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Ausgrid

Attachment E:

Framework and Approach Paper Engagement Outcomes Report

Engagement Outcomes Report

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1 Introduction

For generations, Ausgrid has proudly kept the lights on for our communities. We know our communities want access to affordable, reliable and renewable electricity. Engaging well helps us make better decisions, and it helps us build a lasting social legacy by understanding what our customers and communities want from us, now and into the future.

This report explains how we consulted on the first stage of our 2029-34 regulatory reset, what we heard, and how that feedback shaped our request to the Australian Energy Regulator (**AER**). It is written for the people and organisations who took part, and for the AER. It sits alongside the attachments to our Framework and Approach request, and we will also publish it on our engagement website for the 2029-34 Regulatory Reset[1].

1.1 Project description

The 2029-34 Regulatory Reset sets Ausgrid's services and investments for the next five years. Ausgrid has committed to engaging with customers to understand what matters most to them. Customer feedback will help us plan future investments that take their needs and preferences into account.

Every five years, we must submit a plan to the AER. It sets out our proposed services, costs and prices. The AER reviews it to make sure it reflects the services our customers value at the lowest sustainable cost. It then decides how much revenue we can recover from customers over the five years. This process is called a Regulatory Reset. Our current period runs from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2029. The next covers 1 July 2029 to 30 June 2034.

1.2 Why we consulted

The first formal step in a reset is the Framework and Approach process. The AER uses it to decide which services Ausgrid may provide and which are better left to competitive markets. It also decides whether all customers or only some should pay for each service. Once the AER makes its final Framework and Approach decision in July 2027, it can only change that decision if circumstances change materially. That is why we wanted to hear from stakeholders before we lodged our request.

The way customers use, generate and share energy is changing. More households are adding solar and batteries, more people are buying electric vehicles, and an increasing number of large new users are connecting. Some customers cannot take part in these changes yet, because they rent, live in apartments or cannot afford the upfront cost. We want to close that gap and make electricity accessible for all, while keeping costs fair for everyone who pays for the network.

1.3 What we consulted on

We asked for views on four potential new services for 2029-34:

- installing and maintaining electric vehicle chargers on local street poles

[1] https://engage.ausgrid.com.au/2029-34-regulatory-reset

- sharing the extra capacity of network batteries
- coordinating local energy precincts if our Community Power Network trial is successful
- changing how network upgrade costs are recovered from large energy users, such as data centres

We consulted from **12 August to 11 September 2026**. The deadline was originally 4 September, and we extended it on request from stakeholders. We invited stakeholders to respond to the Framework and Approach Consultation Paper, which we developed with Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy. They could also respond to our information sheet, which covered the services specific to Ausgrid. We held a public webinar on 19 August and a session with our Customer Consultative Committee on 9 September.

We will lodge our Framework and Approach request with the AER by 30 October 2026. Section 5 shows how what we heard shaped that request. An overview of the stakeholder feedback we received on the new services we are considering and how we have responded is also set out in Attachment A to the Framework and Approach request.

2 Engagement approach

2.1 Our Commitment to Community Engagement

At Ausgrid, our communities are at the centre of everything we do. When we make decisions, we work with our customers and communities to focus on what's best for them. We are committed to working with the community when planning, building, operating and maintaining the electricity network.

Through meaningful engagement, we build a lasting social legacy by understanding what our customers and communities want from us: access to affordable, reliable and renewable electricity.

2.2 Purpose of This Report

This report shows how we engaged on the first stage of our 2029-34 Regulatory Reset. It sets out who we heard from, how we gathered their views, what they told us, and how that feedback shaped our Framework and Approach request to the AER. It also explains where we did not change our position, and why.

We wrote it for two audiences. For the people and organisations who responded, it closes the loop on your time and effort. For the AER, it shows how stakeholder views informed our request.

2.3 Scope of engagement

We targeted our engagement to key stakeholders, including councils, our Customer Consultative Committee, State and Federal government agencies, and key industry stakeholders. We asked for views on four potential new services and how they should be funded. These were EV chargers on street poles, sharing the spare capacity of network batteries, local energy precincts, and how the costs of connecting large energy users such as data centres are recovered.

