

# Consumer Advisory Panel Meeting



23 February 2026

# Welcome

**Leanne Muffet**  
Independent Facilitator

**Mark Henley**  
Consumer Representative

**Craig Wilkins**  
Consumer Representative



**Andrew Richards**  
Energy Users Association Australia



**Simon Maddocks**  
Primary Producers SA



**Kelly-Anne Saffin**  
Cross Border Commissioner



**Vikram Kenjle**  
University of Adelaide



**Georgina Morris**  
South Australian Council of Social Services



**Cathi Buttfield**  
South Australian Business Chamber



**Greg McCarron**  
Central Irrigation Trust

## Acknowledgement of Country

ElectraNet acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land and waters on which we operate.

We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging and extend that respect to all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people of Australia.



# Approval of minutes, action Items + general updates

**Leanne Muffet**

Independent Facilitator +

**Claus Repenning**

Executive Strategy

# Meeting Agenda

For decision

	TIME	ITEM	PRESENTERS
1.	9:30am	Welcome, Acknowledgement of Country	Leanne Muffet
2.	9:40am	Approval of minutes, action Items + general updates	Leanne Muffet + Claus Repenning
3.	9:50am	Hot Topics	All
4.	10:10am	Demand Forecast Working Group	Simon Maddocks
5.	10:20am	Revenue Reset Reference Group	Vikram Kenjle
6.	10:30am	NTx Update	Ralf Riccardi + Jo Telfer
8.	11:30am	TAPR 2026 overview	Brad Harrison
7.	11:10am	Draft ISP Update	Brad Harrison
9.	11:50am	Wrap up	Leanne Muffet + Claus Repenning

# Action Items

For noting

No	Action	Responsible	Status
1.	Greg McCarron to email ElectraNet the transmission charging question received from a community member for response	GM/JT	Complete
2.	Leanne and Simon Appleby to consider CAP membership and any gaps.	LM/SA	In train
3.	Demand Forecasting Working Group to undertake the independent demand forecast review and share any findings or implications with ElectraNet.	DMWG	Complete
4.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Confirm the RRRG workshop scheduled for January covering the 2026 engagement schedule, revised engagement approach and resourcing.</li><li>Circulate the proposed RRRG ToR changes &amp; engagement responses to CAP members for feedback at the January meeting</li><li>Share the Business Narrative with the RRRG for feedback &amp; discussion (in train)</li></ul>	BM	Complete
5.	CAP Members to reflect on the draft ISP findings and consider what role the CAP may need to play in responding	LM	Complete
6.	Alycia to email CAP members seeking feedback on the three NTx funding options CPA1b being considered by ElectraNet	AM	Complete
7.	Alycia to send alternative meeting dates to the CAP member and updated calendar requests	AM	Complete

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Consumer Representative

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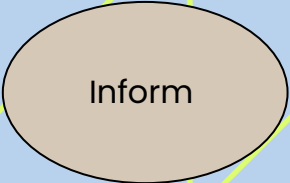


**Greg McCarron**  
Central Irrigation Trust

Inform

# CAP Hot Topics

All CAP Members



# Demand Forecasting Working Group Report

**Simon Maddocks**  
CAP Member



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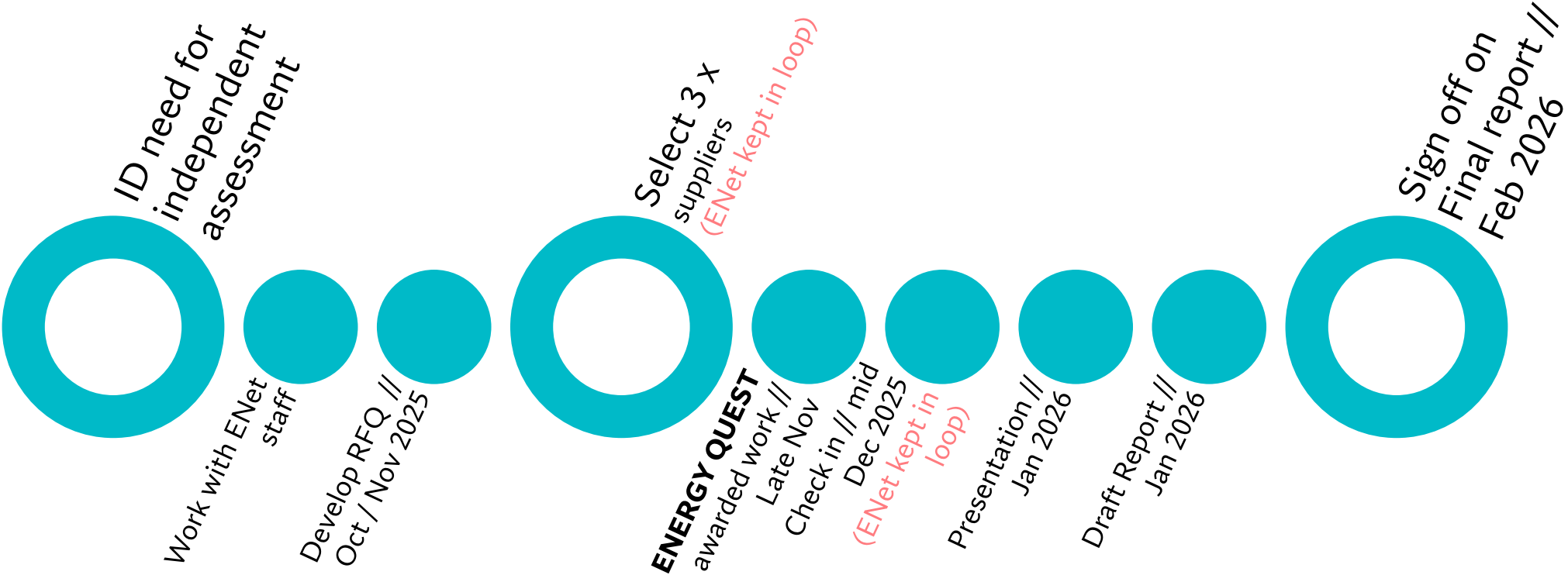
# Demand Forecast Working Group (DFWG) update

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February 2026

Simon Maddocks  
DF WG member

# Demand Forecast WG process



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# Project scope

**AIM: To test and validate a demand forecasting framework designed to reflect South Australia's future industrial growth ambitions**

Seeking advice on the reasonableness of key assumptions and inputs that drive ElectraNet's demand forecasts.

- Findings will inform policy decisions and support the ElectraNet Consumer Advisory Panel's decision making
- Project overseen by the CAP Demand Forecast Working Group
- Project Funding + sponsorship provided by ElectraNet

Final report with insights, observations and general recommendations, likely to include:

- Assessment of the reasonableness of key assumptions and inputs used to assess demand growth in South Australia
- Identification of any significant divergence and the likely impact on demand forecasts and impacts on scale and timing of future transmission augmentation.

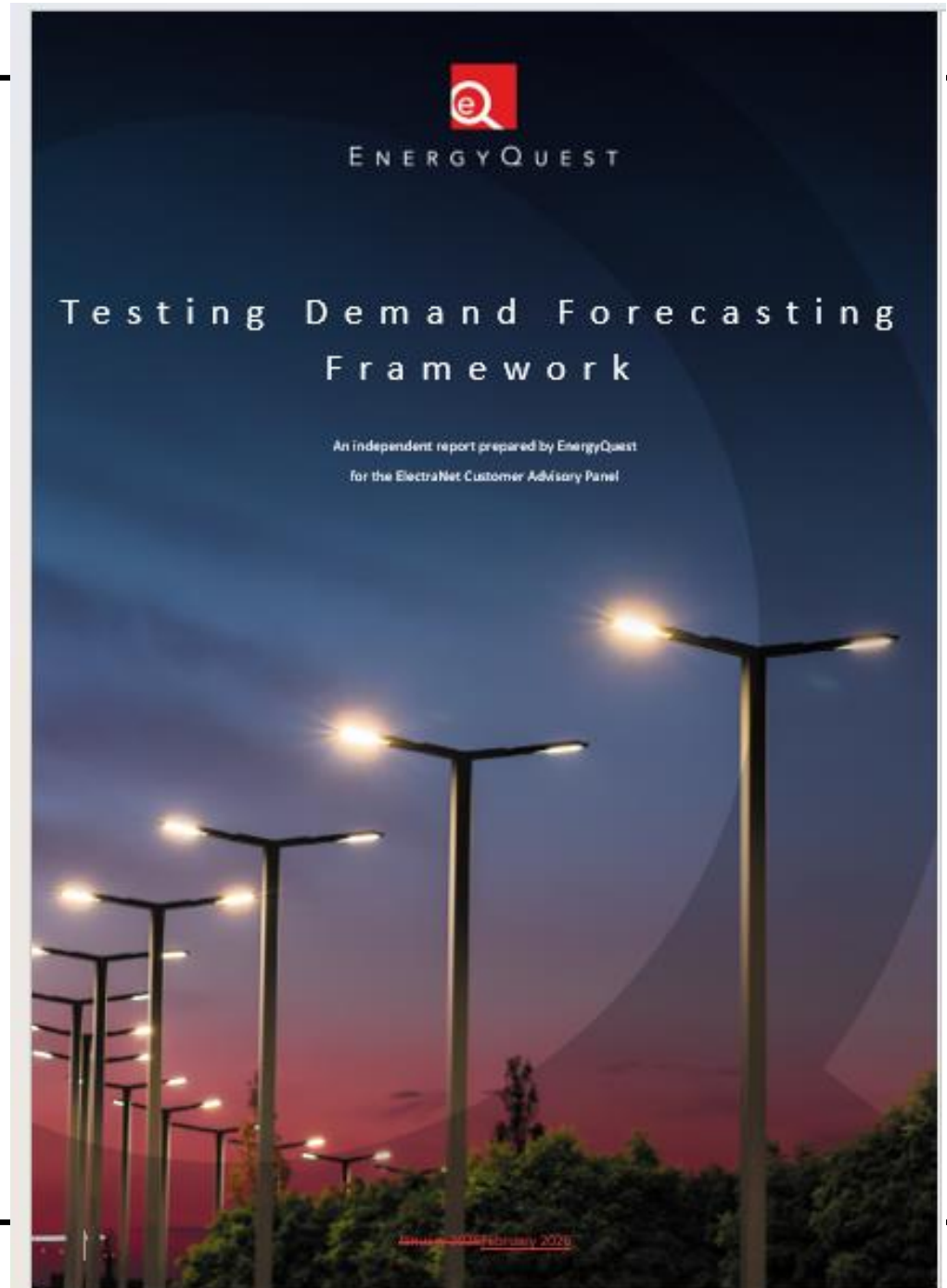
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# Energy Quest

(Feb 2026)

Prepared for ElectraNet's CAP

**\*\* INTERNAL DOCUMENT ONLY**



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# Final Report key findings

**OVERALL CONCLUSION:** While there is potential for material additional demand over the coming decade, at the current time there is significant uncertainty around the impact of the key drivers and flagship projects assessed

- The impact of the key drivers is likely to be limited or mixed over the next decade
  - This lack of certainty requires decisions to be made by governments and project proponents before a clearer picture emerges
  - None of the flagship projects have a high likelihood of proceeding at present, though at the same time some projects are firm prospects that may be developed.
- Decisions pertaining to Olympic Dam expansion and Northern Water Desalination plant, Whyalla Steelworks and the Nyrstar's Port Pirie refinery could result in significant growth in demand for electricity in South Australia. However, they cannot be guaranteed at this point.
- Under the Step Change scenario, (which is AEMO's Base Case), forecasts indicate essentially flat electricity consumption to 2029-30 with growth then being driven primarily by the business sector, while the residential sector shows a modest decline over this period due to increasing distributed PV uptake.

