



# Transgrid Advisory Council

## **Meeting #3 for 2025**

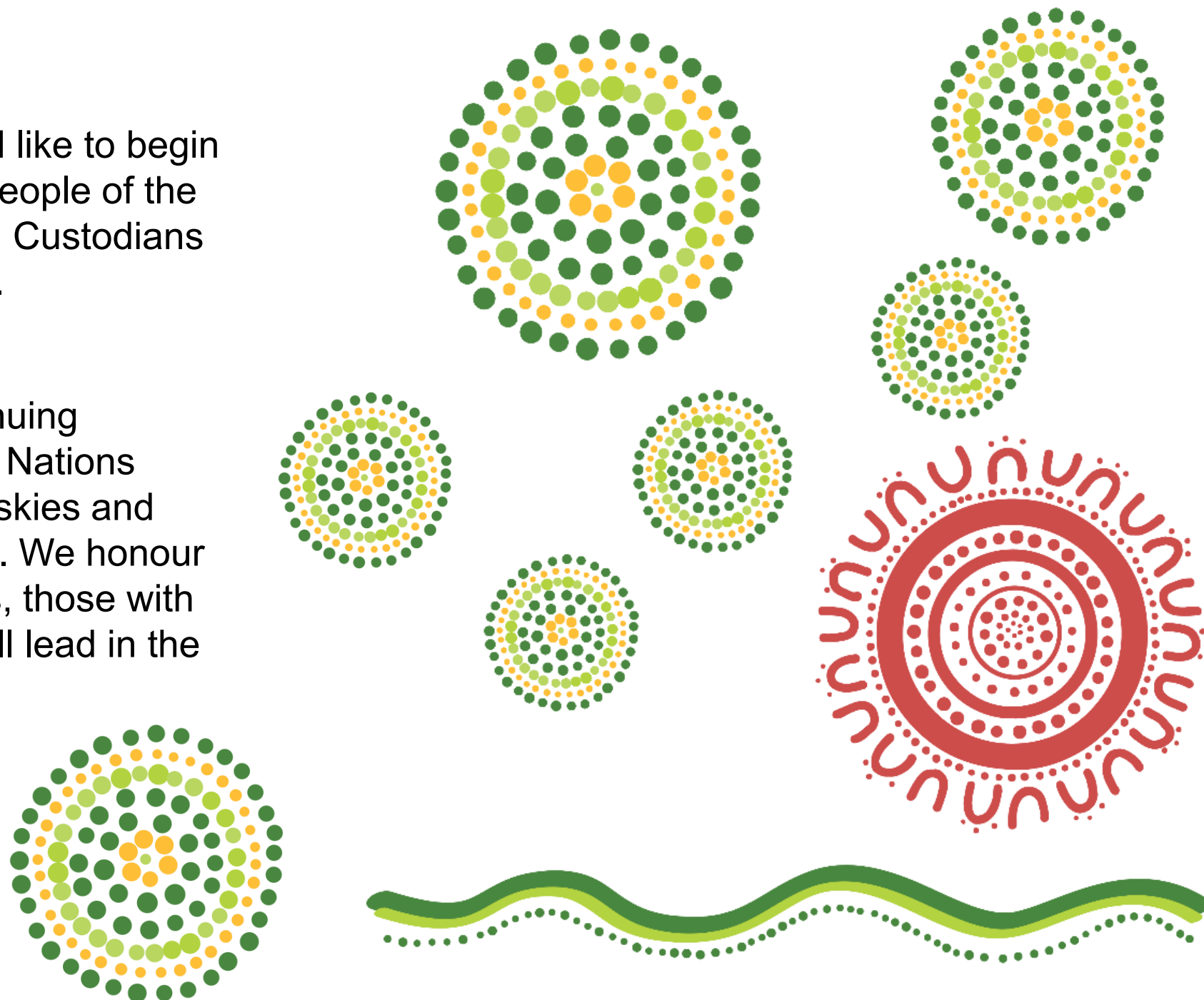
Wednesday 2 July

People. Power. Possibilities.

# Acknowledgement of Country

As we gather today, I would like to begin by honouring the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation, the Traditional Custodians of this land where we meet.

We acknowledge the continuing connection to Country First Nations people have with the land, skies and waterways where we serve. We honour Elders who came before us, those with us today, and those who will lead in the future.



# Agenda



**Please note:** today's workshop is being recorded

| Item   | Time              | Topic  | Lead   |
|--|-------------------|--|--|
| 1  | 9.30am -9.40am    | <b>Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country</b>   | <b>Nadine Lennie</b> , Chief Financial Officer   |
| 2  | 9.40am - 9.45am   | <b>Actions from last meeting</b>   | <b>Jane Deane</b> , Senior Manager Stakeholder and Corporate Engagement  |
| 3  | 9.45am – 10.30am  | <b>CEO Update and Q&amp;A</b>  | <b>Brett Redman</b> , CEO  |
| 4  | 10.30am – 11.15am | <b>Infrastructure Market Briefing</b>  | <b>Adrian Dwyer</b> , Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia   |
| 11.15am – 11.30am <b>Morning tea break (15 mins)</b> |                   |  |  |
| 5  | 11.30am – 11.50am | <b>Customer and Projects Focus Area Pillar</b><br>Major Projects Portfolio Update and Q&A  | <b>Gordon Taylor</b> , Executive General Manager Major Projects<br><b>Daniel Banovic</b> , General Manager Operations<br><b>Grant Nowland</b> , General Manager Development<br><b>Jeremy Roberts and Struan Wilson</b> , Project Directors |
| 6  | 11.50am – 12.05pm | <b>Policy and Innovation Focus Area Pillar</b><br>2025 Transmission Annual Planning Report (TAPR)<br>NSW Transmission Planning Review                  | <b>Kasia Kulbacka</b> , General Manager of Network Planning<br><b>Fiona Orton</b> , General Manager Innovation and Energy Transition   |
| 7  | 12.05pm – 12.10pm | <b>Policy and Innovation Focus Area Pillar</b><br>AEMC Directions Paper: Inter-regional settlements residue (IRSR) arrangements for transmission loops | <b>Fiona Orton</b> , General Manager Innovation and Energy Transition  |
| 8  | 12.10pm – 12.20pm | <b>Customer and Projects Focus Area Pillar</b><br>RP4 Engagement and ten-year Business Plan  | <b>Nadine Lennie</b> , Chief Financial Officer   |
| 9  | 12.20pm – 12.30pm | <b>Summary, reflections and next steps</b>   | <b>Nadine Lennie</b> , Chief Financial Officer   |
| 12.30pm – 1.00pm <b>Meeting close and lunch</b>      |                   |  |  |