Feedback from this stage informed what we asked the AER to approve in our Framework and Approach request. The AER decides which services we may provide and who pays for them. Once it publishes its final decision in July 2027, it can only change that decision if circumstances change

materially. We explained this in our information sheet and at the webinar. Stakeholders can also comment directly to the AER when it commences consultation on the Framework and Approach request later this year.

2.4 Engagement Principles

Our engagement approach is guided by five principles that reflect our values and our commitment to making electricity accessible for all. These principles are consistent with contemporary engagement standards used nationally and internationally, including the International Association for Public Participation (**IAP2**) Public Participation Spectrum.

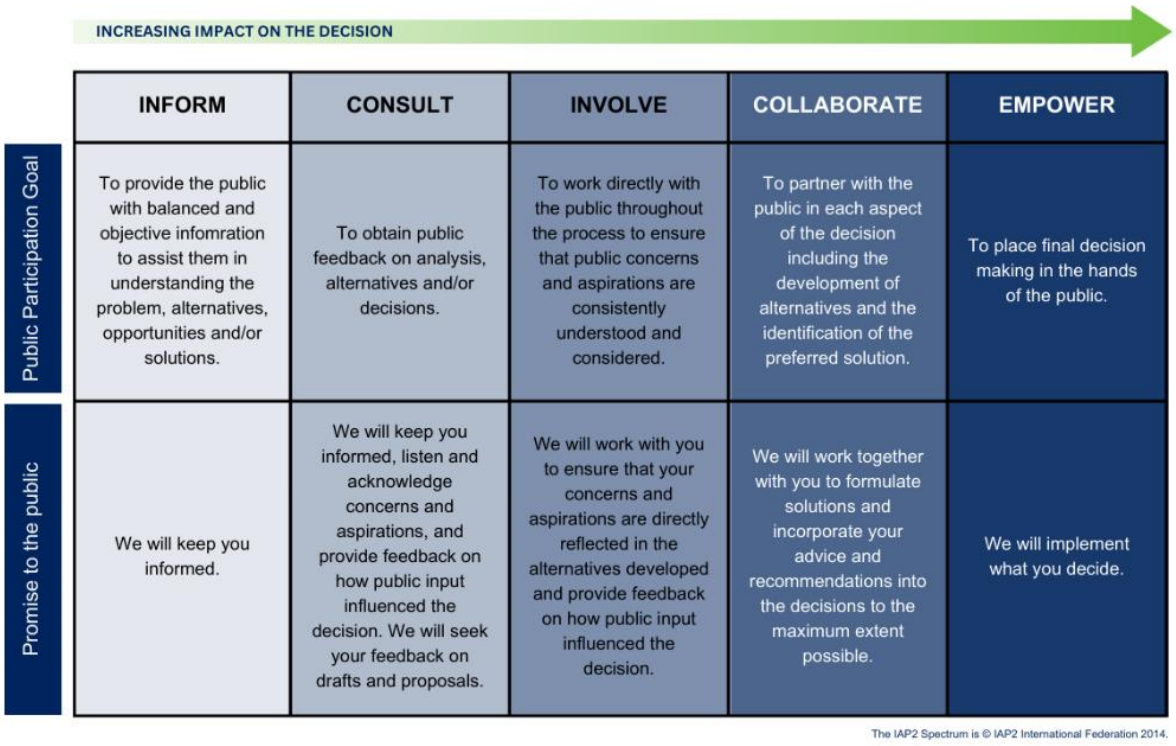
These principles apply to every interaction with stakeholders throughout the regulatory reset engagement.

Our engagement principles are:



2.5 IAP2 Spectrum

The IAP2 spectrum describes different levels of public involvement in decisions. For this stage we engaged at the Consult level. Our promise at this level is to keep participants informed, listen to and acknowledge their concerns and aspirations, and tell them how their input influenced the decision. This report is how we keep that promise.