## Energy Quest (pg 8) // **Table 1 Summary assessment of impact on South Australian electricity demand over the next 10 years**

Factor	Rapid consumer battery uptake	Electrification of distribution system loads	Green hydrogen	Critical Minerals processing (Upper Spencer Gulf)	Expansion of BHP's Olympic Dam	Whyalla Steelworks Transformation	Desalination infrastructure	Data centres
Market conditions	3	2	1	1	5	1	2	2
Government policy	5	3	3	3	1	2	5	2
Corporate intent	1	2	1	1	2	1	2	2
Barriers to investment	2	4	1	1	2	1	1	2
Degree of uncertainty	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2
Expected impact on growth in South Australia electricity demand to 2032	2	2	1	1	2	1	2	2

Note:

5 = high likelihood of impact on electricity demand over next ten years,

1 = low likelihood of impact on electricity demand over next ten years

Source: Energy Quest

# Revenue Reset Update

**Vikram Kenjle**  
CAP Member

Consult



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# Revenue Reset Reference Group (RRRG) update

**February 2026**

**Vikram Kenjle**  
RRRG member

# Focus of 27 January '26 RRRG mgt (#5)

## Areas of focus (online):

### a) Update Terms of Reference (ToR)

Transfer updates to the ElectraNet 2028-2033 Revenue Proposal Engagement Plan

### b) Develop a meeting schedule / program for 2026

In train (to be discussed at next RRRG meeting)

### c) Resourcing

In train

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# Update to ToR

**The RRRG's core purpose is to:**

- **Provide advice to the CAP on how to respond to the Revenue Proposal**
- **Ensure ElectraNet's Revenue Reset Proposal has a strong consumer lens**

ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES (conceptual not verbatim)

CAP (via the RRRG) to prepare a written response regarding the revenue proposal, addressing 2 x themes:

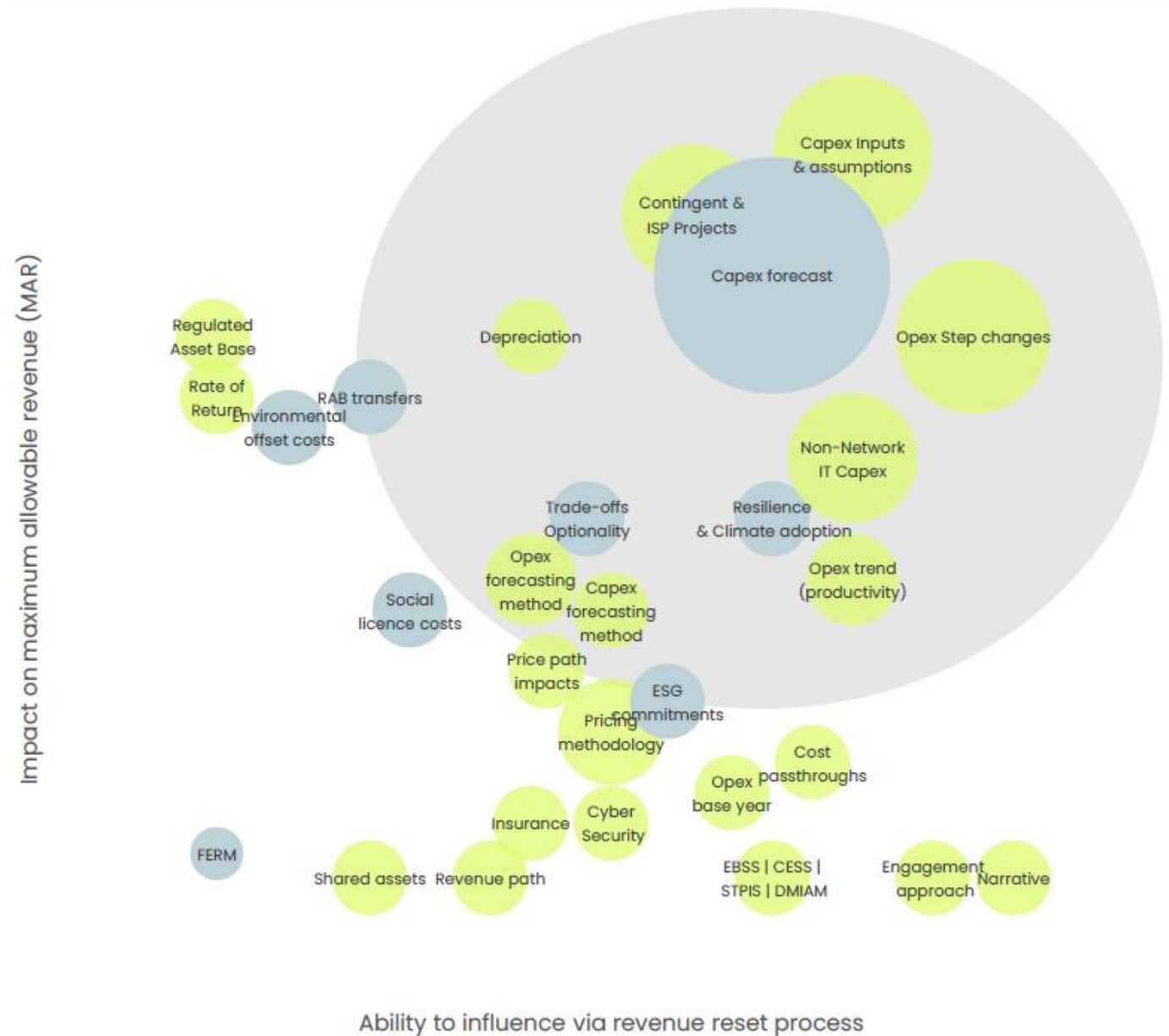
1. The extent to which consumer preferences and priorities have driven the development of the proposal;
2. The extent to which the expenditure forecasts reflect and respond to the concerns of electricity consumers as identified during the RRRG engagement process

# Bubble Diagram

In focusing on the coming year...

Which issues do you want to

- 1) Retain?
- 2) Add?
- 3) Remove?



# Areas of focus

## Capex

Capex forecast

Forecasting method

Inputs and assumptions

(Repex projects - 80:20 rule )

Non-Network ICT

Contingent and ISP projects

## Opex

Forecasting method

Step changes

Trend and productivity

(Base year)

(Non Network ICT

## Other

Depreciation

Trade-offs optionality

Resilience and climate adaptation

ESG

RAB transfers

**The RRRG chose not to remove any of the issues but did highlight a desire to focus on**

- ✓ **Trade-offs**
- ✓ **Cumulative impacts**
- ✓ **Inter dependencies of issues and decisions**

**ElectraNet to develop the following**  
(‘live’ / evolving documents)

- 1) A skeletal works program (2026)**
- 2) Prepare a draft overview of a PRP by mid Feb 2026**
- 3) Undertake a comparison of the previous RR content and process**

# From here

- **Signing off on updated ToR**
- **Awaiting:**
  - 1) A skeletal works program (2026)
  - 2) A draft overview / outline of PRR
  - 3) A comparison of the previous RR content and process