# Actions from last meeting

**Jane Deane**

Senior Manager Stakeholder and Corporate Engagement

**Level of engagement:** Inform

**Objective:** to inform TAC members of the status of action items of the last TAC quarterly meeting held 7 May 2025



# Actions from last TAC quarterly meeting

| Action   | Status |  |
|--|--------|--|
| Provide clarity on how Transgrid is reducing the single contingency reclassification risk for HumeLink | ✓      | Completed – further information prepared and shared with TAC members |
| Include Sydney Ring South update in future TAC meeting   | ✓      | Email update provided on 21 May                                      |
| Provide a briefing/organise a discussion on System Strength PACR with the Clean Energy Council         | ✓      | Completed  |



# CEO Update and Q&A

**Brett Redman**  
Chief Executive Officer



# Infrastructure Market Briefing

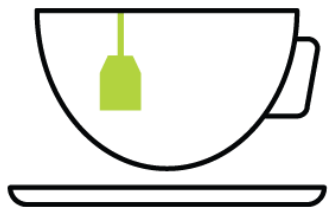
**Adrian Dwyer**

Chief Executive Officer, Infrastructure Partnerships Australia





Morning Tea break –  
*back at 11.30 am*







# TAC Focus Area Update:

## *Customer and Projects Review Pillar –*

*Major Projects Portfolio update and Q&A*

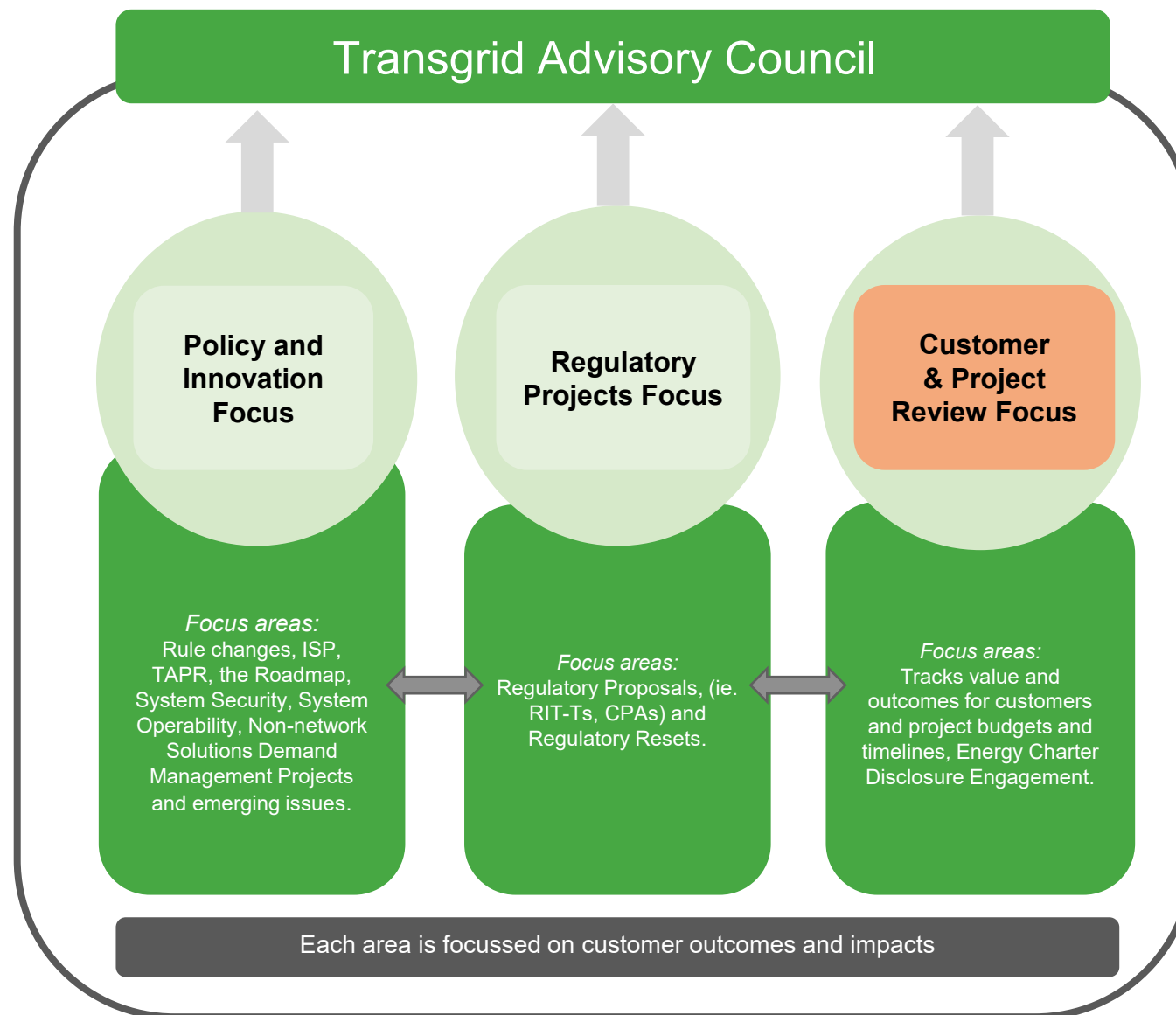
**Gordon Taylor**, Executive General Manager Major Projects  
**Daniel Banovic**, General Manager Operations  
**Grant Nowland**, General Manager Development  
**Jeremy Roberts** and **Struan Wilson**, Project Directors

**Level of engagement:** Inform

**Objective:** to inform the TAC of key updates on our major projects and respond to any questions, feedback or clarification required.