2.6 Engagement objectives

Our objectives for this stage were to:

- explain the four potential services, and the choices behind them, in plain English
- hear what stakeholders think about each service, including who should pay and who benefits
- understand the concerns and alternatives that stakeholders raised
- show clearly how feedback shaped our request to the AER, and where it did not, why

3 Stakeholders

We invited a targeted range of stakeholders to respond, chosen because the four services affect customers, councils, regulators and businesses in different ways. This section shows who we invited to engage with us and who chose to participate.

3.1 Who we invited

Stakeholder group	Who we invited	How we engaged
Customer Consultative Committee	CCC members and observers, including the Energy Users Association of Australia, Business NSW, the Justice and Equity Centre, St Vincent de Paul, the Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (**SSROC**), the Energy and Water Ombudsman NSW, and independent members	Briefing before release, webinar, and a dedicated session on 9 September
Local councils	All councils in our network area, in part through SSROC	Webinar, and invitation to make a submission
Customer and consumer advocates	Energy Consumers Australia	Webinar and invitation to make a submission
Governments and regulators	The AER, the NSW and Federal Departments of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, and the AEMC	Webinar and invitation to make a submission
Data centre customers and industry	Current and prospective data centre customers.	Webinar and invitation to make a submission

3.2 Who participated

We received two pieces of written feedback, from Sutherland Shire Council and City of Sydney Council staff. Technical feedback was provided by City of Sydney Council staff rather than a formal council submission.

Twenty-four people registered for the webinar on 19 August. They were from:

- **Local councils:** Canterbury-Bankstown, City of Sydney, Inner West, Lane Cove, Singleton, and Sutherland Shire, together with SSROC.
- **Consumer and customer organisations, through CCC members:** The Energy Users Association of Australia, St Vincent de Paul, the Energy and Water Ombudsman NSW, and one independent member of the CCC.
- **Regulators and government agencies:** The AER, the Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, and the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure.
- **Energy businesses and advisers:** Endeavour Energy and a communications consultancy.

3.3 Who we did not hear from

We invited a broad group of stakeholders to respond, because the four services affect different people in different ways. Some affect customers directly. Others affect councils, regulators, and the businesses that already operate in these markets.

We did not hear from retailers, charge point operators, data centre customers or industry bodies, either at the webinar or in writing. We also had no attendees from the Hunter or Central Coast councils except Singleton. These groups would be directly affected by several of the proposals. We will continue to engage with them throughout the Regulatory Reset process and will publish our engagement approach on our website.

4 Engagement activities

4.1 Engagement methods

We used six methods. Together they let people respond in the way that suited them, whether that was reading, asking questions live, or sending a considered written view.

Method	What it was	Why we used it
Engagement website	A page on Engage Ausgrid explaining the regulatory reset, the timeline and how to take part.	One place for people to find the papers, the dates and how to take part.
Consultation paper	A joint Framework and Approach Consultation Paper, developed with Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy. It set out our views, the views others might hold, and questions for stakeholders.	It gave the full technical detail, and a consistent starting point across the three NSW networks.
Information sheet	A two-page plain-English summary of the four potential new services and how to respond.	It helped people who would not read a 17-page technical paper take part. It also covered the services specific to Ausgrid.
Public webinar	A live presentation followed by questions from the chat, answered by Ausgrid experts.	It let people hear the proposals explained and ask questions without having to write a submission.
Written feedback	Submissions through an online portal, and written feedback sent to us directly.	It let people and organisations give considered, detailed views, including those that need internal approval before they respond.
Customer Consultative Committee session	A dedicated discussion with the Customer Consultative Committee (**CCC**).	The CCC advises us on how we engage. The session gave members time to test our proposals in detail.

4.2 How we made it easy to take part

We offered two documents at different levels of detail, and a live session for people who preferred to ask questions. We extended the closing date by a week on request. We also offered to meet anyone who wanted to talk further.

4.3 How we recorded feedback

We kept the webinar recording and transcript, and notes of the CCC session. We read all written feedback.

4.4 Consultation activities

Our consultation on potential new services ran from 12 August to 11 September 2026. The table lists what we did, in order.

