

Localised Energy In Regions Project Findings

Project background

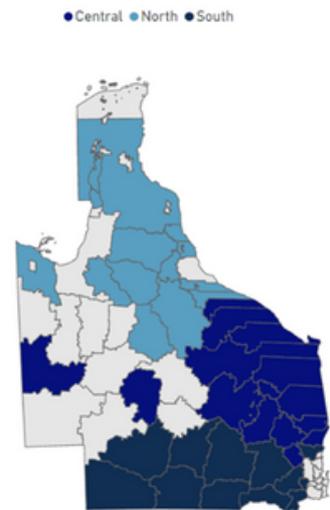
The Localised Energy in Regions project undertook market research to better understand regional appetites for consumer-owned energy resources (CERs) including microgrids, virtual power plants and community batteries.

Focusing on Queensland's three proposed Renewable Energy Zones (QREZs), 103 agricultural, regional business and councils, and project developer respondents took part in phone surveys. Using the responses provided, an **interactive market map** has been developed which allows stakeholders to better understand demand for CERs in their regions. A comprehensive project report has also been developed with detailed recommendations to encourage the adoption of CERs in Queensland.

Key findings

Key findings from the analysis included:

- A market for CERs exists and is growing in regional Queensland
- Respondents see CERs as an opportunity for local benefits
- Improving energy literacy will increase appetite for CERs
- First Nations communities report unique energy vulnerabilities and inequities driving consumption strategies
- Consumers consider regulatory roadblocks, financial performance uncertainties, and poor access skills as key barriers to CER adoption



Access the map and project report

To access the map and download the full project report scan the QR code or visit:

www.qff.org.au/projects/localised-energy-in-regions/

The project report outlines 12 findings and 10 key recommendations for the adoption of CERs in Queensland. A summary of these recommendations are available on the following page.



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Localised Energy In Regions

10 Key Recommendations

- 1 Government and utilities should accelerate the inclusion of regional CERs in grid transformation strategies to avoid unnecessary consumer defection and equity concerns.
- 2 An equitable Net Zero Authority remit should include CERs.
- 3 The Commonwealth's Powering Australia policy should include a local or community power strategy.
- 4 Regulatory innovation mechanisms that move faster than existing tariff schedules should be established.
- 5 Local councils should comprehensively assess the benefits of adopting local energy strategies.
- 6 Skills and training for regional communities and utilities is necessary to support transition.
- 7 Clear pathways for social housing and rentals to access clean and affordable local energy resources should be prioritised.
- 8 Supporting infrastructure, including telecommunications and regulatory, should be made robust and fit for purpose.
- 9 Advocates should launch a smart energy literacy campaign targeting regional consumers, councils, and communities.
- 10 Regulatory pathways for councils and community owned energy trading need to be researched and trialled.

Help share these resources

Help share these recommendations and the Localised Energy in Regions project resources by scanning this QR code or by visiting this link: www.qff.org.au/projects/localised-energy-in-regions/



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