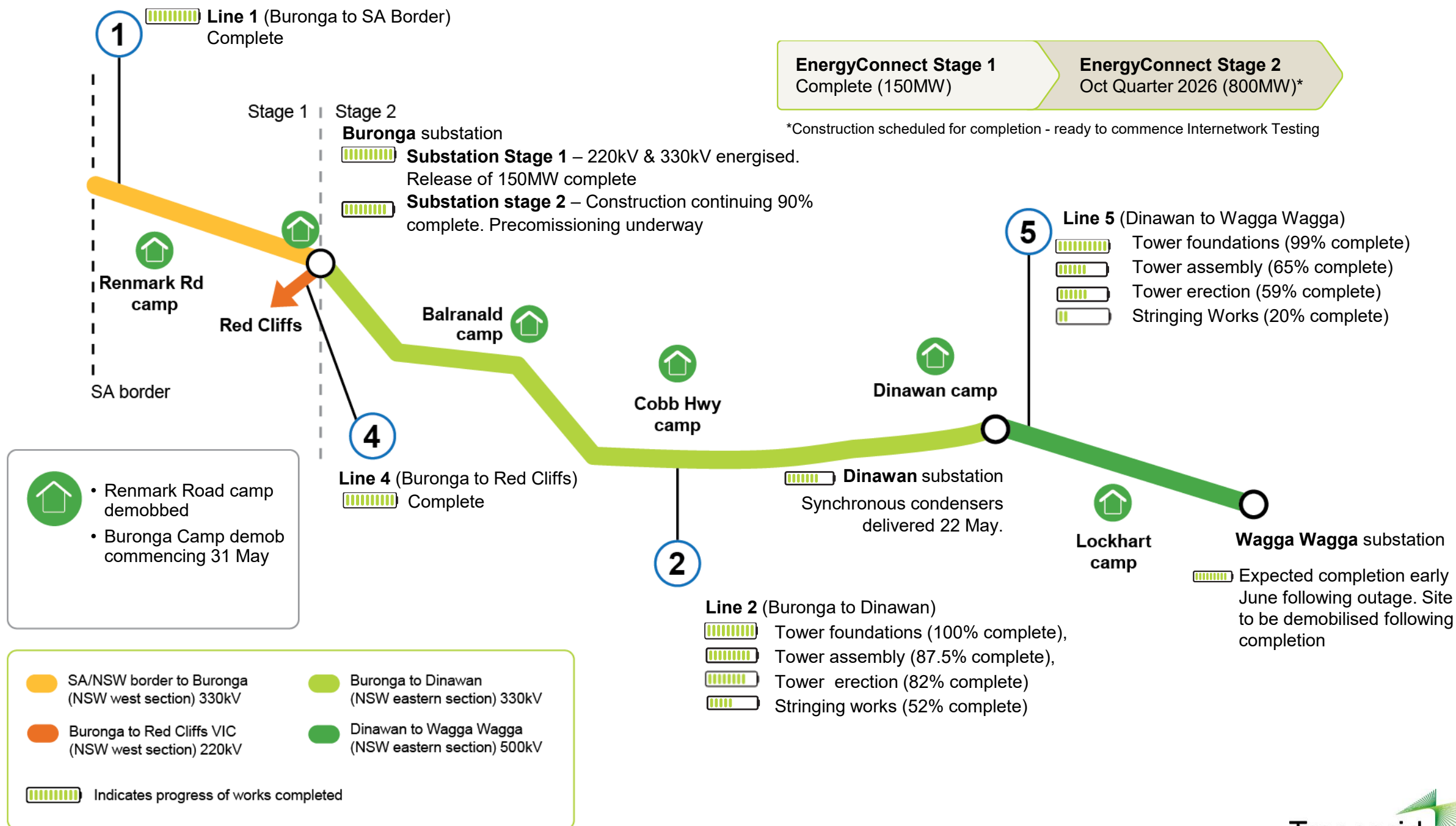
# TAC Framework – Customer and Project Review Pillar





# EnergyConnect project update

## Where we are on the project timeline



# EnergyConnect project update

## Stakeholder Engagement

### Key engagement activities in last month

- ✓ 40 pro-active landholder check-ins on Line 1, 2 & 5
- ✓ Project update briefing with Murray River Council
- ✓ Engagement pop-up at Lake Albury Shopping Village
- ✓ Notifications distributed for construction activities
- ✓ SWREZ community roadshows in Hay, Coleambally, Jerilderie and Deniliquin

### Upcoming engagement activities

- ✓ Project update to Wagga City Council – 3 June
- ✓ EnergyConnect West close-out engagement activities
- ✓ Construction notifications for L2 and L5 line stringing
- ✓ Ongoing pro-active landholder check-ins
- ✓ Wagga substation milestone events
- ✓ Holbrook Rd line stringing communications campaign

## Social Licence

- ✓ Launch of RFS bushfire monitoring cameras funded by EnergyConnect with positive media coverage
- ✓ Engagement roadshow with Lockhart camp workforce
- ✓ Regional major projects roundtable hosted by Elecnor
- ✓ 2025 CSU scholarships award presentation

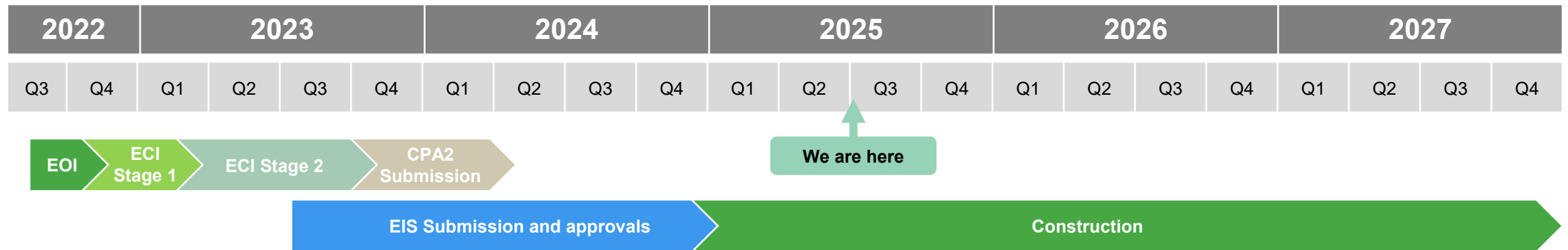


RFS bushfire camera launch (left) and engagement roadshow at Lockhart camp (above)



# HumeLink project update

## Where we are on the project timeline



## Technical & Delivery Partner

- ✓ Design and Technical Workshops continue
- ✓ Continuing enabling works – access points, access tracks, compounds and accommodation facilities
- ✓ Execution of sub-contracts for further procurement of suppliers to prepare for main construction works post CEMP
- ✓ Tower prototyping and load testing have commenced and continuing.