Date	Activity	Who took part	What happened
12 August	**Consultation opened.** We published the joint Framework and Approach Consultation Paper and our information sheet on the engagement website. Submissions could be made through an online portal.	Open to the public	The paper, developed with Endeavour Energy and Essential Energy, covered EV charging and distributed batteries, and introduced emerging services. Our information sheet added local energy precincts and our approach to data centre connections. The website explained the reset, set out the timeline and answered common questions.
19 August	**Public webinar** (2:45 to 3:45pm).	24 people attended, from councils, consumer organisations, regulators and government agencies, and energy businesses	Our Group Executive, External Affairs and Strategy opened the session. Our Head of Regulation presented the four services. Our subject matter experts then answered questions put in the chat, mainly on EV charging, batteries and local energy precincts. Slides are in Appendix A.
Early September	**Closing date extended** from 4 to 11 September, on request.	All stakeholders	Upon request from a stakeholder, we extended the closing date for written responses by one week.
9 September	**Customer Consultative Committee session** on the consultation paper.	Six CCC members and three observers	The session covered batteries, EV charging, data centres and local energy precincts. We agreed to provide additional information on three items.

Date	Activity	Who took part	What happened
			- Ausgrid to provide further information on what investigations have been undertaken to seek access to commercially provided batteries. - Ausgrid to provide further information on the implications of the new Federal and NSW government reforms to incentivise solar panels for C&I customers for CPN. - Ausgrid to provide further information to about the estimated utilisation benefits of EV charging infrastructure.
11 September	**Written feedback received** from Sutherland Shire Council.	Sutherland Shire Council	Council commented on all four services.
11 September	**Written technical feedback received** from the City of Sydney Council staff.	City of Sydney Council staff	Feedback on all four services. This was not a formal council submission.
7 October	**Follow-up with the CCC** on action items in next meeting.	CCC	Ausgrid provided a verbal update on activities to access commercial batteries. Ausgrid provided written information on estimated utilisation benefits of EV charging infrastructure Ausgrid to provide update on the implications of the new Federal and NSW government reforms to incentivise solar panels for C&I customers for CPN at CCC meeting on 11 November. Ausgrid to provide information about connection times for EV charging providers.

Date	Activity	Who took part	What happened
11 September	**Consultation closed.**	n/a	n/a

5 Responses

We received feedback in four ways: written submissions, questions at the 19 August webinar, a dedicated session with the Customer Consultative Committee (CCC) on 9 September, and a number of stakeholder briefings. This section outlines what we heard and where we changed our proposal in response. If we chose not to change our proposal in response, we explain why.

5.1 What we heard and what we did

The table below summarises what we heard on each service and what we did. Section 5.2 shows the detail by stakeholder. Where we did not change our position, we say why.

Service	What we heard	What we did
EV chargers	Concerns about all customers paying, about kerbside space and parking impacts, and about whether Ausgrid (as a regulated monopoly) should have a role at all in competitive markets. Federal and state government programs are better placed to address gaps in service.	We narrowed our request to underserved areas where the market is not responding, where customers who don't use the chargers are no worse off. We note the role of DNSPs in competitive markets will be considered by the AER, Governments, and the Australian Energy Market Commission. Funding by all customers is unchanged. We continue to work closely with Councils to address localised planning requirements.
Distribution Batteries	Requests to show why Ausgrid owned batteries are the best option, and a preference for private or Ausgrid land over public land. Distinguish the customer benefits of battery storage from the benefits of Ausgrid owning the storage assets.	We kept our request but committed to further information sharing on the case for Ausgrid owning the batteries.

Service	What we heard	What we did
Local Energy Precincts	Support for the equity aim. Concerns about short term cross-subsidy, and a call for approval to depend on results, including implications for private investment in solar, batteries and other distributed energy resources.	We designed a pathway where customers fund expansion only if the pilot meets agreed success conditions.
Data Centres	Strong support, with calls for demand flexibility and a clear breakdown of the network costs data centres trigger and how data centres impact network access for other customers.	We kept our request, in line with strong support.

