits in communities.

## Stakeholders were asked about local benefit sharing as part of the energy transformation.

Queenslanders expressed clearly how critical it is to deliver tangible, enduring, place-based benefits to communities through the energy transformation. Realising local benefits and opportunities is vital to a positive legacy and to avoid a ‘boom-bust’ cycle.

Stakeholders were supportive of a coordinated approach to benefits that distributes funds to local communities. This highlighted the need for generating ongoing benefits rather than large one-off payments.

The importance of local decision-making was highlighted as well as the importance of identifying ongoing local job and procurement opportunities. Skill-building and training programs can help establish a local workforce and enhance participation of First Nations peoples in renewable projects.

“ Education and skills training in regional areas improves the capability and employment prospects of the local workforce. ”

– Burdekin Shire Council

“ Shared benefits with the community is really important, but the focus is very much shifting towards how can we get innovative energy opportunities as a shared benefit, not just a bit of local content. ”

– Agricultural industry representative

## Stakeholder views on local benefits:

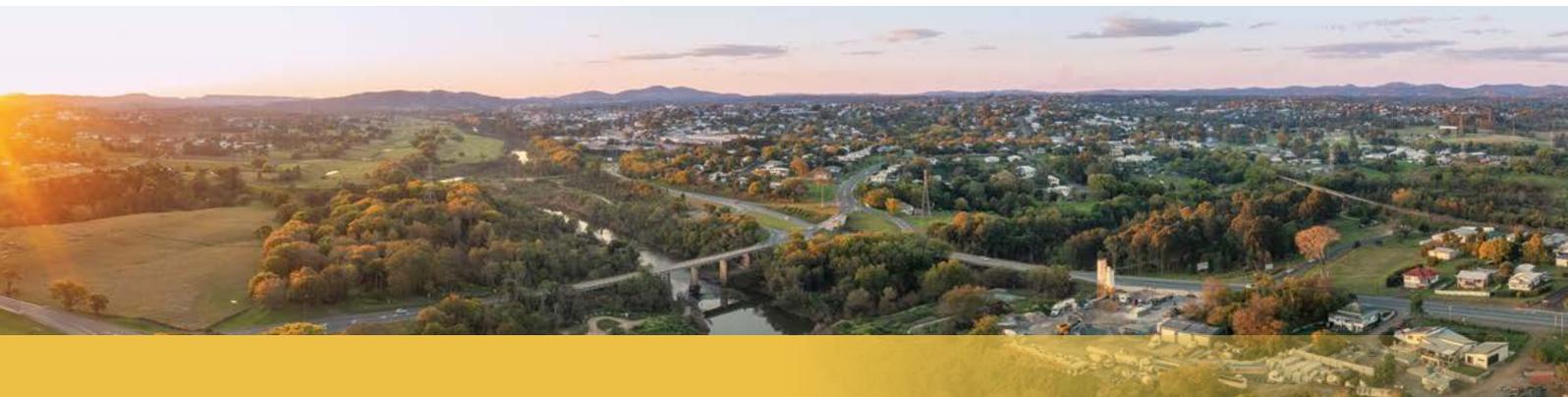
- Increased coordination for benefit sharing would reduce double handling and ensure benefits delivered are directed towards local need.
- Benefit sharing should be integrated with the reference groups and REZ Readiness Assessments to ensure local input and needs are prioritised.
- Any potential mechanisms for developer contributions should be determined in partnership with developers.
- Coordination should allow flexibility for local benefits to be delivered by individual developers while balancing potential ‘pooling’ of funds for legacy investments.
- Innovative models could be investigated to support an enduring benefits scheme such as a bonds and training provision, as used in the resources sector.
- First Nations benefits strategies should be developed, as determined by First Nations peoples.
- Funding and programs for community-led energy projects could drive local support.
- Benefits could be delivered directly via energy bills for local communities hosting renewable energy infrastructure to alleviate cost of living pressures.

This feedback is informing an increased focus on local benefits, including how to grow local content and promote a better approach to delivering benefits to local communities. Powerlink Queensland, the publicly owned transmission provider, is rolling out a program to support increased internet speeds and have established a new SuperGrid Landholder Payment Framework. The first of its kind, this Framework includes payments for neighbouring properties near transmission infrastructure.

