



### Fast-tracking more Queensland renewables

The Australian and Queensland governments have inked a landmark agreement to connect the country's largest wind farm to the National Electricity Market and fast track even more new renewable generation in the nation's largest renewable energy zone in construction.

The \$160 million commitment from the Clean Energy Finance Corporation for the Southern Downs Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) will help power 700,000 Queensland homes and create hundreds of local jobs.

The Southern Downs REZ will host the MacIntyre and Karara wind farms and further stages.



### National Energy Transformation Partnership

At the National Energy Ministers meeting, Queensland led a push to enshrine emissions reduction at the heart of the energy market as part of a landmark National Energy Transformation Partnership.

This is a huge win for Queenslanders, and for the climate, because it means we can now put emissions reduction alongside the economy as important considerations in building the electricity system.

The energy sector is Queensland's largest carbon emitter and has a significant role to play in our path towards net zero emissions.

Reaching agreement between all States and Territories and the Commonwealth to accelerate drafting of the law changes, means change sooner.



### Innovation draws Daniel to hydrogen sector

As the Future Energy Technical Manager at Ark Energy Corporation Pty Ltd, Daniel manages technical workstreams at two of its projects, including the SunHQ Hydrogen Hub.

Daniel enjoys working in a dynamic sector with an opportunity to innovate and continually learn.

"The hydrogen industry is still emerging, and everyone is looking for a solution. People are willing to look outside the box and try novel concepts," Daniel says.

With innovation comes some challenges as the hydrogen sector matures.

"The best part of my job is the most challenging. The hydrogen industry is moving so quickly it's hard to stay on top of current industry best practice," he says.

"It takes a lot of time to ensure you are up-to-date with the latest advancements."

Daniel first completed a Bachelor of Engineering at university and, while working at an engineering consultancy, expanded his knowledge in renewables and hydrogen.

As our hydrogen supply chain grows, Daniel believes it's the perfect time to get involved in the sector.

"The hydrogen industry is in an entrepreneurial phase at the moment and now is really the best time to get involved. Don't be afraid to put your ideas out there in the industry."



### Renewables provide exciting opportunities for Leanne

As one of Powerlink Queensland's power system operations Team Leaders, Leanne plays a key role in ensuring safe, secure and reliable energy transmission across the state as we head toward our 50% renewable energy target by 2030.

"We are managing the transmission network through the change to clean energy sources. It is fantastic to have the opportunity to be a part of this change and to learn how to manage a network that is diversifying into the area of renewables," Leanne says.

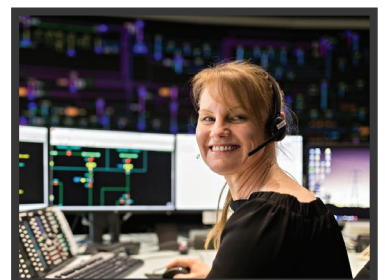
Leanne's role requires a broad diversity of skillsets to manage the changing network, making sure it is available for what is now a highly dynamic electricity market.

"The behaviour of the transmission network differs each day. The power network is affected by the type and number of generators connected, the time of day or year, weather, and even school holidays," Leanne says.

It was Leanne's experience growing up on the family farm that motivated her choice of career.

"As a child, I was fascinated by electricity. When you think about it, the power grid is a massive machine of interconnected moving parts, and so I love having the opportunity to be a part of it," Leanne says.

Leanne encourages anyone interested to pursue a career in the energy sector if they crave the opportunity to positively impact people's lives, look for variety in a workplace, and have a genuine interest in the exciting future of renewables in Queensland.





## Apprentice linesperson is the perfect role for Kasey



Western Queensland local Kasey works as an apprentice Distribution Linesperson, helping to build, maintain and troubleshoot one of the world's biggest electricity distribution networks.

Employed by Ergon Energy, Kasey enjoys making a real contribution to the Barcardine community where she grew up and went to school.

"I work with an amazing team on projects which make a real difference to customers and my community. It's exciting, the training is incredible, and everyone has been so accommodating and welcoming," Kasey says.

The job is both rewarding and challenging with a lot of travel and long drives.

Before joining the energy sector, Kasey didn't picture herself as a "distribution liney" and thought of apprentices as being plumbers, sparkies or hairdressers.

"I never saw myself as a tradie; now I'm eager to go to work each day to learn more," Kasey says.

With a year left of her apprenticeship, Kasey continues to enjoy the mix of hands-on field work and classroom training and assessments.

"I'm in my third year and it's far exceeding my expectations," Kasey says.

Kasey encourages anyone looking for a great career to consider an apprenticeship as a distribution linesperson.

"If you have any interest at all, or don't know much about the sector, ask. It might be the perfect fit for you!"



## Leonard steps up to the energy storage challenge



Leonard is an Electrical Engineer at CleanCo Queensland, working at the Wivenhoe Pumped Storage Hydroelectric Power Station.

With a diverse role, Leonard is responsible for system asset management and optimising the output of power generation by implementing reliability maintenance strategies.

To do this, Leonard says it's important for him to stay up to date with the latest technological advancements.

"Technology is always changing, such that I'm always learning and challenged by new ideas."

Leonard thrives on the challenges that come with working on Queensland's largest pumped storage hydroelectric power station.

"Availability of our two power generation units at Wivenhoe Hydroelectric Power Station has been above 99 per cent for a long time. As a team, we work together to ensure availability remains high," Leonard says.

With a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Leonard has carved out a career in an industry that continues to evolve.

"Most of the acquired knowledge and skills as an electrical engineer are applied in the energy industry.

"The Queensland energy industry offers stability and is where you get the opportunity to apply your knowledge and skills while being kept on your toes by new challenges."



## Nation's first hydrogen workforce plan launched

In July 2022, Minister Farmer delivered a nationwide first with the launch of the [Hydrogen Industry Workforce Development Roadmap 2022-2032](#).

The roadmap is the first dedicated workforce development plan aimed at creating a skilled, hydrogen-ready workforce to support Queensland's exciting and fast-growing hydrogen sector.

The roadmap has been developed in consultation with industry, skills and training, education, and regional development stakeholders from across Queensland. It sets out a range of short, medium and long-term actions to deliver a strong and adaptable workforce for a safe and thriving Queensland hydrogen industry.



[www.epw.qld.gov.au](http://www.epw.qld.gov.au)



Energy – Queensland