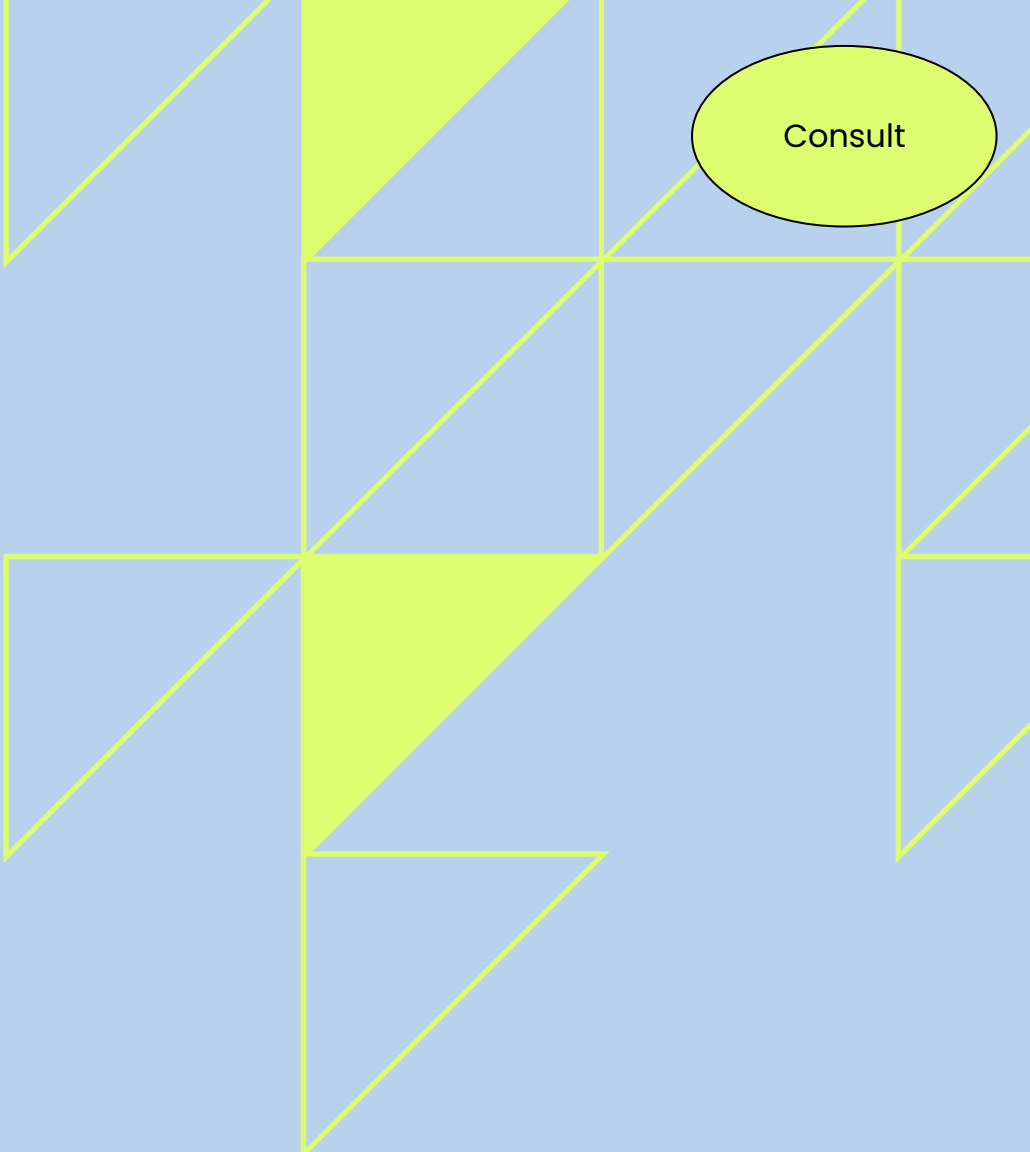
**We anticipate over coming months, the RRRG will need to present further detailed information to the CAP to guide the drafting of the RRRG / CAP endorsed report for early 2027.**

**Next meeting // 24 March 2026**

# NTx Update

**Ralf Riccardi**

Head of Major Projects



Consult

# Outline

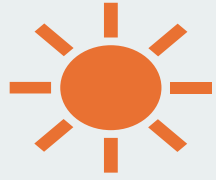
## Overview

- Introduction
- CPA1b update
- Project milestones
- PADR update
- Engagement outcomes

## Summary

- Why do we need NTx?
- What are the risks if we don't continue?
- What happens without NTx?
- What are we hearing form the community?

# Major Projects – Enabling South Australia’s Energy Future



**ElectraNet is delivering a strategic portfolio of major transmission projects that:**

**Unlocks economic growth and jobs by meeting increasing electricity demand**

**Delivers least cost and reliable supply solutions that harness our world-class renewables**

**Unlocks investment opportunities and jobs across emerging industries**



Major Projects as critical enablers



ElectraNet’s capability spans the full project lifecycle

# Early Works CPA1b Submission

CPA1b submitted Jan 2026 taking onboard changes following CAP feedback

## **Prudent, Risk-Managed Early Works Approach**

### **Focus on “No-Regrets” Activities Only**

### **Maintains Delivery Readiness**

### **Demonstrated Cost Discipline**

Incorporates CPA1a reconciliation and realised savings

**\$13.3m reduction** through deferred scope and efficiencies

Clear alignment with early works definition and AER expectations

## **Strong commitment to consumer input**

Ongoing engagement with Consumer Advisory Panel (Dec 25) and project Reference Group

Feedback directly shaped the reduced scope and value of CPA1b

Continued engagement with government, landholders, and Traditional Owners

## **Clear, Staged Path Forward**

PADR due July 2026

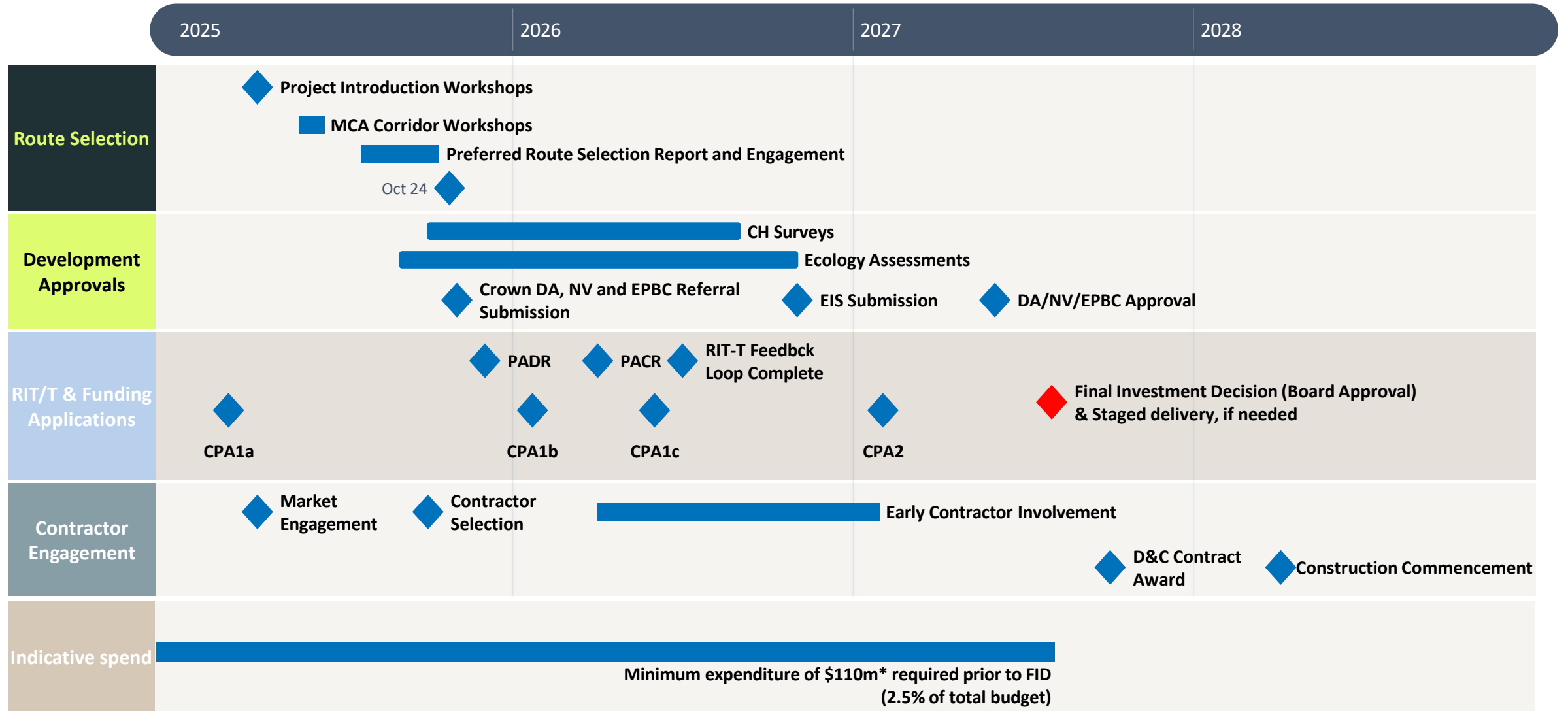
PACR expected late 2026

Further early works only if NTx confirmed actionable

Final contingent project application to follow for full delivery

AER decision expected at the end of March / early April 2026

# Indicative Project Schedule - Milestones



*\*assuming no early plant procurement required, subject to supply chain risk*

# PADR update

- AEMO has required ElectraNet to publish a Project Assessment Draft Report (PADR) by 3 July 2026.
- Project update report released December 2025
- Initial modeling outputs due early March and will be shared with the NTx reference group when available
- Looking to publish ahead of due date of 3 July 2026

# Draft What We Heard report

**What We Heard reports are a critical part of our commitment to transparency.**

Summary of what we have heard directly from the community through our engagement activities.

Content and comments in the report may differ or contradict each other, reflecting the diversity of community perspectives.

Inclusion of opinions and perspectives does **not** mean ElectraNet necessarily agrees with the positions expressed.

## Draft – What We Heard Report

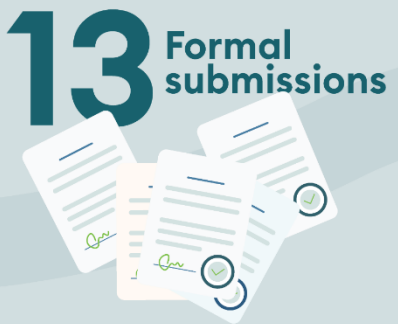
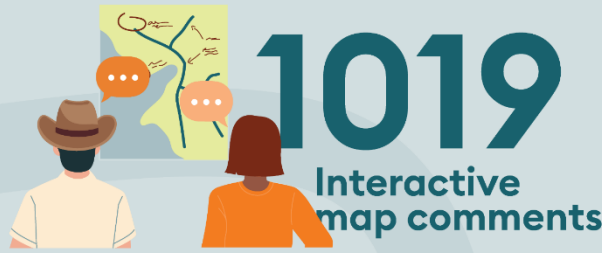
May–November 2025