The Queensland Government has also earmarked \$20 million from the Regional Economic Futures Fund to support community initiatives as part of the REZ Readiness Assessments.

# Regional perspectives

There was broad consensus amongst stakeholders on similar priorities in the energy transformation including, minimising impacts on cost of living, local infrastructure and the natural environment, improving community health and wellbeing, and gaining opportunities for education and training. While there were broadly consistent views on these issues, there were also some unique perspectives and concerns emerging across different regions.



## Southern Queensland

While Southern Queenslanders expressed diverse sentiments, there was consensus on the need for community consideration, energy reliability and environmental responsibility during Queensland's energy transformation.

Despite some concerns about the impact of renewable energy on agriculture and the environment, Southern Queenslanders acknowledged that renewable energy can be a catalyst for economic development and growth, including by generating local jobs. They also viewed the reduction of emissions and reduced dependence on fossil fuels as a major benefit of the energy transformation.

**“It's all about renewables, moving away from carbon-emitting energy transmission.”**  
– Southern Queensland resident

To achieve success through the energy transformation, Southern Queenslanders advocated for greater understanding and communication, including about electricity reliability, as well as more training, education and community engagement opportunities.

### Priority needs identified to support renewable energy development include:

- 1** Local capacity and workforce 
- 2** Housing and planning 
- 3** Environmental impacts and considerations 
- 4** Community benefits and values 
- 5** Project support and infrastructure 



# Central Queensland

Sentiment towards the energy transformation was not as strong in Central Queensland, with around half of surveyed participants concerned or cautious about how the energy transformation is being delivered. To address this, stakeholders suggested more needs to be done to:

- increase transparency and the role of communities in decision-making and project development
- leverage local knowledge to enhance the sustainability of energy projects.

**“ Maybe it’s about increasing community engagement, making us feel more included.”**  
 – Central Queensland resident

**“ Communities want to play a role but they feel they need more transparency and consideration of local impacts to gain confidence.”**  
 – Central Queensland resident

Central Queenslanders were primarily concerned with the co-existence of renewables and agriculture, as well as how jobs and investment will be sustained over time in communities built around the coal and gas industries. They were interested in opportunities to diversify their economies beyond only renewable energy and recognised that the energy transformation will drive the development of new and emerging industries, particularly in Gladstone.

**“ We want to see that small investment result in employment opportunities maintained in our local areas.”**  
 – Central Queensland resident

## Priority needs identified to support renewable energy development include:

- 1** Land-use planning 
- 2** Housing and accommodation 
- 3** Transport and logistics 
- 4** Local supply chain 
- 5** Skills, training and jobs 



## North and Far North Queensland

North and Far North Queenslanders were more confident in how the energy transformation is going compared to the other regions. There was a consensus from this region that the energy transformation is needed to reduce dependency on fossil fuels, and a willingness to participate, including through community ownership.

Knowledge of the energy transformation was identified as a potential gap with a desire to increase understanding and gain access to more education and information-sharing opportunities.

Stakeholders identified a strong need for additional community health infrastructure and services. In addition, environmental considerations were emphasised more clearly in this region. While stakeholders across Central and Southern Queensland also noted the need to review planning frameworks, those in the North and Far North specifically mentioned emerging environmental issues arising in their region.

First Nations peoples in North and Far North Queensland spoke of the need for dedicated engagement mechanisms on the energy transformation and the potential for remote REZ development in places like the Torres Strait.

**“ Large-scale renewable projects face challenges in getting approval due to local opposition and impacts on the environment and communities.”**

**– North and Far North Queensland resident**

**“ Tell me what's going on... We need more education. We need more information.”**

**– North and Far North Queensland resident**

### Priority needs identified to support renewable energy development include:

- 1** Community benefits and values 
- 2** Workforce planning 
- 3** Environment and climate change resilience 
- 4** Health considerations 
- 5** Innovation and diverse voices amongst stakeholders 

# Stakeholder perspectives

Different stakeholder groups emphasised different priorities, highlighting the broad scope of opportunities and challenges as part of the energy transformation.

## First Nations peoples

First Nations peoples had varying views on the energy transformation. Those who were optimistic about the transformation were confident there would be local opportunities to engage and benefit, including through owning and operating renewable energy developments. Those who were more cautious would like measures in place to ensure long-lasting benefits are delivered after the construction phase is complete. There were strong views that the delivery of benefits must be done in partnership with First Nations peoples.