## Environmental Approvals

- ✓ Continuing preparation and submission of required management plans ahead of main construction
- ✓ Worker accommodation options in Goulburn and Crookwell – Consistency Assessment to be prepared
- ✓ HLW Interim Accommodation strategy – Consistency Assessment finalised

## Social Licence and Community Investment

- ✓ Community Investment and Benefits Program – consultation approach agreed with HLE and HLW and materials finalised, with roll out mid-June.

## Stakeholder Engagement

### Completed in May

- ✓ Ongoing discussions with Goulburn-Mulwaree and Upper Lachlan Shire councils to progress support for HLE accommodation strategy for Crookwell workers.
- ✓ Monthly progress meeting with SVC, FCNSW and WWCC for HLW – continuing to build relationships at an officer level.
- ✓ Transgrid attended a Community Foundation for Snowy Valleys roundtable at NSW Parliament House on 8 May
- ✓ ULSC briefing on community investment approach
- ✓ Site visits with Wondalga residents regarding visual impacts
- ✓ Project update community information sessions at multiple locations – Tarcutta, Batlow, Tumbarumba, Yass, Tumut, Crookwell
- ✓ Project community engagement presence at Batlow Ciderfest

### Upcoming

- ✓ Working with HLW re: community and near neighbour engagement for interim accommodation strategy CA
- ✓ Transgrid and HLE DP presenting at Yass Valley Business Chamber networking breakfast – 6 June.
- ✓ HLW near neighbour information session at Gugaa substation site 4 June.
- ✓ Transgrid (HumeLink and PEC) sponsoring the Golden Crow Business Awards (Wagga Business Chamber)
- ✓ Meeting with Wagga CC Mayor and GM 3 June re: community investment and project update
- ✓ Meeting with Batlow Environment Network – HLW & Transgrid – 12 June
- ✓ Meeting with Do It for Batlow – HLW and Transgrid – 24 June

# VNI West project update



## Where we are on Project Timeline

- ✓ The procurement process for the Dinawan substation package is progressing to plan. The Expression of Interest phase is now complete and the project team is preparing to notify the companies that will be invited to participate in the RfT process.
- ✓ EIS documentation preparation is progressing to plan and engagement with local stakeholders remains the priority to support EIS finalisation.
- ✓ Engagement on land acquisition and valuations underway with directly impacted landholders with a strong focus on negotiated outcomes, ahead of any need for compulsory acquisition.

## Social Licence

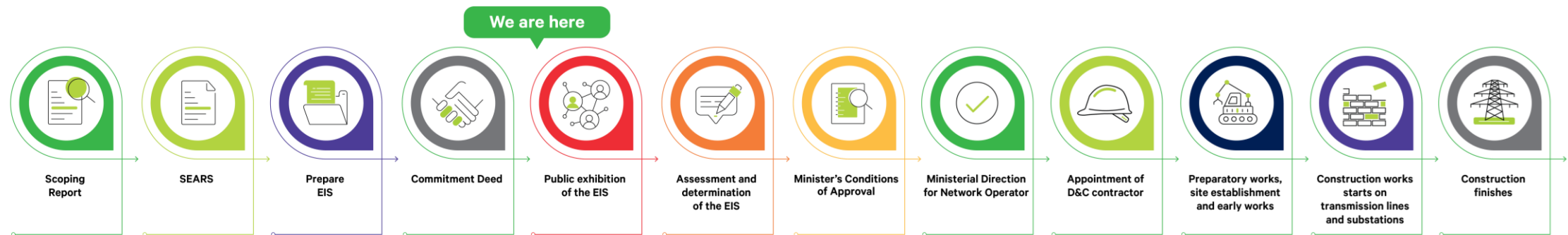
- ✓ Meetings held with local stakeholders regarding community investments and benefits.
- ✓ Monthly meetings with Regional Development Australia to focus on investment and benefits opportunities.
- ✓ Community Investment EOI opened for applications on 16 May (closes 31 July).

## Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Community Consultative Group meeting #9 held in May with updates supplied on Property, EIS and Community Benefit matters.
- ✓ Engagement has commenced with TCV and the AER on potential Material Changes in Circumstances event. If an MCC is jointly confirmed with TCV, Transgrid will write to the AER requesting an exemption from a re-application of the RIT-T.
- ✓ The announcement of access rights for the SW REZ has provided further support for the 500kV expansion at Dinawan.
- ✓ Participation in EnergyCo South West REZ engagements: 3 x Community Information Sessions and 2 x Business Industry Roadshows.
- ✓ Proactive engagement with Councils by the team to support EIS finalisation in particular regarding traffic and transport.



# Hunter Transmission project update



## Where we are on Project Timeline

- ✓ EnergyCo is responsible for developing the EIS, a critical path item for the Project, with Transgrid reviewing, providing comments and endorsing the EIS package. Transgrid is working with EnergyCo to determine areas within the program to mitigate delay risk from the close out of comments associated with the EIS.
- ✓ Transgrid is actively collaborating with EnergyCo to explore options for mitigating the impacts on the Contract Award and Project Completion dates.
- ✓ The recently established monthly joint (Transgrid and EnergyCo) Operating Committee is meeting to help escalate and progress ongoing issues.
- ✓ The HTP shunt reactors were ordered on 30 May – meeting a Commitment Deed milestone.

## Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Transgrid continues to support EnergyCo with engagement. May activities included:
  - webinars on key EIS topics (Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, Noise, Visual Impact, Traffic and Transport)
  - phone surveys on landowner sentiment
  - Community Partnership Program submissions received and assessed.
- ✓ Prepared collateral for EIS public exhibition.
- ✓ Finalised Transgrid's Community Engagement Strategy and Plan – for release to tenderers.

## Social Licence

- ✓ Transgrid continues to work with EnergyCo to understand community benefit strategies to be implemented for delivery.
- ✓ Working with EnergyCo engagement team to support transition of engagement for 2026.

# Wagga Wagga Discovery Hub

## May Engagement



### Events

- National Careers Week event incorporating trades and corporate experiences. Made for Trade collaboration.
- Catholic Schools Office invitation to be the knowledge holder around STEM for curriculum development planning days.
- Keynote speaking at Women in Construction event
- Liberal Ladies from HumeLink lunch and learn session.
- Finalisation of Wirajuri Education EOI.
- Hub Partner – Rural Outreach Counselling service Mental Health first Aid course.
- Committee 4 Wagga school Leader program
- STEM in Action excursion
- HumeLink community group tour and presentation.
- Year 2 Excursion exploring energy and forces.