**Northern Transmission Project**

Published February 2026



# Engagement activities

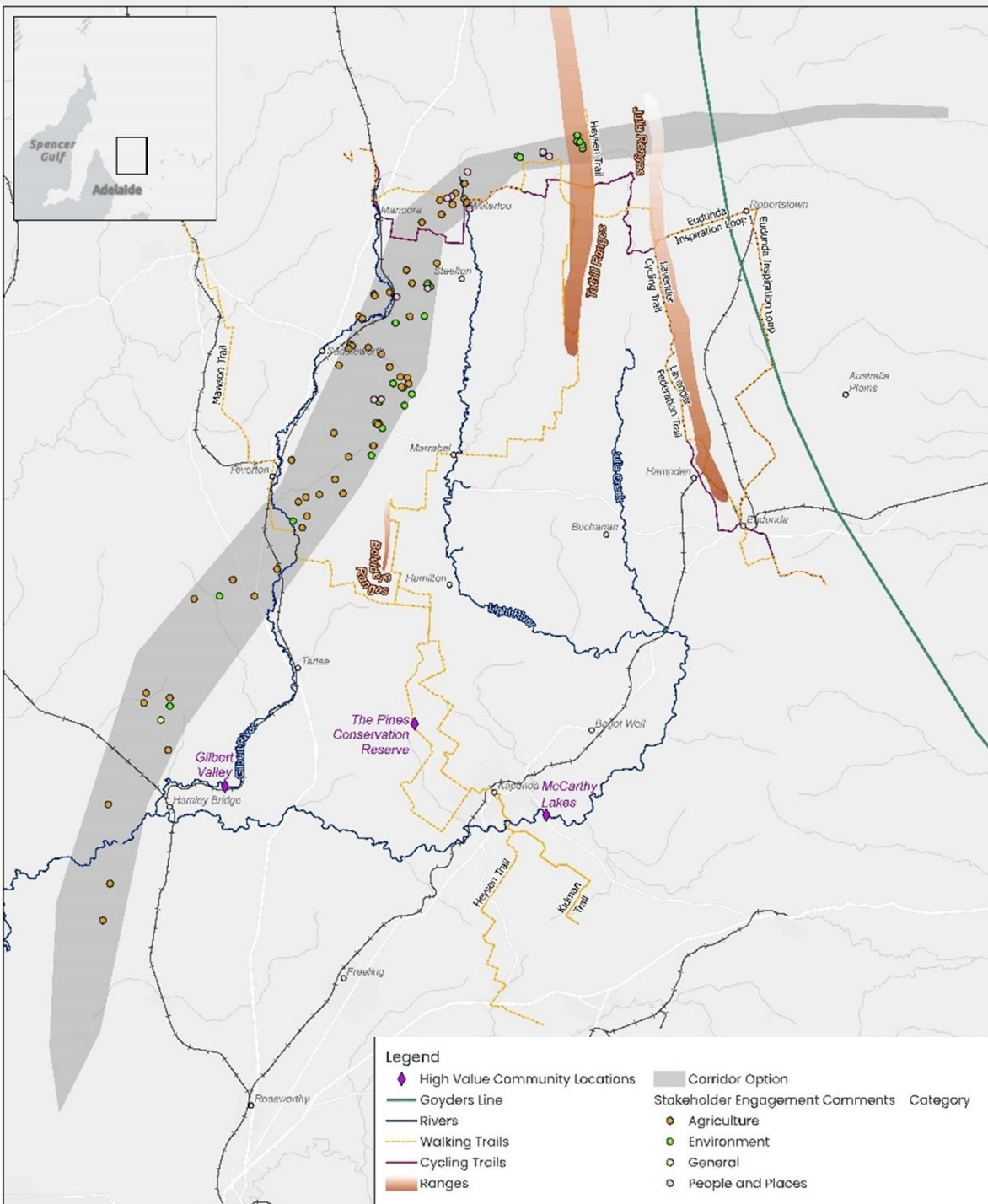


# What we heard – summary

- Recognition of project need combined with a very strong level of interest and feedback regarding the appropriate location for the Transmission Lines.
- Importance of early, ongoing and clear engagement with the community
- Homes, farms, townships and natural landscapes consistently identified as the priority features to protect
- Avoiding bushfire risk, minimising costs to consumers and improving resilience of supply were considered important goals.

# What we heard – key themes

- Farming and food security
- Bushfire risk
- Land value and compensation
- Health, safety and community wellbeing
- Amenity, tourism and heritage
- Environmental impacts
- Alternative options
- Potential opportunities



# Mid North Corridor 1

**Exceptional agricultural value:** loss of *prime cropping land* and disruption to farming operations.

**Home and livelihood:** multi-generational ties; concerns about *property devaluation, mental health and fire risk*.

**Environmental and amenity impacts:** *Peppermint Box Grassy Woodland, wetlands and biodiversity corridors; impacts on Heysen and Lavender Federation Trails.*

ication: <Classification> / Distribution: <Distribution>

**Next NTx RG meeting – 4 March 2026**

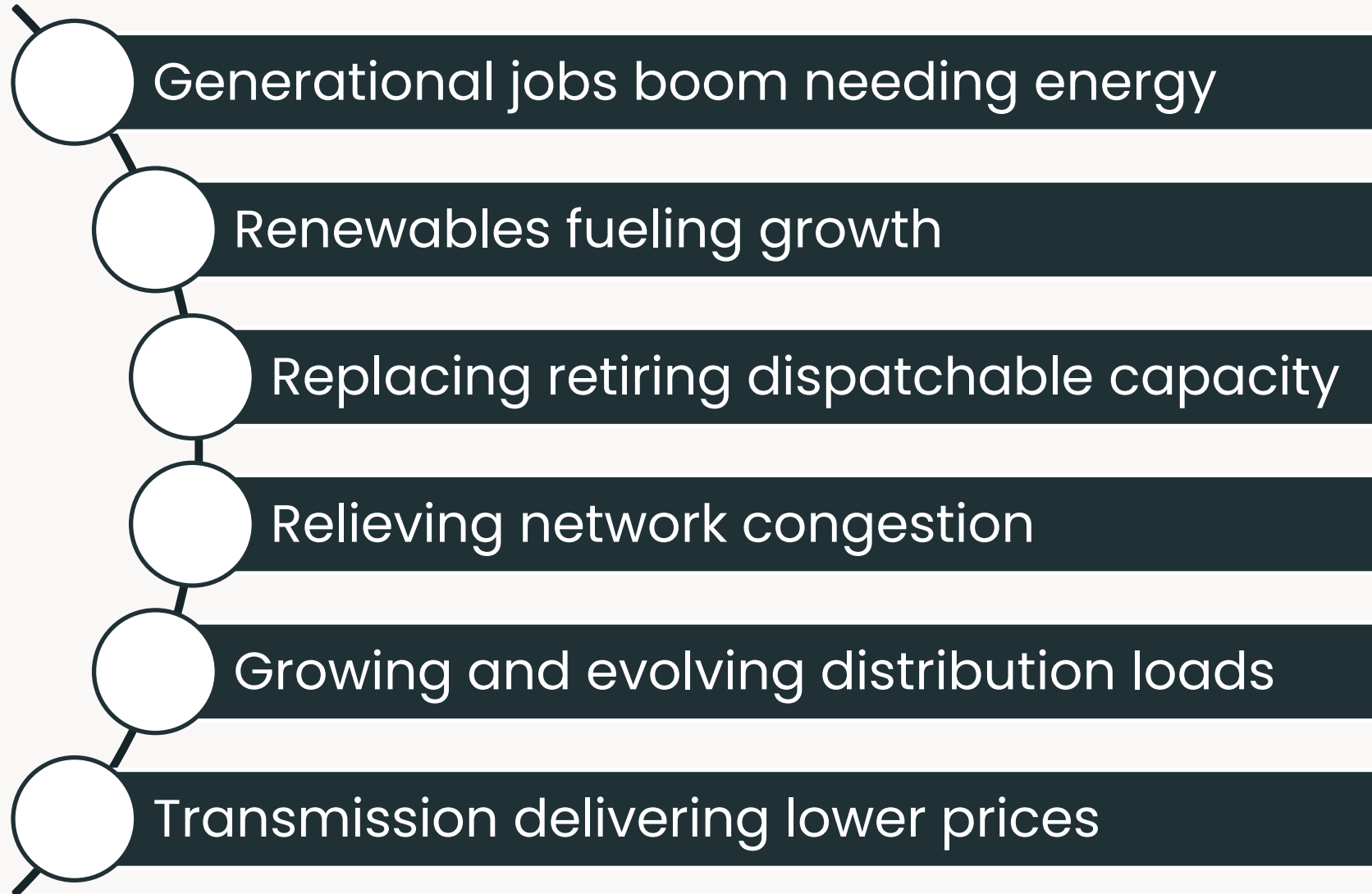
Consult

# TAPR 2026 Overview

**Brad Harrison**

Head of Network Planning

# Enabling South Australia's Economic transformation



# A once in a generation opportunity for South Australia's growth

The system transformation is now intersecting with a new and consequential driver

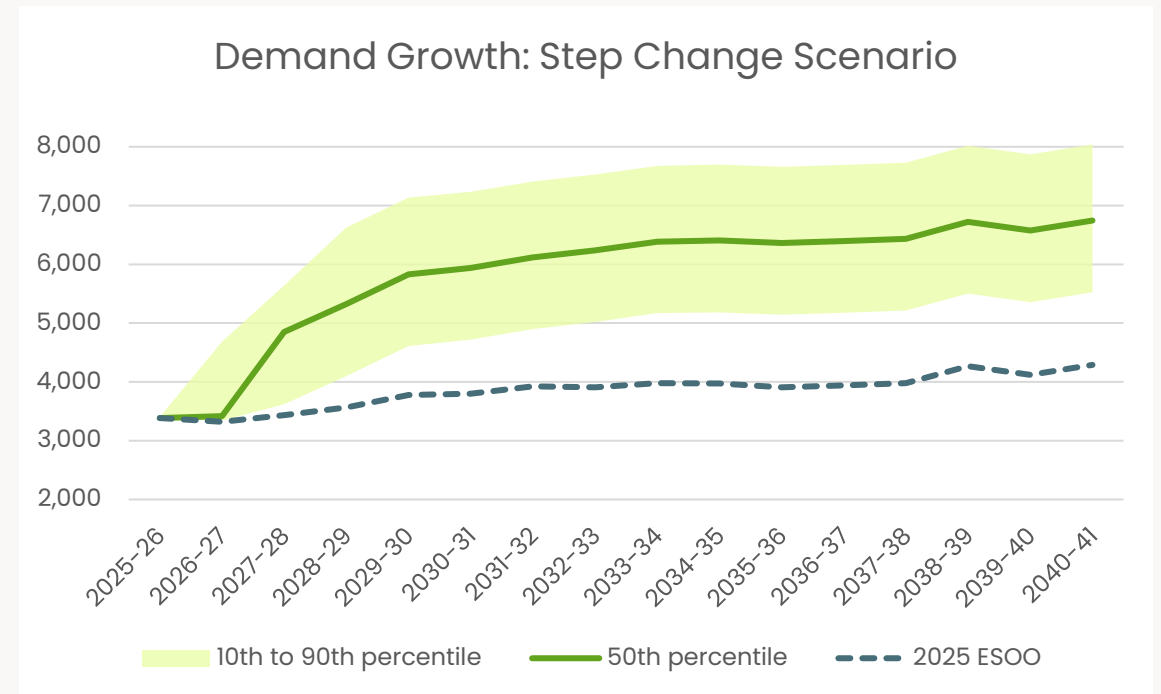
South Australia is at the forefront of the global clean energy transformation: rapidly transitioning from a fossil fuel-dominated grid to extremely high renewable energy penetration.