“ Whilst nearly every First Nations community across the country needs employment, this may not be their ultimate priority, and they must be asked about the specific jobs they want – jobs must be offered, not given. ”

– Indigenous Energy Australia

“ People don't have that level of understanding to then be able to provide feedback to the government on the energy and jobs plan when there's no precedent, there's no awareness. ”

– First Nations Advocate

## Local government

Local governments are interested in engaging with and benefiting from the energy transformation but require additional resources to actively participate. It will be critical to leverage local knowledge, expertise and connections throughout the energy transformation.

“ Regional local governments are not typically resourced for such extensive projects, in conjunction with the day-to-day work which continues. ”

– Southern Downs Regional Council

“ Meaningful, authentic engagement with Council and the community is central to fully appreciating and responding to local concerns and aspirations, which ultimately contributes to a positive future for the region. ”

– Isaac Regional Council

## Landholders, agriculture and community groups

While supportive of renewables, many landholders are seeking ways to coexist, emphasising the need for more research in topics like agrivoltaics. To offset potential negative impacts, they stressed the importance of fair compensation for themselves and their communities.

“ The transition to renewable energy will require collaboration between developers, farmers and community to ensure shared prosperity and benefits. ”

– Leather Cattle Co

“ A coordinated system with integrated planning and regulatory frameworks is required to truly benefit agriculture and regional communities. ”

– Queensland Farmers Federation

## Renewable energy sector

The renewable energy sector expressed strong support for the energy transformation and the policy initiatives associated with REZ development but are seeking further clarity and information on what to expect as these policies are rolled out.

“ Government should be championing the proponents as a leader in establishing social license. ”

– Renewable energy sector representative

“ If you don't pull developers together and force them to work together, you'll have a lot of community halls with new roofs and not bigger change that will help these communities. ”

– Renewable energy sector representative

## Environment groups

Environment groups strongly support the energy transformation to achieve decarbonisation. They advocated for biodiversity and community well-being through improved legislative frameworks and grassroots policy development. Emphasising community engagement, including with First Nations peoples, they see the transformation as an opportunity for lasting benefits.

“ The considered expansion of renewable energy, such as solar and wind farms, is critical to addressing the impacts of climate change, and so too is the protection and restoration of Queensland's natural places. ”

– The Wilderness Society

“ Building renewable energy is one of the best ways we have to reduce emissions and save the Reef [Great Barrier Reef]. However, we have to do it in a way that centres and protects cultural heritage, nature and communities. ”

– Queensland Conversation Council



# Engagement activities

## Engagement activities included:

- Surveys and focus groups
- Regional roadshows, community pop ups, and public forums
- Workshops and capability building activities
- Direct stakeholder briefings
- Formal consultation and submissions
- Online and in-person engagement.

This report summarises stakeholder insights from these engagement activities during 2023.

## Stakeholders that participated included:

- General public
- First Nations peoples
- Local government
- Landholders, agriculture and community groups
- Renewable energy sector
- Environment groups
- Local businesses and industry.

# Outcomes

Stakeholder feedback received over the last year has underpinned the launch of the **Local Energy Partnerships** in October 2023. This is a framework for establishing genuine partnerships to boost local voices, local choices and local benefits in the energy transformation. Through the Local Energy Partnerships, the Queensland Government is committed to partnering with regional communities to make the most of Queensland's renewable future.

Under this framework, the Queensland Government is collaborating with Local Government to support them to meet the challenges of the energy transformation and maximise opportunities for their communities. Partnerships are also being established to boost the practices of the renewable energy sector and support agriculture and environment sectors on key issues as part of the energy transformation.

Work is underway on expanding the GasFields Commission Queensland to promote coexistence of renewable energy developments, agriculture and other industries. This will include the establishment of Community Leader Energy Councils with regional representatives to provide critical input on emerging coexistence issues and the energy transformation. To complement this, the government will also be looking to establish local reference groups for each specific REZ development over time.

Importantly, stakeholder feedback is further informing the development of Queensland's REZs. Alongside this insights report, the Queensland Government has released the Queensland REZ Roadmap.

The Queensland Government has allocated \$6 million to support the kick-off of strategic REZ Readiness Assessments in 2024 across Southern, Central and North and Far North Queensland. More detailed assessments may be completed for the specific REZ locations, in line with the timing of development in the REZ Roadmap. The Office of the Coordinator General is set to play a lead role in these assessments and the resulting program of works to ensure communities are supported with future renewable development.