5.2 Detailed summary of feedback raised

The table below sets out the feedback from each stakeholder and our response. We have attributed feedback to organisations, not individuals. The City of Sydney has said its feedback was from City of Sydney Council staff and was not a formal submission.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
Customer Consultative Committee			

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
CCC members Energy Users Association of Australia, Business NSW, Justice and Equity Centre, St Vincent de Paul, and two independent members Observers: Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC) and Energy and Water Ombudsman NSW	9 September (consultation session)	**EV charging:** Several members questioned whether Ausgrid should have a role, because the private sector can provide chargers. One member opposed any Ausgrid role, even on a user-pays basis due to concerns about the potential impact to fair competition in the provision of EV chargers.	- We narrowed our request. We would start with chargers delivered under the Commonwealth's Accelerating EV Charging program. Beyond that, we would only install chargers in underserved areas where the market is not responding. - We note that the proposal is that retailers and e-mobility providers would have open access, and we would not sell energy or provide charging services. Fast charging and commercially viable EV charging sites stay with the competitive market. - We explained that many homes in our network area have no off-street parking, resulting in many customers not having access to EV charging close to home.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
		EV charging: All members opposed all customers paying. Some preferred a user-pays approach. A member asked for further detail on how the EV charging infrastructure costs would impact different customers, including business customers, and how the costs and benefits would be distributed.	- We kept funding by all customers. - We added a condition that customers who don't use the chargers must be no worse off. - The consultation paper estimated that more EV charging would lower bills by about $14 per residential customer per year by 2030, because more use of the network spreads fixed costs across more energy. If the AER approves the provision of EV charging infrastructure as a regulated service, we will provide further detail on how our proposal will impact different customer groups and how costs and benefits would be distributed. - We will continue to engage with the Australian Energy Market Commission as they consider what role DNSPs should play in providing EV charging infrastructure and how this should be funded.
		EV charging: Members asked us to show we had first used our existing powers to help private chargers connect (faster connections, capacity maps, suitable tariffs), and to compare our approach with commercial delivery.	- We undertook to provide estimates of how well the chargers would be used, which was provided at the following CCC meeting - - We have committed to providing information about connection times for private EV chargers to the CCC.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
		EV charging (SSROC): Kerbside chargers create council responsibilities and add pressure on parking. Councils want to be consulted on locations.	- We will consult councils on locations.
		Batteries: Members said our case would be stronger if we showed batteries are the best option for customers, compared with alternatives such as network upgrades.	- The customer-funded share of each battery is based on a cost-benefit analysis of its network benefit. - Ausgrid will provide addition information about alternatives and customer impacts in future CCC consultation.
		Batteries: Members asked whether customers should pay upfront for reserved capacity. One independent member did not support the proposal because they did not think Ausgrid needs to own the batteries. They asked for evidence that the competitive market was not an alternative for network owned batteries.	- Retailers have shown limited interest in building batteries because of the risk and capital involved. Competitive market providers would also need payment for reserved capacity, so costs to customers would be broadly similar in either case. - We committed to look into what we had investigated on batteries provided through the competitive market. - We kept our request unchanged.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
		Batteries: Members suggested we consider storage more broadly and asked if the network share of a battery could grow over time.	- Once a battery is in the regulated asset base, its network share does not change. - Our request covers batteries up to 5 MW. Above that, extra AEMO obligations apply. - Emerging technologies such as thermal storage are unlikely to be assets that Ausgrid owns.
		Local energy precincts: Members asked for a clearer explanation of why precincts are in our request, and how they differ from microgrids.	- We explained that the Community Power Network pilot faces a funding gap after year three, and that approval now preserves the option to extend it if it proves successful. Without it, we could not extend the pilot until a later reset in 2034 or later. Our submission includes further information on how precincts differ from a microgrid. Unlike a microgrid, a local energy precinct is not designed to operate in isolation during outages. It coordinates assets across a whole zone substation area, rather than at individual sites.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
		Local energy precincts: Members said success should be judged against alternatives provided by the competitive market, particularly in the third zone in CPN, and that any expansion should depend on positive results for customers. Members also suggested success should depend on the AER agreeing the evidence indicates this is a service DNSPs can provide in certain circumstances; the model complying with ring-fencing provisions; and not distorting competitive markets for solar and batteries. They asked how new Federal and State solar incentives affect the business case.	- Our request includes a "Proven Trial" factor that stays at zero unless the AER confirms specific success conditions have been met. If the pilot does not succeed, it will not expand and there is no cost to customers. - We will continue to provide information on the pilot as it progresses, including the impact of Federal and State solar incentives on the business case.
		Data centres: Members supported our approach because it matches the principle that data centres should pay for the costs they create. They asked us to encourage demand flexibility and backup batteries, and to manage the connection queue transparently.	- We kept our request. - We confirmed that data centres do not get preferential treatment. Connections are processed in the order they are received, and applicants must meet milestones to keep their place. - We are supportive of increased demand flexibility and are researching demand flexibility with data centre customers. We are also working with NSW and Federal Government on proposals to increase demand flexibility by data centres.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
Local government			
Sutherland Shire Council	Written submission, 11 September	**EV charging:** Council does not support widespread kerbside chargers on council land, and asked us to prioritise car parks, transport interchanges and other off-street sites. It asked us to coordinate with its planning and to engage early.	- We narrowed our request to underserved areas where the market is not responding. - We will work closely with local councils on planning EV charger locations, noting that our poles are generally not located in car parks or transport interchanges.
		Batteries: Council supports batteries that improve reliability and resilience, named areas at the edge of the network, and asked us to use Ausgrid, private or State land before council land.	- Our 5MW batteries go on Ausgrid or adjacent land, not public land. If council land is ever considered, we will consult the relevant owners.
		Local energy precincts: Council supports precincts planned in partnership with local government, with clear measures of community benefit.	- Our Proven Trial approach sets success conditions that are tested before customers fund any expansion. - We will continue to engage closely with local councils on the Community Power Network.
		Data centres: Council supports negotiated connections only where there are clear local benefit and full beneficiary-pays funding. It asked for a breakdown of network upgrades and who pays.	- Our request means the connecting data centres, not other customers, pay for the shared connection assets. - The AER decides who pays. Planning, land use and local benefit are decided elsewhere.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
City of Sydney	Written feedback from Council staff, 11 September. Not a formal council submission.	**EV charging:** The City prefers off-street charging. It asked us to install chargers on our assets only when the council supports it, and to make impacts on council cost neutral. It does not support advertising on chargers.	- We narrowed our request to underserved areas where the market is not responding. - We will work closely with local councils on planning EV charger locations.
		Batteries: The City prefers private or Ausgrid land, with public land a last resort and not in green spaces or residential areas. It suggested supporting behind-the-meter batteries in larger buildings.	- Our 5MW batteries go on Ausgrid or adjacent land, not public land.
		Local energy precincts: The City supports the Community Power Network and is not aware of another model that could deliver equitable benefit sharing at the same speed and scale. It asked us to share data that helps others deploy local solar and storage.	- We are working with UNSW and Race to 2030 on how benefits should be shared fairly.