## The next stage:

State and Federal policy settings are oriented toward decarbonisation and industrial transformation, driving interest in new electricity-intensive activity in South Australia.

This emerging "growth phase" is expected to include a mix of regional and metropolitan developments spanning:

- Minerals processing
- Green metals and manufacturing
- Water infrastructure
- Digital infrastructure (including data centres)
- Defence precinct expansion



# Emerging demand hotspots across South Australia

South Australia's forecast demand growth is expected to be both material and spatially concentrated

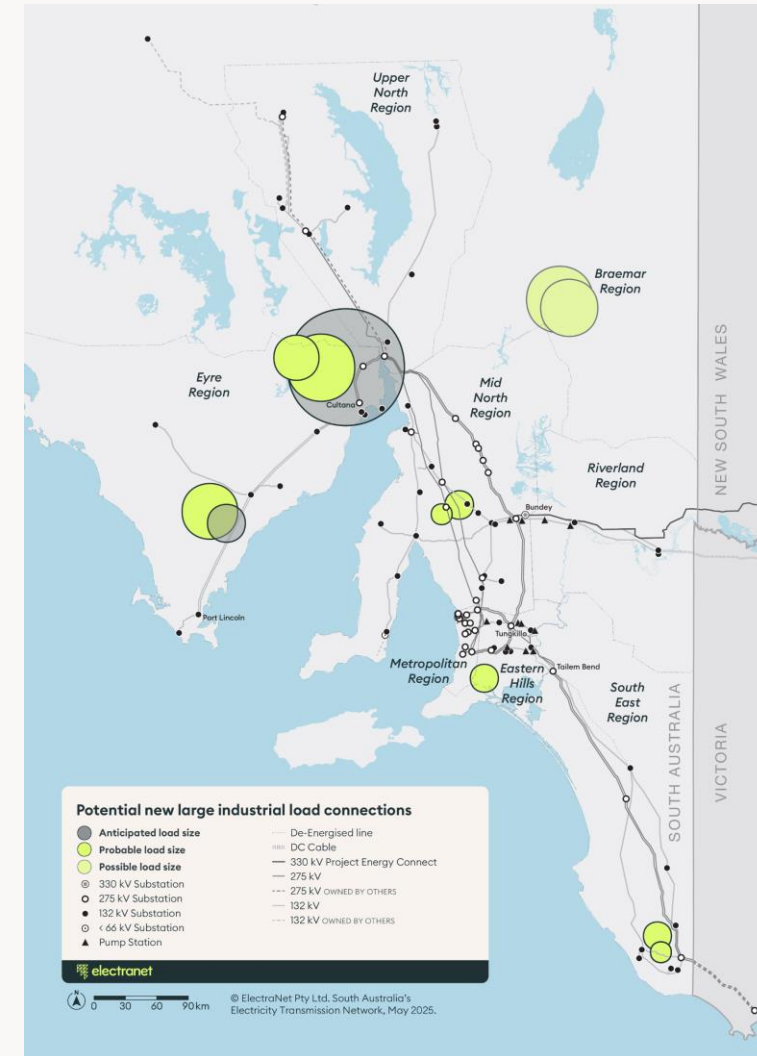
South Australia is on the cusp of a substantial increase in electricity demand associated with economic development and electrification.

Several demand hotspots are evident across current planning and engagement.

Some are already significant load centres and are expanding further, whilst others are seeing a step change in their associated load profile, which is having a material impact on requirements for transmission infrastructure.

The key regions include:

- Greater Adelaide
- Upper Spencer Gulf and the broader northern regions
- Eyre Peninsula
- Mid North and South East



# Renewable powerhouses: Where SA's clean energy will come from

The link between SA's economic opportunity and renewable energy generation

Meeting decarbonisation targets and supplying growing demand at lowest long-run cost requires continued development of high-quality wind and solar resources.

There are three regions with large and growing renewable generation capacity that are particularly important in the current planning context:

- Mid North
- Eyre Peninsula
- South East

All three of these regions are increasingly important to total generation capacity and adequate linkages between them and major load centres is crucial to delivering reliability, security and affordability of electricity supply.



# Fossil fleet to flexible firming: How the generation mix is shifting

The rapid renewable build-out alongside the exit of synchronous generation

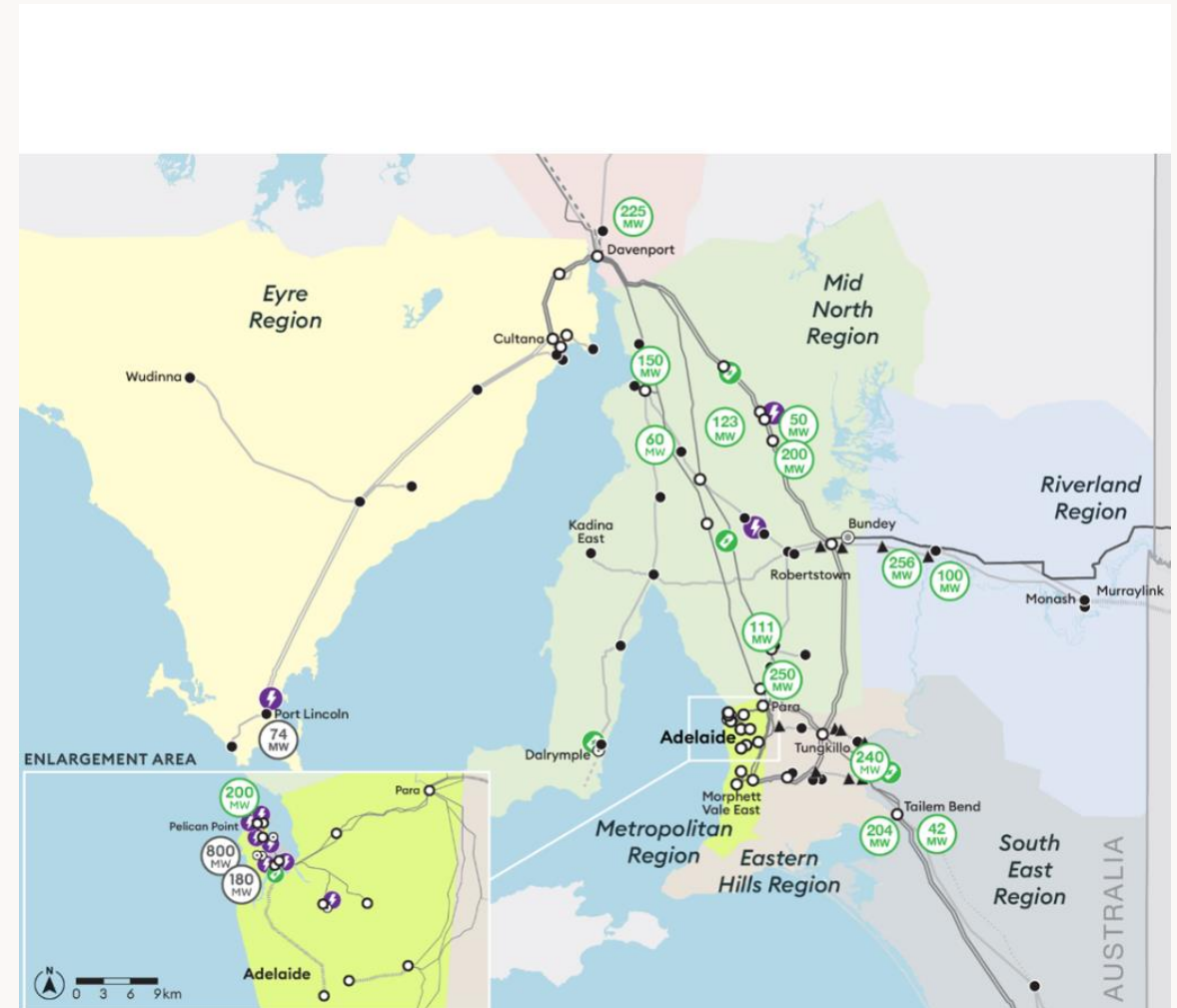
South Australia's rapid renewable build-out has occurred alongside the progressive exit of traditional synchronous generation and the entry of new forms of firm capacity and storage.

The aging gas fleet is exiting:

- Torrens Island A **480 MW** – 2022
- Osborne CCGT **175 MW** – 2027
- Torrens Island B **800 MW** – 2028
- Pelican Point CCGT **478 MW** – 2037

Batteries are being commissioned as replacement dispatchable capacity, largely centred on the Mid North of the State.

This transition has direct implications for power flows and congestion, with Adelaide becoming increasingly reliant on transmission imports from outside the city.



# Today's transmission backbone and emerging congestion

Network evolution under the pressures of renewable development, changing power flows and load growth

The existing network was not designed for the current and forecast conditions of sustained high renewable penetration, material two-way flows and large new loads in regional areas.

As a result, congestion is increasingly structural – it reflects network physics and security requirements.

The principal 275 kV corridor running from Davenport (near Port Augusta) to Adelaide is the backbone of the South Australian grid, linking resource rich northern regions to the load rich south:

- As local dispatchable plant retires within Adelaide, the corridor will shoulder more of Adelaide's supply.
- Central planning scenarios indicate a tipping point around 2030 beyond which congestion on key interfaces into Adelaide increase materially.