The REZ Roadmap itself will be updated in line with the Queensland SuperGrid Infrastructure Blueprint. The Queensland Government will work to support the REZ Roadmap in Regional Plans across the state to improve coexistence and ensure a strategic approach to development. Additional REZs may be identified or adjusted in the future in line with market developments and further strategic planning.

The Queensland Government has earmarked \$20 million from the Regional Economic Futures Fund to support the outcomes of the first REZ Readiness Assessments over 2024. As part of these assessments, the government will work closely with regional communities to understand the local impacts and opportunities from planned REZ development and outline measures to support future host communities.

In 2023, the Australian Government commissioned the Community Engagement Review from Andrew Dyer, the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner (AEIC). This examined community attitudes towards renewable energy infrastructure to provide advice on the best way to maximise community engagement and benefit in planning, developing and operating renewable energy infrastructure.

In response to these findings and the stakeholder insights summarised in this report, the Queensland Government will look into how it could manage community concerns and complaints about large-scale energy infrastructure development through a review in 2024.

In addition, the government is considering further opportunities for sharing benefits with communities to maximise local outcomes and secure a fair and sustainable transformation to lower carbon in the energy system and economy. Powerlink Queensland is already implementing key initiatives like the SuperGrid Landholder Payment framework, the first of its kind to offer neighbour payments for hosting transmission, and the SuperGrid Telecommunications Program seeking to improve access to high-speed internet and mobile phone coverage to regional areas hosting transmission and REZs.

The Queensland Government is also working with the Australian Government on developing a Remote and First Nations Clean Energy Strategy. A key focus of this will be how to ensure improved coordination and planning is embedded in remote energy solutions as well, with benefits similar to a REZ.

The Queensland Government will continue to seek opportunities to respond to the feedback provided through consultation and engagement activities and remains deeply committed to listening and engaging with stakeholders on all aspects of the energy transformation.

Many individuals and organisations participated in engagement activities over the past year across Queensland, contributing their time, knowledge and passion for improving the energy transformation for all Queenslanders. The Queensland Government sincerely thanks all those who participated for their insights.

## Next steps

The Queensland Government is responding to insights from stakeholders over the last year through a range of measures:

- Releasing the REZ Roadmap to provide greater clarity to regional communities about future renewable energy development in their region and committing to updating the roadmap every two years in line with the Queensland SuperGrid Infrastructure Blueprint.
- Kicking-off REZ Readiness Assessments in partnership with communities including \$6 million to undertake these assessments over 2024 and looking at ways to manage cumulative impacts and maximise local opportunities.
- Allocating \$20 million from the Regional Economic Futures Fund to support local initiatives in future host communities guided by outcomes from the REZ Readiness Assessments.
- Continuing to deliver commitments under the Local Energy Partnerships Framework including establishing new partnerships with industry to boost practices of renewable energy developers, partnerships to support the agriculture and environment sectors and initiatives to work with local government on REZ planning.
- A review of the planning framework is underway as an action in the QEJP, and REZs and areas suitable for renewable development will be a key focus of upcoming updates to Regional Plans, supporting a more strategic approach to land use priorities.
- Expanding the role of the GasFields Commission Queensland and working with them to establish Community Leader Energy Councils with regional representatives.
- Establishing local reference groups for each specific REZ in line with the development timelines in the REZ Roadmap.
- Further considering outcomes from the AEIC review into community engagement practices and looking for ways to work with the Commonwealth Government to boost local outcomes.
- Kicking off a review in 2024 into potential complaints pathways for large-scale energy infrastructure.
- Working with the Commonwealth Government and First Nations communities on developing of a First Nations Clean Energy Strategy.
- Considering further opportunities to maximise local outcomes and supporting Powerlink's programs for enhanced landholder payments and regional internet connectivity.



**“ The transformation is our ticket to a greener future. ”**  
– Community advocate

# QUEENSLAND ENERGY AND JOBS PLAN

Power for **generations**



The Queensland Government will continue to actively listen and engage with stakeholders on all aspects of the energy transformation.



[qld.gov.au/energyandjobsplan](https://qld.gov.au/energyandjobsplan)



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