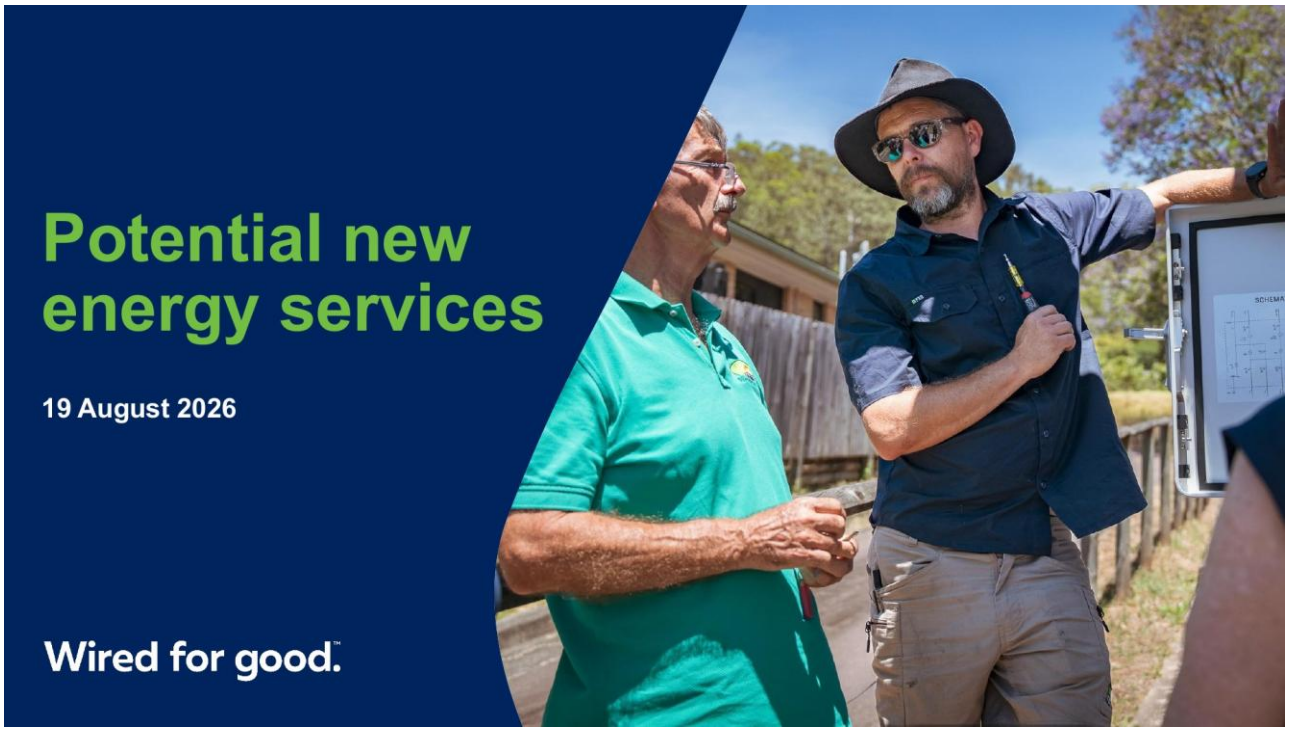
Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
		Data centres: The City supports full cost recovery. It asked us to encourage data centres to buy local renewable energy and firming, and to offer load flexibility.	- Our request aligns with full cost recovery. - We are supportive of increased demand flexibility and are researching demand flexibility with data centre customers. We are also working with NSW and Federal Government on proposals to increase demand flexibility by data centres. Ausgrid will continue to facilitate the availability of local renewable energy through the distribution network.
Webinar participants			
Webinar attendees Twenty-four people attended the webinar	19 August (webinar questions)	**Batteries:** How will lease revenue be shared with customers, and have we modelled the benefits? Will batteries go on public land?	- We have only a few batteries, so lease revenue is small. Under the AER's shared asset guideline, if revenue is above a materiality threshold, 10 per cent of it is returned to all customers. - Our 5MW batteries go on Ausgrid or adjacent land.