# Distribution networks, consumer energy and changing demand profiles

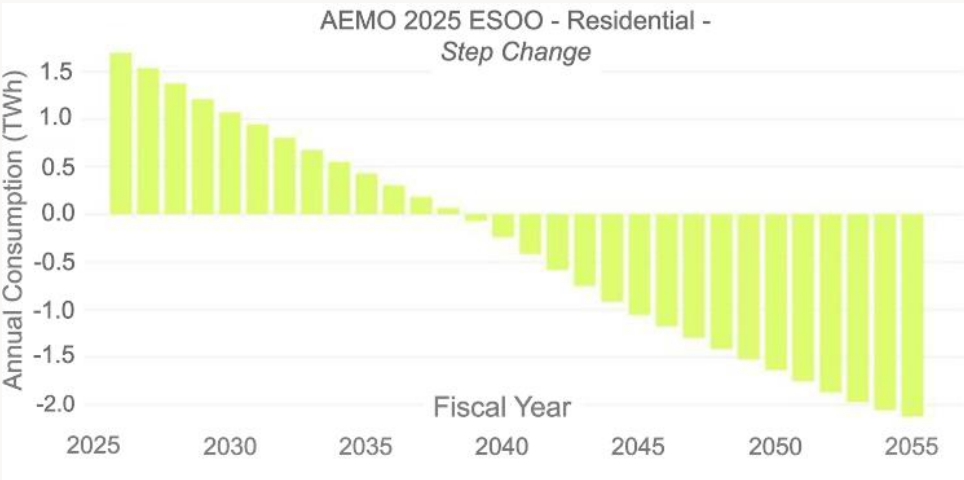
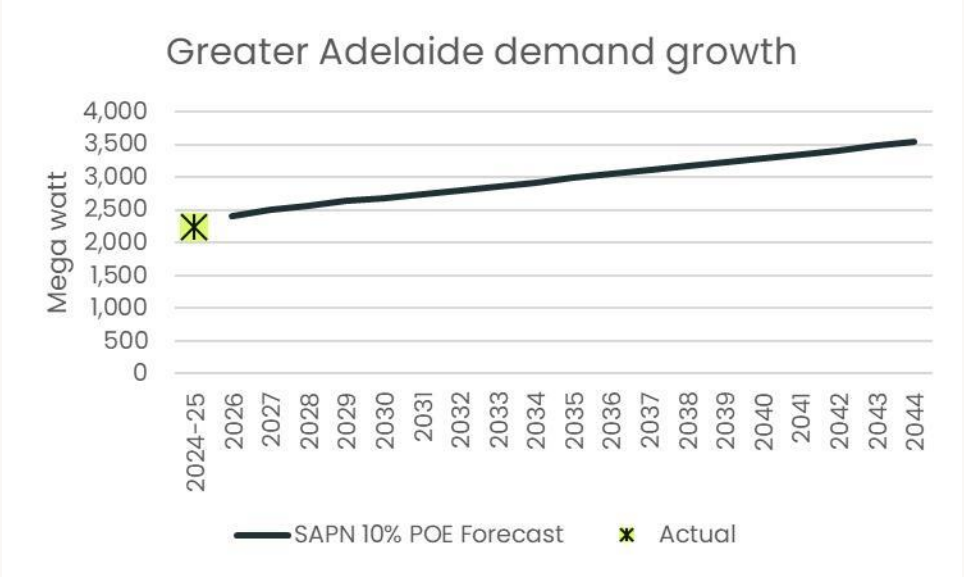
South Australia’s transition is occurring from both ends of the system

At the distribution-transmission interface, consumer energy resources, including rooftop PV, behind-the-meter batteries and electric vehicles, are reshaping demand profiles and power flows.

A key element of this dynamic is the duality of increasing maximum demand in Greater Adelaide and falling net consumption.

- Rooftop PV has “hollowed out” daytime operational demand
- Evening peaks and maximum demand events have remained high – amplified by electrification
- Growth of behind-the-meter storage adds a further layer of complexity and opportunity

As a result, there are 17 connection points that are at risk of breaching capacity limits before 2040, despite falling net consumption across the residential customers.



# Building the next chapter: Key transmission projects now underway

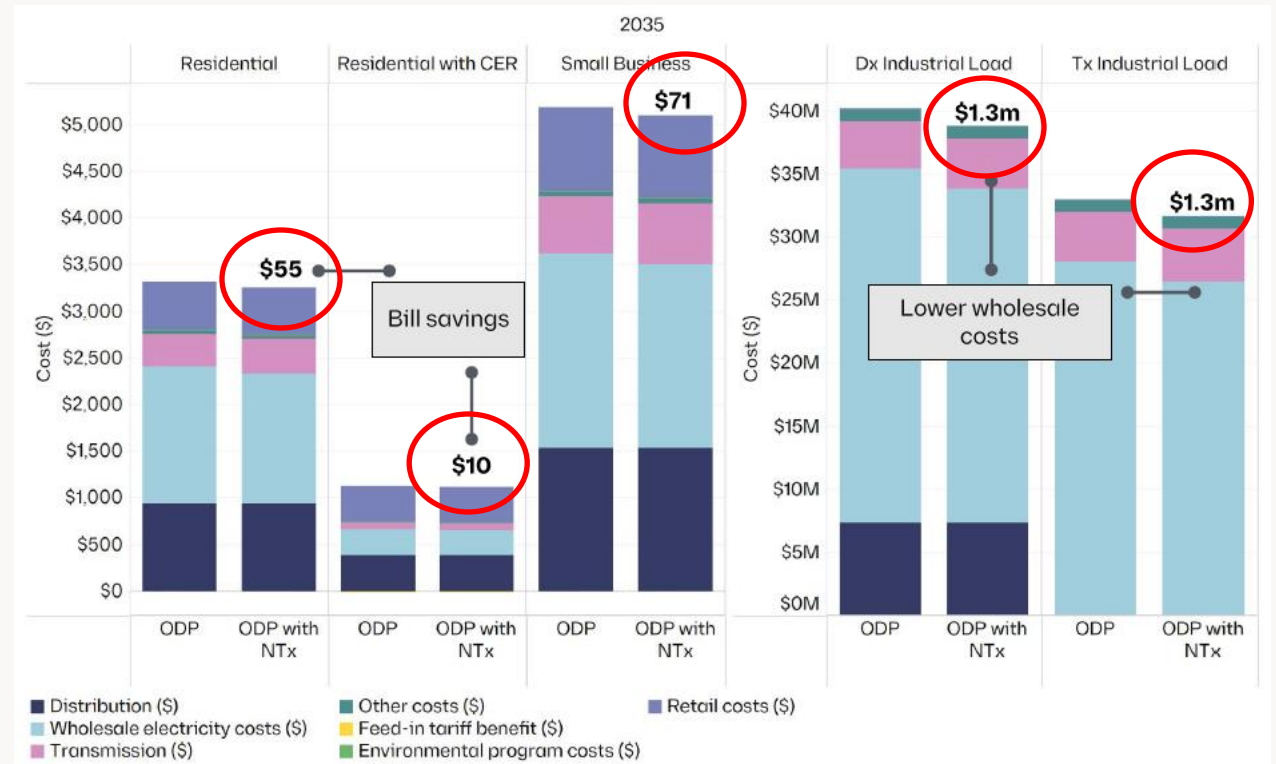
ElectraNet is progressing a coordinated portfolio of transmission augmentations

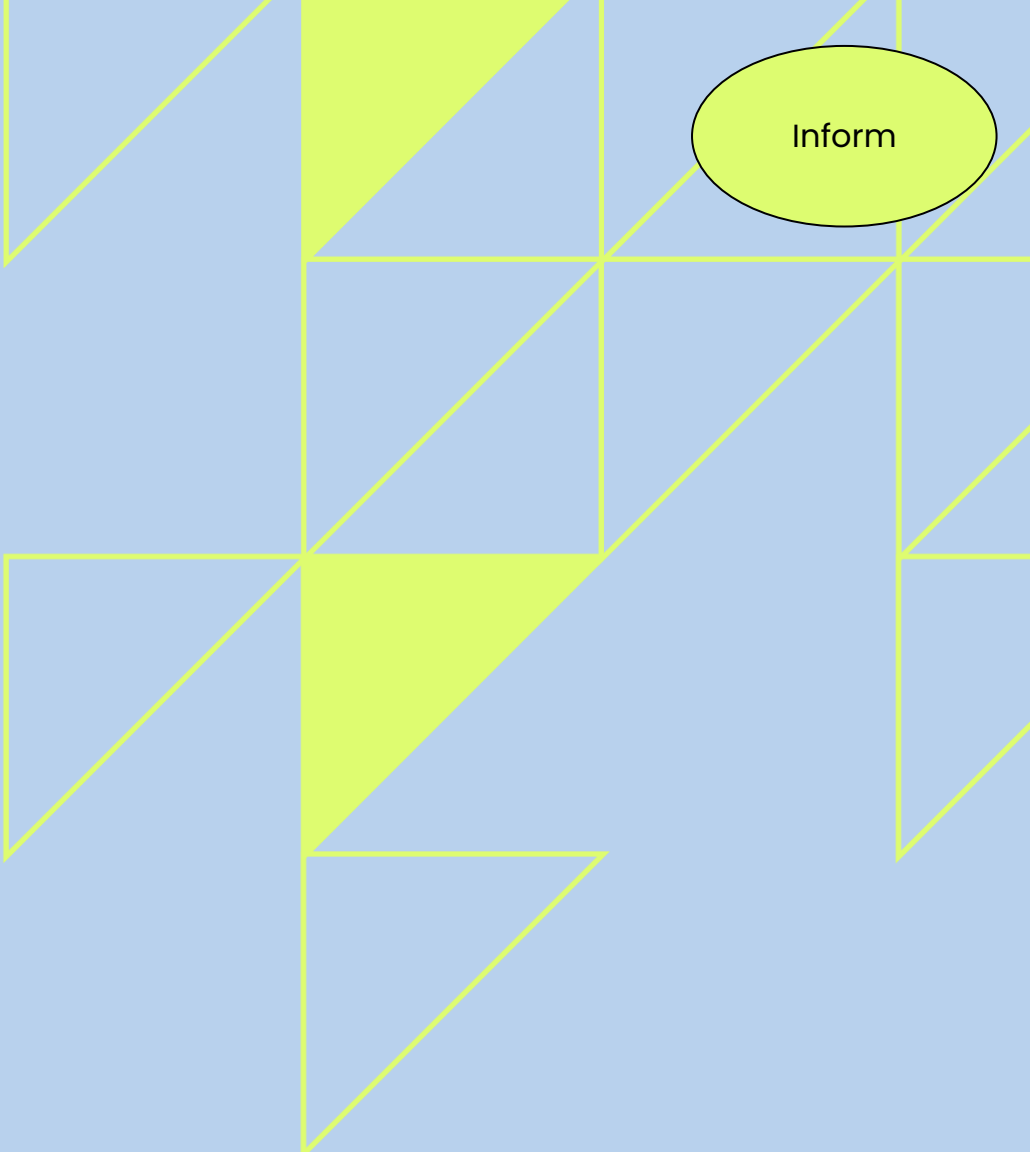
The network investment being progressed address emerging constraints, connect new load and generation, and strengthen the network's resilience and operability.