### Progress

Discovery Pod Challenge workshop offsite with students  
Presentation of EOI opportunity at Marwang Gaway meeting.  
Development of May activations – Careers event and school excursion for stage 2 students (STEM in Action)

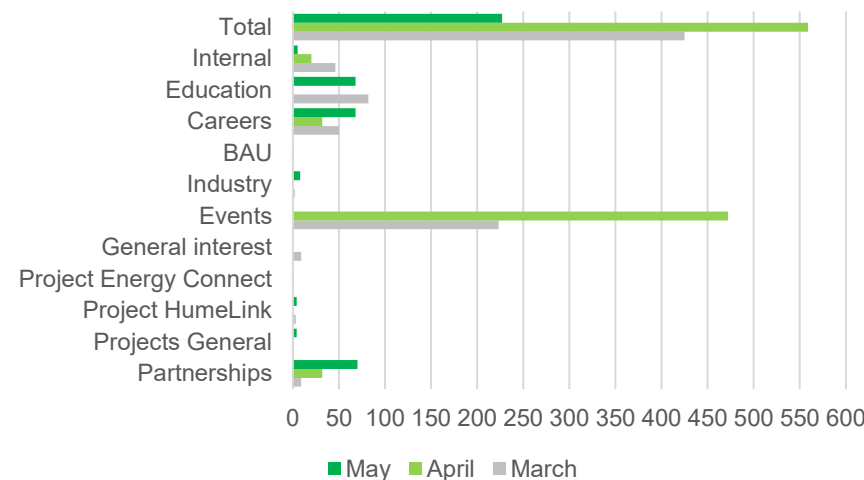
### Promotion

Promotion by schools on their social channels across multiple programs.  
Positively mention of Hub at REZ parliamentary inquiry.

## Visitor Information

We continued to innovate and provide the community with alternative opportunities to engage and learn about the transition to renewable energy and Transgrid's place in that transition.

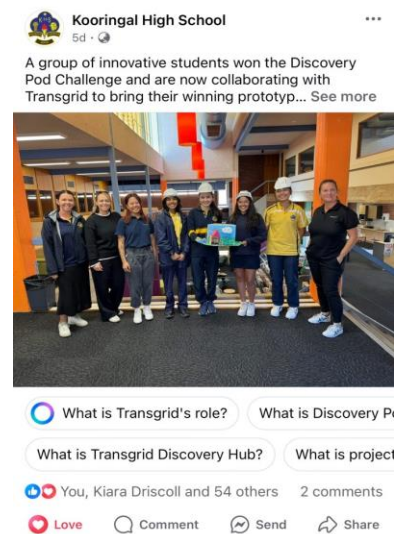
A well-attended, hands-on careers experience for year 1-12 students with streams in both trade and corporate roles was a huge success with schools requesting we run this program again. The corporate program challenge was voted on by students and will come to life in the October school holidays.



## Upcoming Activations

### June

- 3 Primary education excursions exploring 'What is Energy'
- Development of collaboration excursion with HLE for 60 Gundagai High School students
- Development of Batlow Mini Hub for HLW
- 10 Hub Partner bookings to host
- NSW Business Energy Transition Event hosted at the Hub
- Wiradjuri Education Module briefings
- Preparation for future events including National Science Week and Careers events winner development.





# TAC Focus Area Update:

## *Policy and Innovation Pillar –*

*2025 Transmission Annual Planning Report (TAPR)  
NSW Transmission Planning Review*

**Kasia Kulbacka**

General Manager of Network Planning

**Fiona Orton**

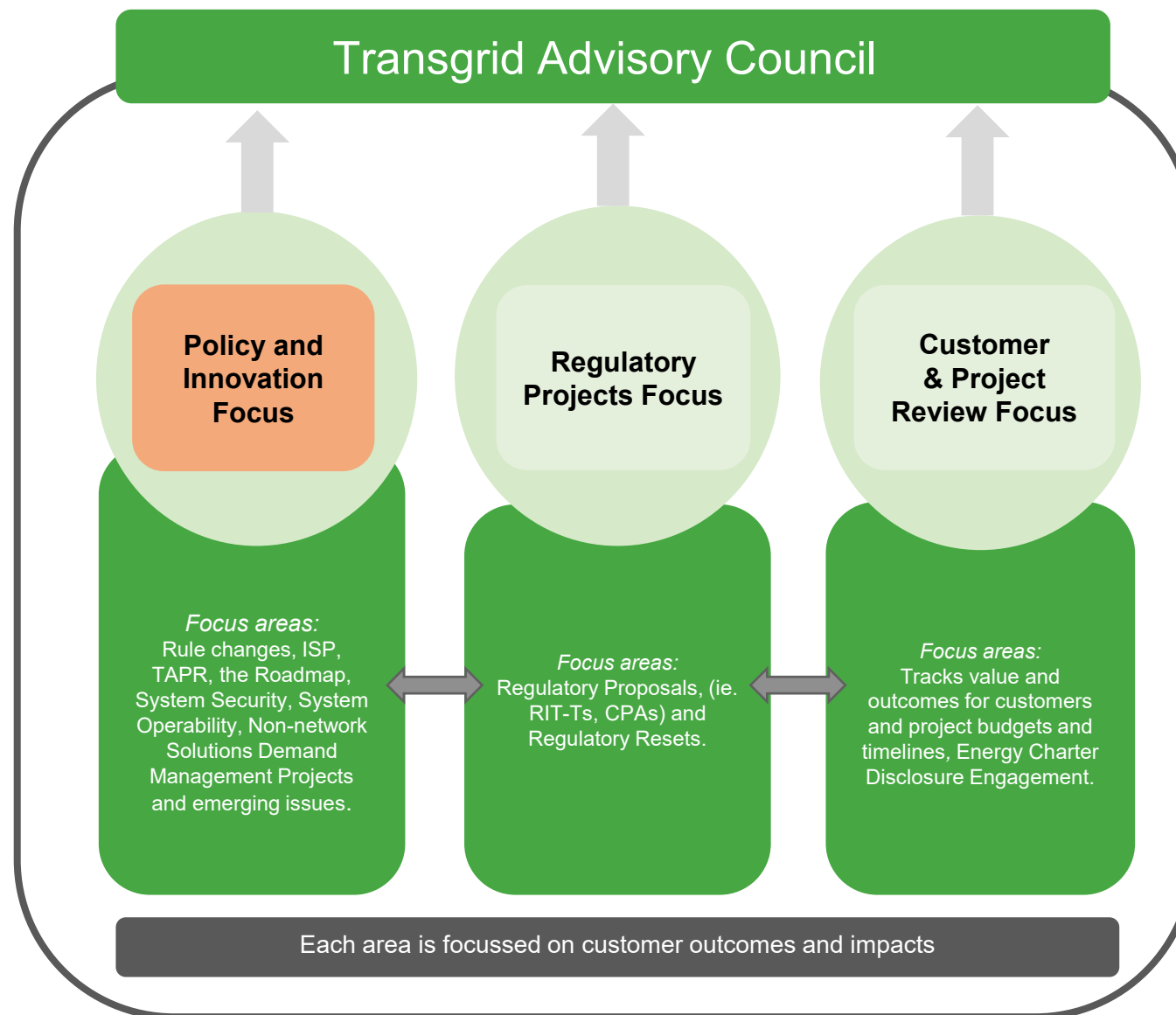
General Manager Innovation and Energy Transition