Stakeholder	Date and method	Feedback received	Our response
		EV charging: Could councils be consulted as a requirement on charger locations? How will underserved areas be identified? Could people with their own parking buy a charger on the pole outside their home?	- We will consult and work with councils on locations. A wider framework is being developed through the federal EV charging rule change proposal currently being considered by the AEMC. - We are looking at areas with limited off-street parking and considering the level of EV registrations in each area. Our proposal is for open-access chargers, not private chargers.
		Local energy precincts: When will we share how benefits flow to customers, with timeframes and partners? Where will precincts go? Will Ausgrid become a generator or retailer?	- We are working with UNSW and Race to 2030 on a fair sharing model, shaped by community research. We will talk with the community over the next 18 months. - The pilot is approved for two areas: Mascot Botany and Charmhaven. Anything beyond that needs a further AER decision. - No. Ausgrid will not generate or sell energy in precincts.

5.3 What happens next

We will lodge our Framework and Approach request with the AER by 30 October 2026. The AER will publish a position paper in February 2027 for public consultation and make its final decision in July 2027. We will release our Draft Plan for the 2029-34 period for public consultation in August 2027. To talk about anything in this report, call us on 13 13 65 or follow the project at engage.ausgrid.com.au.

Appendix A: Webinar slides





AGENDA

Today's webinar

Purpose — Outline the potential new energy services being considered for 2029–34 and answer stakeholder questions.