- System Strength
- Northern Transmission Project (NTx)
- Eyre Peninsula Upgrade
- South East Expansion (Stage 1)

In the absence of forwarding looking planning and investment, consumer outcomes will degrade, specifically via higher prices paid.

The impact of NTx in this regard is shown to result in lower prices for all five major consumer groups for decades to come.





Inform

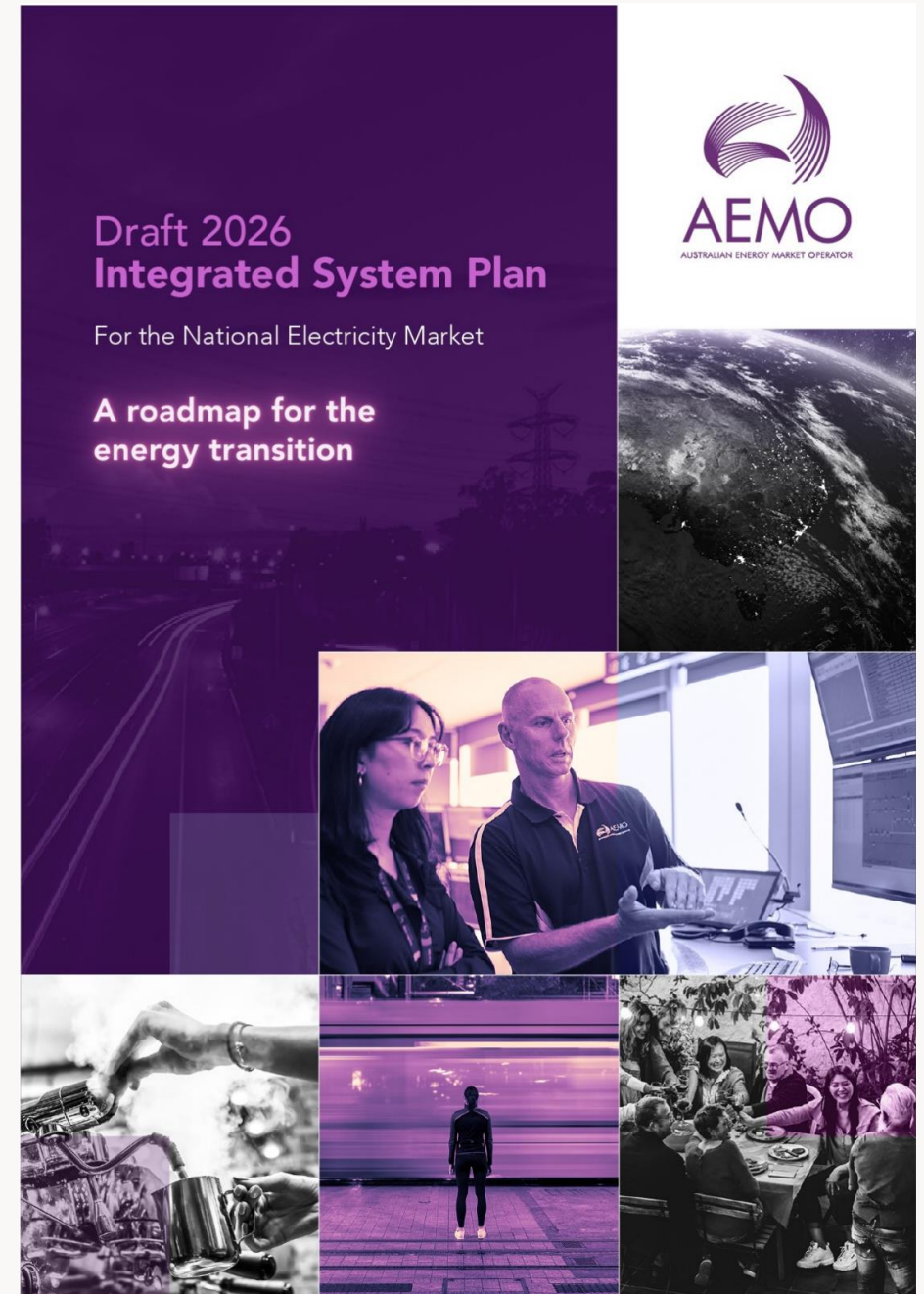
# Draft ISP Update

**Brad Harrison**

Head of Network Planning

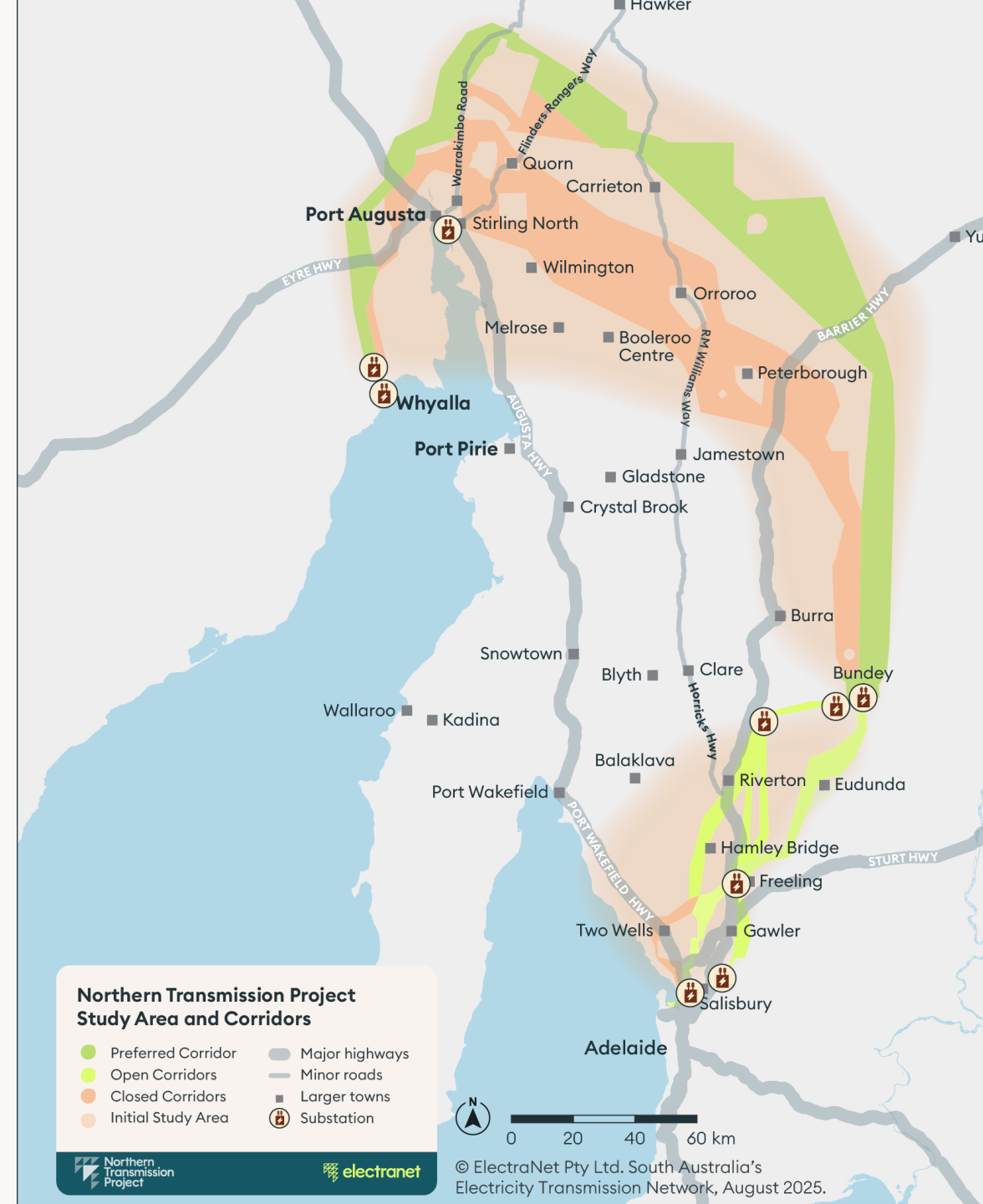
# The Draft 2026 ISP is not a plan for SA

- The draft 2026 ISP is heavily constrained and assumes all interstate policies are delivered on time (e.g. Vic offshore wind)
- It contains modelling errors, including SA renewable target, demand, network representation
- Without NTx, SA faces higher energy prices and risks to reliability as the state is left reliant on interstate imports
- ElectraNet is engaging with a wide range of stakeholders on the draft 2026 ISP



# NTx – unlocking opportunity

- **South Australia** is facing a once-in-a-generation jobs boom opportunity
- **NTx** is the key to unlocking this opportunity by increasing the energy network's capacity and ensuring reliable and sustainable electricity supply at the lowest cost.
- **NTx South** is needed to meet growing demand in Adelaide.
- **NTx North** is needed to meet growing industrial demand in the north.
- Without **NTx** electricity prices are likely to rise and South Australia becomes heavily reliant on speculative interstate energy imports, such as offshore windfarm projects in Victoria.



# We are engaging with AEMO weekly and have greatly improved AEMO's understanding of SA

## Our request to AEMO is to take the following steps to ensure NTx remains actionable

- Adopt a five-node South Australian network model
- Include analysis of the sensitivity of South Australia to interstate renewable and storage delivery
- Integrate a probabilistic South Australia Large Industrial Load overlay
- Align renewable policy with South Australia's legislation.

# NTx needs to remain actionable

If we lose momentum, we risk losing community support, project costs increasing and being late to serve new loads

Should any uncertainty remain over NTx as an actionable project, we recommend work continue on the RIT-T and associated early works as a staged project under the Rules.

Actionability could be staged for the major elements of the project.

- HumeLink and VNI West

# Adopt a five-node SA network model

The Draft ISP collapses South Australian into three nodes.

This overstates network capability in SA – particularly between the Mid North and Adelaide.

Five-node representation should distinguish: Greater Adelaide, Mid-north/Bundey-Robertstown spine, Davenport (Port Augusta and BHP far north mines), Eyre Peninsula and Southeast.