**Level of engagement:** Consult

**Objective:** to inform and consult TAC members on the key topics, messaging and engagement for Transgrid's 2025 TAPR



# TAC Framework – Policy and Innovation Pillar



# Key messages in 2025 TAPR



**The energy transition in NSW is in full swing.** We have already come a long way and over the next decade the change will accelerate, with the planned closure of coal generators and their replacement with renewables, firming/storage and transmission. By 2035 almost all coal in NSW will be retired.

- We have seen growth in generator connections over past 12 months and future pipeline, including rapid growth in energy storage projects.
- Transgrid has committed to/is building a portfolio of transmission projects to create the transmission backbone required to deliver the energy transition at least cost to consumers.



**The scale of the energy transition requires rapid mobilisation of all segments to deliver renewable generation and firming capacity** - including households, distribution networks and transmission-connected projects and REZs and distribution networks.

- DNSPs are vital in the energy transition in New South Wales. Their work in integrating renewables, managing demand, and ensuring grid reliability is essential. Transgrid looks forward to continued collaboration to achieve a sustainable and secure energy future.



**Energy demand is changing rapidly.** The 'demand envelope' in NSW is widening with peak demand growing and minimum demand falling sharply as rooftop PV increases.

- Spotlight on demand growth: data centre connections, electric vehicle charging, electrification of buildings and industry.



**We are developing system strength solutions,** which will maximise use of renewable energy while keeping the power system secure. This will unlock value for consumers.



**We are investing in the tools and capabilities needed to operate a complex renewable power system.**



**Beyond the 10-year horizon we are planning for how significant demand growth can be met in support of net zero in 2050:**

- Inland REZ concept development



# Engagement on the TAPR

We would like to invite the TAC to join us at the live TAPR breakfast event in Sydney on **17 September 2025**.

## Questions for discussion:

- Would the TAC like to see a coverage of projects progressing through the NER as well as the EII framework?
- Is the TAC interested in sharing input on the topics or insights they would like to see reflected in the TAPR?
- Are there insights from the TAC's own stakeholder or community engagement that Transgrid should consider in preparing the TAPR?
- Would the TAC find value in a dedicated workshop to explore the TAPR findings in more detail?

# Transmission Planning Review: Interim Report

## Overview of review

### Review Objectives



#### Timely delivery

Deliver a transmission planning regime fit-for-purpose to support timely delivery of a clean, affordable, reliable power system and net zero targets



#### Consumer Alignment

Allocation of roles and responsibilities that are in the best interests of energy consumers and communities hosting transmission infrastructure



#### Efficiency

Enhance transmission planning for simplicity, cost-effectiveness, and efficiency, ensuring timely coordination with renewable energy while considering the broader NEM



#### Clarity

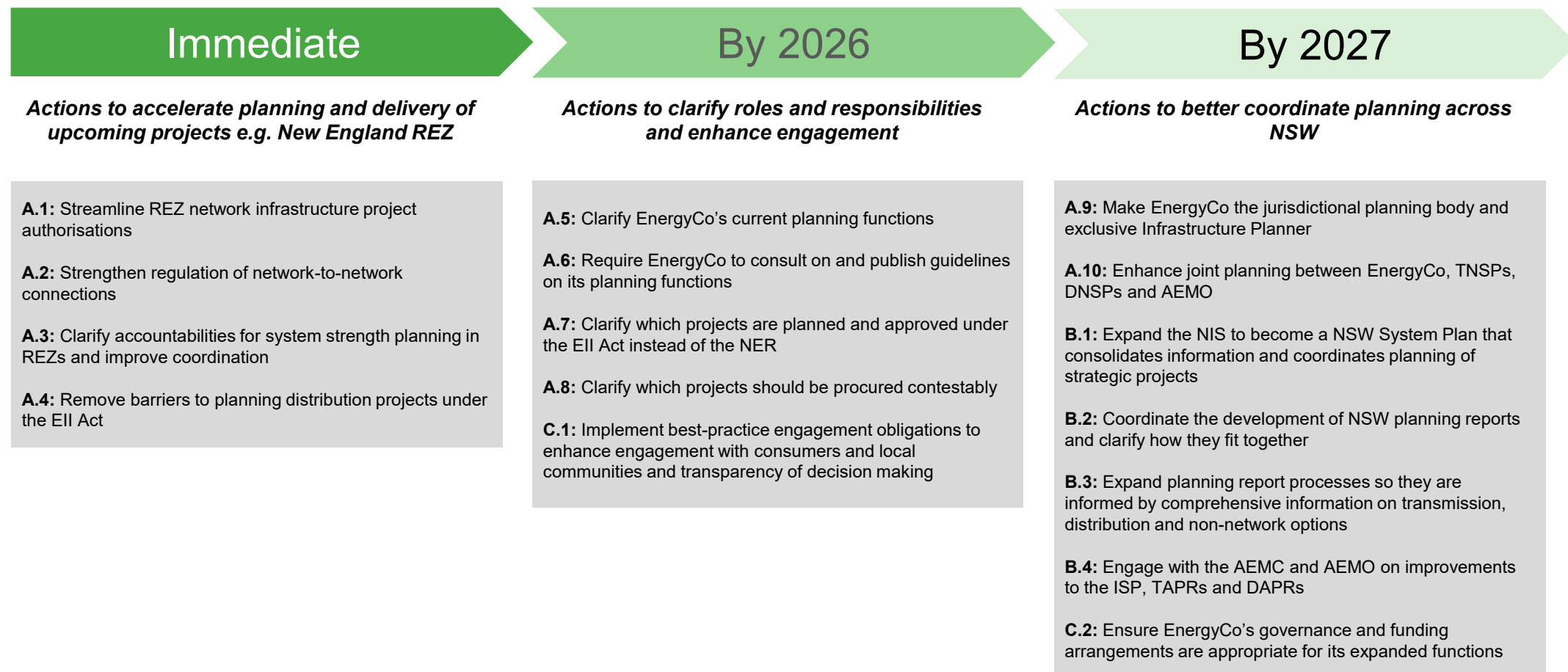
Clearly defined responsibilities, tasks, and quality standards for transmission planning, ensuring clear coordination and governance to avoid duplication

