

19 February 2024

Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (CWOREZ) Projects

A growing number of CWOREZ projects are unfolding within our local communities, community members are urged to keep up to date with them as they develop.

“Council will continue to monitor the impact of these projects that are part of the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (REZ),” said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Ambrose Doolan. “Feedback on exhibited documents for a number of REZ related developments for wind and solar projects have recently been submitted. Looking directly into the stakeholder focused impact areas, these being governance, workers, community, environment and customers.”

Recent submissions include, Council maintaining its objection to the Valley of the Winds Wind Farm Amendment Report due to the long-term impacts on local roads, social costs, and the cumulative impacts of this project alongside other REZ projects across the Shire.

Spicers Creek Wind Farm Submissions Report and Birriwa Solar Farm Amendment Report raised similar concerns surrounding the cumulative impacts along with very minimal details on the impacts to our local roads during this project; triggering Council to continue to maintain objections for these two projects.

The EnergyCo Transmission Line Project EIS lacked critical details and information relating to the project, such as employment numbers, social impacts, community engagement, workforce accommodation, impacts to properties, biodiversity impacts, climate change adaptation, bushfire mitigation, flood impacts, cumulative impacts, traffic impacts and road upgrades; Council lodged an objection to the project based on the lack of information.

On the home page of Council’s website there is a Banner called [‘Latest news from Council on Renewable Energy Zones \(REZ\)’](#) where community members can see the latest information on the REZ from the [EngeryCo website](#) and view the detailed submissions that Council have made regarding these projects.

“There are currently 11 different renewable energy projects commencing across the Central-West Orana Renewable Energy Zone which will impact our local government area all at different stages of the planning process all which Council has submitted different submissions for”, said Cr Doolan.

“I would urge interested persons to take this opportunity familiarise themselves with these projects and keep up to date with information out on public exhibition allowing you to have a say on these projects via [Central-West Orana REZ website](#)”, concluded Cr Doolan.

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TABLE 1: MAJOR PROJECTS THAT IMPACT WSC

Major Project	LGA	Description
Sandy Creek Solar Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo	750 MW solar farm and assoc. infrastructure
Dapper Solar Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo Regional	300 MW solar farm and assoc. infrastructure
Spicers Creek Wind Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo	Wind energy generation project with up to 122 wind turbines, with transmission connection and assoc. infrastructure
Cobbora Solar Farm	Warrumbungle and Dubbo	700 MW solar farm with energy storage and assoc. infrastructure
Central-West Orana REZ Transmission Project	Warrumbungle, Mid-Western, Dubbo, Upper Hunter	New twin double circuit 500Kv transmission lines between Wollar and the proposed substations at Methotherie and Elong Elong, and connections from these lines to projects in the REZ
Orana Wind Farm	Warrumbungle and Mid-Western	Wind farm with up to 92 wind turbines, battery storage and associated infrastructure
Barneys Reef Wind Farm	Mid -Western	350 MW wind farm, including 65 turbines (220m), battery storage and assoc. infrastructure
Birriwa Solar Farm	Mid-Western and Warrumbungle	600 MW solar farm, energy storage facility and assoc. infrastructure
Tallawang Solar Farm	Mid-Western	500 MW solar farm with 500 MW/1,000 MWh battery energy storage system and assoc. infrastructure
Liverpool Range Wind Farm Modification 1	Warrumbungle, Upper Hunter and Mid-Western	Increase maximum tip height to 250m, decrease number of turbines to 220, amend infrastructure, transport route and increase native veg clearing limits
Valley of the Winds Wind Farm	Warrumbungle	Construct and operate wind farm up to 148 turbines, energy storage and assoc. infrastructure
Narragamba Solar Farm	Mid-Western and Warrumbungle	320MW solar farm including associated infrastructure
Dunedoo Solar Farm	Warrumbungle	55 MW solar farm with energy storage and assoc. infrastructure