# The reliability of our power supply is at risk

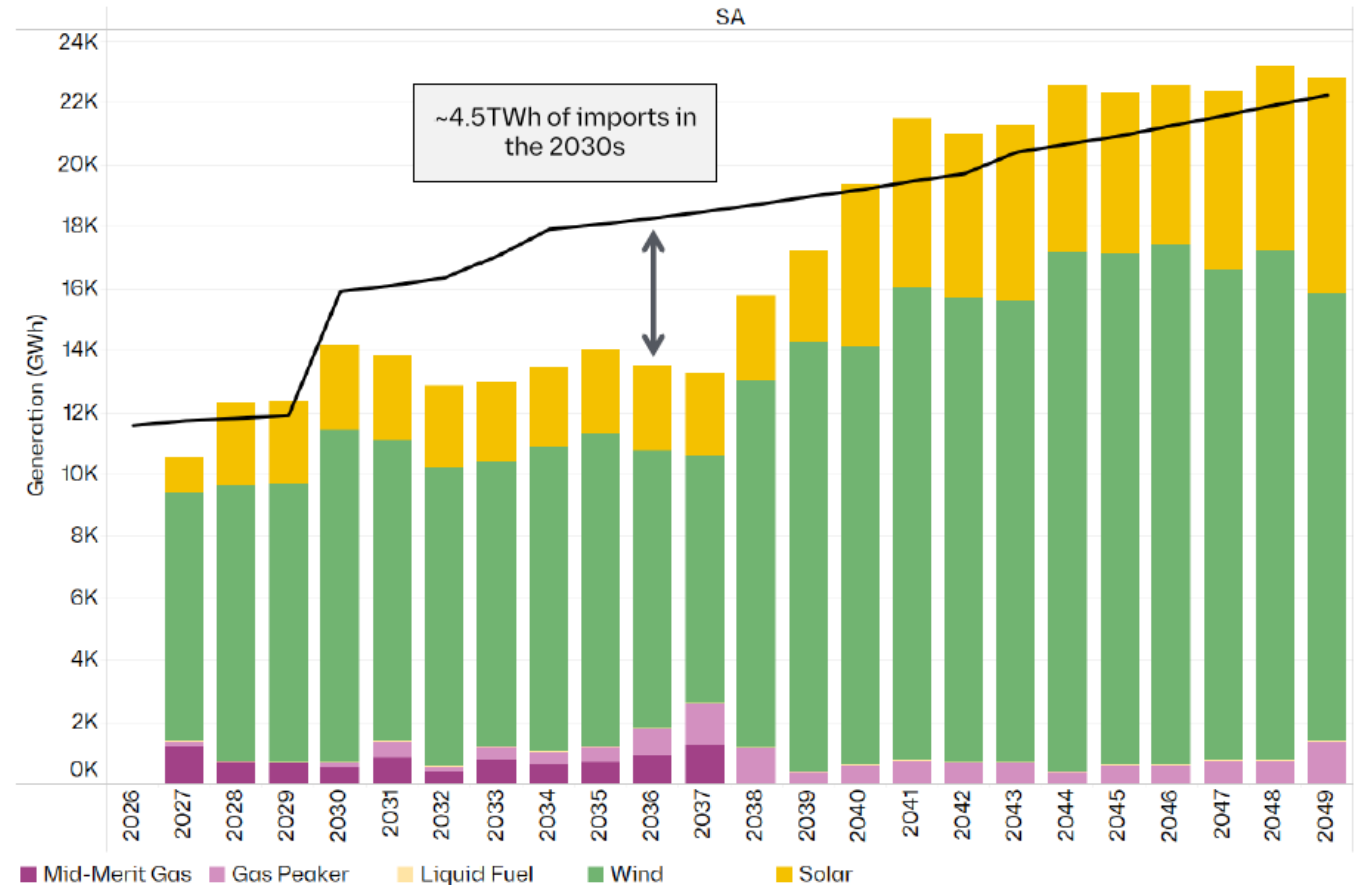
The Draft 2026 ISP assumes all interstate energy projects are delivered on time.

This includes Victorian offshore wind and NSW REZs

**Recommendation:** include analysis of the sensitivity of SA to interstate project delivery, constraining net imports to demonstrate the resilience of NTx.

## SA relies heavily on imports to meet demand

SA generation compared to consumption in AEMO's ODP



# Demand forecast is too conservative for planning purposes

The slow growth scenario reflects a net loss of energy in SA. Despite varying stages of activity across 75 individual projects and 41 customers

A probabilistic approach shows statewide energy consumption increases from 12 TWh to 30 TWh under central growth conditions, around 40% higher than AEMO's *Step Change* or central scenario.

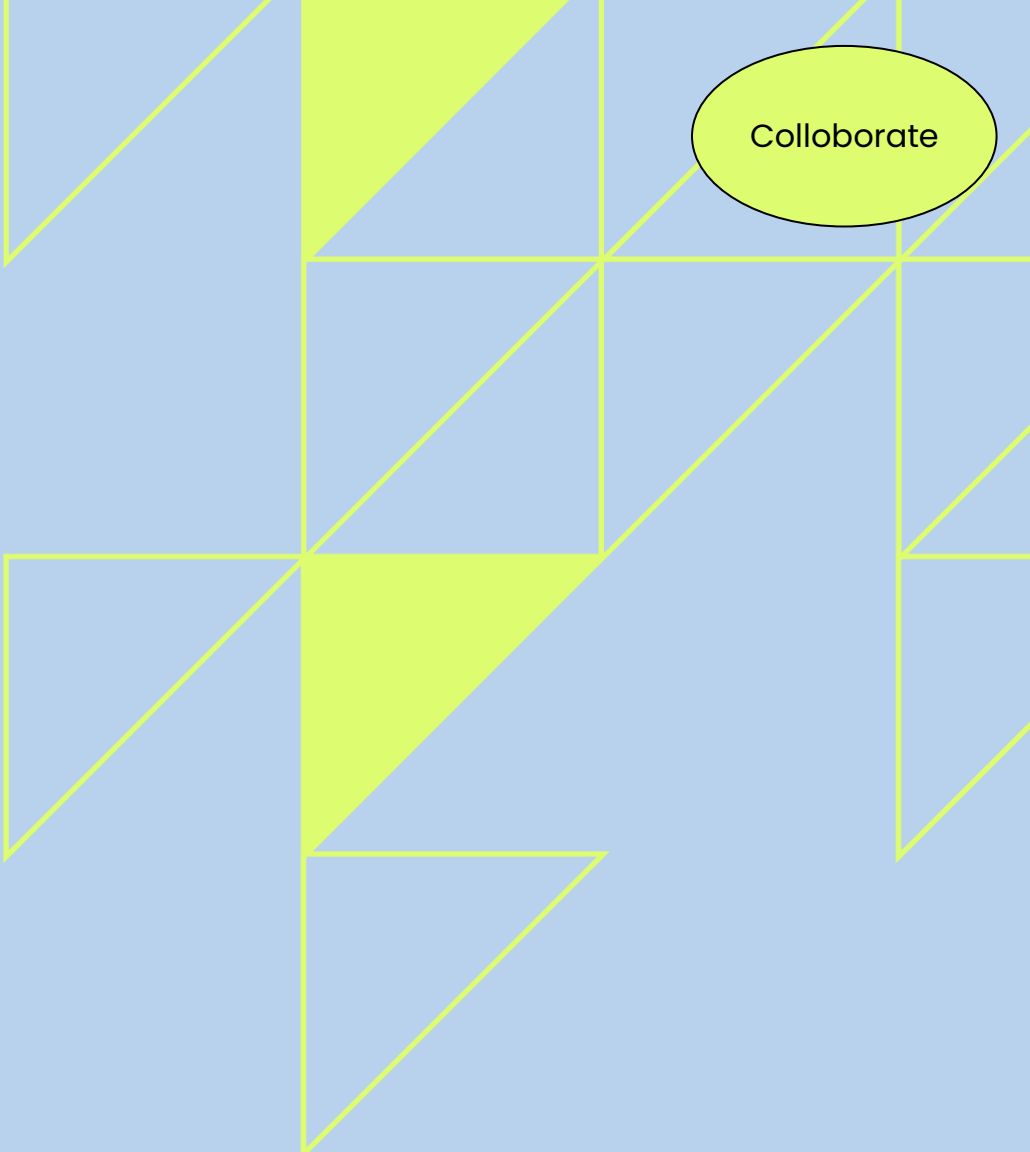
**Recommendation:** Integrate a probabilistic South Australia Large Industrial Load overlay

# Align renewable policy with South Australia's legislation

SA net renewable policy isn't implemented correctly

Accurately model the legislated net 100 per cent renewable requirement.  
Highly likely to be achieved in 2027.

**Recommendation:** align renewable policy constraints with South Australia's legislation and transparently document how the target is enforced across hours and seasons



Collaborate

# Wrap Up

**Leanne Muffet & Claus Reppenning**

# Draft (for discussion) – ElectraNet Consumer Advisory Panel 12-month program 2026 – 2027

ITEM	23 Feb 2026	20 May 2026	20 Aug 2026	24 Nov 2026	Feb 2027 (date tbc)
<b>BAU + Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes + actions</li> <li>Members' Hot Topics</li> <li>Membership update</li> <li>Feedback form</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes + actions</li> <li>Members' Hot Topics</li> <li>Feedback form</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes + actions</li> <li>Members' Hot Topics</li> <li>Feedback form</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes + actions</li> <li>Members' Hot Topics</li> <li>CAP Annual Report</li> <li>Forward program &amp; meeting schedule</li> <li>Feedback form</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Minutes + actions</li> <li>Members' Hot Topics</li> <li>Membership update</li> <li>Review CAP TOR</li> <li>Feedback form</li> </ul>
<b>CAP Topics (possible)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Draft ISP 2026</li> <li>TAPR 2026</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DMIAM</li> <li>SA Transmission Development Framework</li> <li>RAP &amp; sustainability update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Energy Charter</li> <li>SAPN joint planning update</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TAPR 2027</li> </ul>
<b>Revenue Reset</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRRG update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRRG update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRRG update</li> <li>Preliminary Revenue Proposal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRRG update</li> <li>RRRG paper / response (Jan)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RRRG update</li> </ul>
<b>NTx</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NTx update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NTxRG update</li> <li>PADR (April)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NTxRG update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NTxRG update</li> <li>PACR (Nov)</li> </ul>	

**Thank you**