### Timeframes

| Deliverable  | Indicative timing  |
|--|--|
| Consultation Paper published   | 14 February 2025   |
| Engagement with stakeholders on the Consultation Paper   | Mid-February to late-March 2025 (written submissions due by 10 March 2025)   |
| Options Paper issued to impacted parties and other relevant stakeholders for 3 weeks targeted consultation | 24 April 2025  |
| Engagement with stakeholders on the Options Paper  | Late-April to late-May 2025 (written submissions due by 16 May 2025)         |
| <b>Interim Report published for 4 weeks public consultation</b>  | <b>27 June 2025</b>  |
| <b>Engagement with stakeholders on the Interim Report</b>  | <b>July 2025 (written submissions due by 25 July)</b>                        |
| <b>Final Report delivered to the Minister for Energy</b>   | <b>By 11 September 2025 (within 7 months of establishment of the review)</b> |
| <b>Potential transition period</b>   | <b>Late 2025 – 2027</b>  |

# Transmission Planning Review: Interim Report

## *The Panel makes 16 recommendations to be implemented by late 2027*



Recommendations are grouped according to how they aim to address one of the three key issues with current regulatory arrangements:

- A.1 to A.10 focus on 'clarifying, streamlining, and coordinating responsibility for transmission planning in NSW'
- B.1 to B.4 focus on 'improving the consistency and effectiveness of transmission planning reports'
- C.1 and C.2 focus on 'enhancing engagement, transparency, and governance of transmission planning decisions'



# Transmission Planning Review: Interim Report

## *Discussion points*

1. Do you have any initial thoughts, feedback or questions that we can discuss today or in another session?
2. Do you think these proposals will enable the transition to occur more efficiently and effectively?
3. Are there additional reforms which should be considered under the review?
4. Can Transgrid provide support as you review and process the Interim Report?

# TAC Focus Area Update:

## *Policy and Innovation Pillar –*

*Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) Directions Paper:  
Inter-regional settlements residue (IRSR) arrangements for  
transmission loops*

**Fiona Orton**

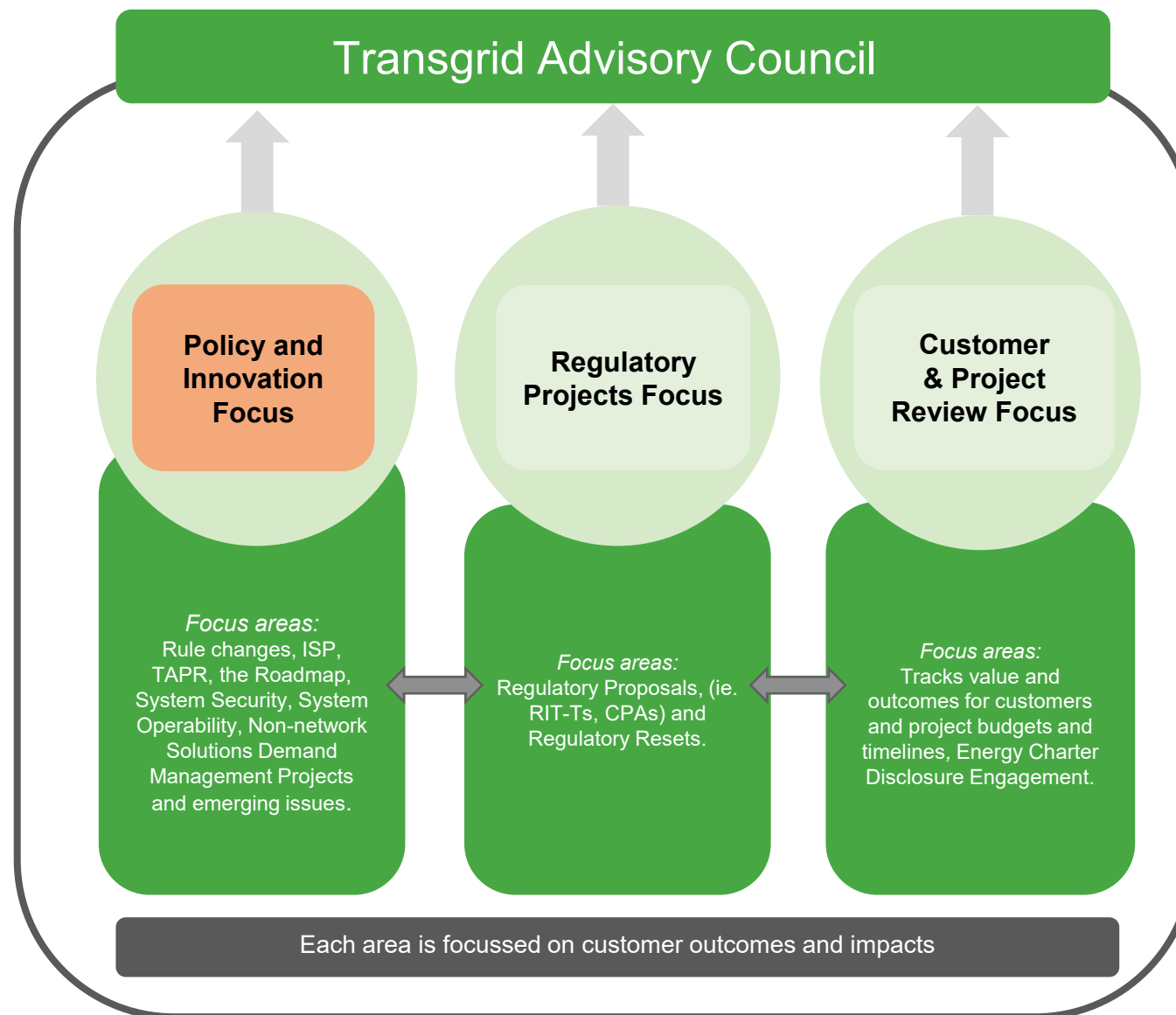
General Manager of Innovation and Energy Transition

**Level of engagement:** Consult

**Objective:** To consult with TAC members on AEMC reform proposals and canvas consumer and stakeholder perspectives



# TAC Framework – Policy and Innovation Pillar





# Engagement on AEMC Directions Paper

## Questions for discussion:

- Are there additional stakeholder perspectives Transgrid should consider when preparing our submission?
- Would the TAC find value in a dedicated workshop to explore reform of inter-regional settlement residues in greater detail (noting the technical nature of the topic)?



