## Western Plains Wind Farm

**Changing Energy Market** 

June 2021

Australia needs new sources of electricity and the national energy market is in transition. Coal power stations are reaching the end of their operational lives and will be retired over the next two decades. Countries around the world are transitioning to cleaner, renewable sources of energy to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

Whole-of-system planning for Australia's energy transition is managed by the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) through its Integrated System Plan (ISP). The ISP sets out a roadmap for the efficient development of the National Electricity Market (NEM) over the next 20 years with the objective to: maximise value to end consumers by designing the lowest cost, secure and reliable energy system capable of meeting any emissions trajectory determined by policy makers at an acceptable level of risk.

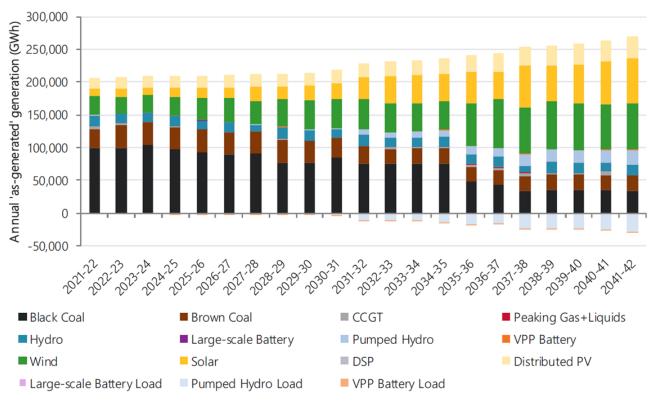
AEMO forecasts that Australia requires 26-50 Gigawatts (GW) of new grid-scale renewables over the next 20 years and most of that new capacity is expected to come from solar and wind (optimal balance of 55/45) supported by storage.

Tasmania is blessed with renewable energy resources and this gives it a distinct competitive advantage in the growing renewable energy economy. It is uniquely placed to take advantage of this opportunity, particularly for wind and storage.

"Tasmania is the renewable energy powerhouse of Australia. Our renewable energy resources and expertise in developing renewable energy is a 21st century competitive advantage. Tasmania is blessed with natural assets, we have world leading water and wind resources. By seizing Tasmania's immense potential, renewable energy can grow our economy, attract investment, create jobs and support Australia's transition to renewable supply."

Hon Guy Barnett MP Minister for Energy Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan

Figure 6 Forecast annual generation to 2041-42, Central Scenario



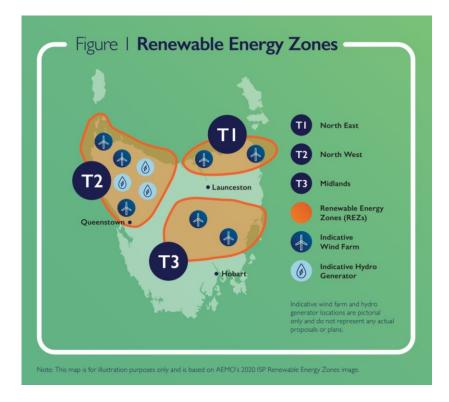
Source: AEMO

To facilitate Australia's transition to renewables state governments have set renewable energy targets and AEMO has identified optimal renewable energy zones.

Tasmania has achieved 100% self-sufficiency in renewable energy generation and the Tasmanian Government has set a world-leading renewable energy target of 200% renewable energy generation by 2040. Meeting the Tasmanian Renewable Energy Target (TRET) will require harnessing Tasmania's considerable renewable energy potential. AEMO has identified three proposed Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) for Tasmania with high-quality renewable energy resources and proximity to existing or planned network infrastructure:

- T1 North East Tasmania
- T2 North West Tasmania
- T3 Tasmania Midlands

The Tasmanian Government has published its roadmap for reaching the TRET in the *Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan* (TREAP) and is in the process of finalising the *Renewable Energy Coordination Framework*. Plans include the new 1,500 megawatt (MW) interconnection Marinus Link, 9,950 MW of new large-scale wind and solar development in Tasmania's three proposed REZ and 1,400 MW of new storage capacity.



The North West REZ covers the north west and west coast of Tasmania. With good quality wind resources, a significant portion of the projected new wind development in Tasmania is located within the North West REZ.

Australian Energy Market Operator

## More information

Scan QR codes for direct access

Australian Energy Market Operator <a href="mailto:aemo.com.au">aemo.com.au</a>



AEMO 2020 Integrated System Plan tinyurl.com/aa8k6kxc



Tasmanian Department of State Growth - Renewables Tasmania





Renewables Tasmania - Tasmanian Renewable Energy Action Plan tinyurl.com/242put7d



Renewables Tasmania - Draft Renewable Energy Coordination Framework tinyurl.com/pwhn8rrn



Project team

westernplainswindfarm.com.au

Sandra Weinhold, Project Manager Donna Bolton, General Manager Development - Tasmania s.weinhold@epuron.com.au d.bolton@epuron.com.au 0412 833 657 0405 535 325