# TAC Focus Area Update:

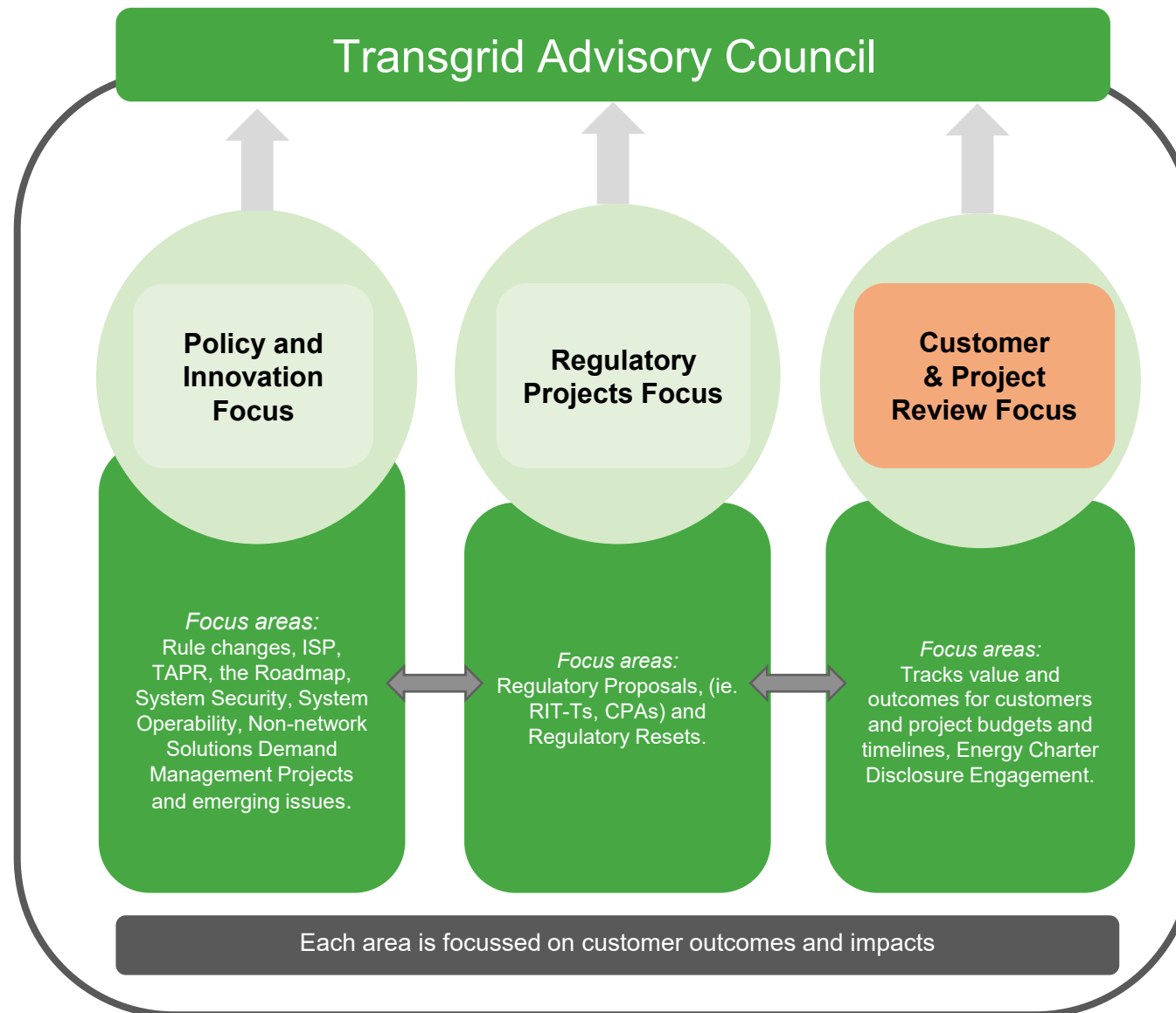
## *Customer and Projects Focus Area Pillar –*

### *RP4 Engagement and ten-year Business Plan*

**Nadine Lennie**  
Chief Financial Officer



# TAC Framework – Customer and Project Review Pillar





# Preliminary Engagement Framework

## What we heard

- There is a need for a comprehensive narrative that places decision-making within a broader context
- Importance of consumer engagement – only consumers themselves can provide a view of their preferences
- Need to better understand what Transgrid is putting forward for RP4
- Adopt a 'BAU first' approach to further development of the engagement plan

## What we've done

- Reviewed and updated our engagement purpose, goal and approach to align with TAC feedback
- Refined the organisation of our stakeholder groups to better differentiate customers, consumers and community.
- Reviewed our engagement timeline, noting that further refinements will be needed

## In progress

- Review of **consumer research** outcomes to inform Transgrid's to articulate how we can become more consumer focussed and finalise our **business narrative**
- **Refining the scope and focus areas for RP4 engagement** based on consumer priorities and our business plan
- **Preparation of detailed engagement plan** including comprehensive program of engagement activities beyond those with the TAC

# Summary, reflections and next steps

**Nadine Lennie**

Chief Financial Officer



# Launch of poll

**We will now launch the short poll:**

To what extent do you feel you had an opportunity to effectively engage today?



**Do you have further feedback on any of the topics discussed today?**

**We appreciate your feedback**



# Thank you

## Contact details

For further information or discussion, please contact:



**Jane Deane**

*Senior Manager Stakeholder and Corporate Engagement*

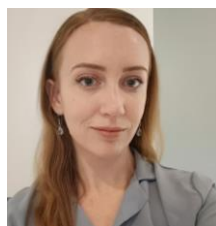
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