01	Welcome	Timothy Jarratt, Group Executive External Affairs & Strategy	2:45pm–2:50pm
02	Regulatory reset and Framework & Approach	Timothy Jarratt	2:50pm–3:00pm
03	Potential new energy services	Fiona McAnally, Head of Regulation	3:00pm–3:20pm
04	Q&A from the floor	Erin Riley, Senor Stakeholder & Engagement Lead Timothy Jarratt Fiona McAnally Nick Black, Head of Logistics, Fleet, EVCI Eoin Connolly, Head of Distributed Energy Solutions Adam Baxter, Head of Customer Network Solutions	3:20pm–3:40pm
05	Next steps	Timothy Jarratt	3:40pm–3:45pm

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OUR NETWORK

Ausgrid at a glance

1.6m residential customers	**200k** business customers	**4m** people served	**~100k** new connections annually
~34k home battery connections since July '25*	**~26k** solar connections since July '25*	**3,100** team	**175** apprentices



Hunter Region • Central Coast • Sydney

Ownership and customer value

50.4% owned by IFM, Australian Super and APG
49.6% owned by the NSW Government
~$500m dividend to the NSW Government (2023–25)

** All approved within less than 10 days*

RESET ROADMAP

Ausgrid's 2029–34 Regulatory Reset

- This consultation is the first step in a broader process shaped by customers and stakeholders.
- Consultation on new energy services reflect our initial views on changes in how our customers are **using, generating and sharing energy** and the role we can play in supporting our customers



KEY MILESTONES

Framework & Approach timeline

AUSGRID STEPS				AER STEPS				
12 Aug 26	19 Aug 26	4 Sep 26	End Oct 26	End Nov 26	End Dec 26	Feb 27	Jun 27	End Jul 27
Consultation Paper published	Public webinar	Submissions close	F&A request to AER	AER consultation closes on amending/replacing the F&A	Decision to amend / replace the F&A	F&A Position paper	Consultation closes	Final F&A paper

Ausgrid's October 2026 Framework and Approach request will also consider form of control and incentive schemes, alongside service classification.

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CONSULTATION OVERVIEW

Four services in focus

The joint Consultation Paper focuses on two services. Ausgrid is also consulting on two emerging services.

01	**Electric vehicle charging infrastructure**	Joint NSW DNSP consultation
02	**Distributed batteries**	Joint NSW DNSP consultation
03	**Local Energy Precincts**	Ausgrid emerging service
04	**Data centre connections**	Ausgrid emerging service



POTENTIAL NEW ENERGY SERVICE

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

1 Proposed service

Install and maintain kerbside AC EV chargers, with open access for third-party charging providers.

2 How it would be funded

All customers fund provision and maintenance as a standard control service.

Or, user-pays approach as an alternative control service.



3 Benefits for customers

- More accessible charging infrastructure
- Support for EV uptake and decarbonisation
- Potential network charge benefits through greater network utilisation

We recognise others may have different views

- Impacts on competition
- How chargers are funded and located

POTENTIAL NEW ENERGY SERVICE

Distributed batteries

1 Proposed service

Lease spare capacity on network-owned batteries up to 5 MW to third parties, without additional AER approval.

2 How it would be funded

Around 5–20% funded by all customers as a standard control service, based on the value of network services provided
Remainder funded by third-party lease fees as an unclassified service



3 Benefits for customers

- More local storage to absorb daytime solar
- Energy returned to the grid in the evening
- Savings for customers through Energy Storage as a Service
- Lease fee revenue shared with customers

We recognise others may have different views

- Impacts on competition
- Need for ongoing AER waiver oversight

POTENTIAL NEW ENERGY SERVICE

Local Energy Precincts

1 Proposed service

Coordinate solar, storage and network infrastructure across neighbourhoods, expanding the Community Power Networks pilot.

2 How it would be funded

Shared network benefits funded by all customers as a standard control service
Other costs, such as solar panels, funded through competitive markets.



3 Benefits for customers

- Lower network costs through coordinated infrastructure
- More solar energy used locally
- Transparent annual sharing of revenues and savings for customers

We recognise others may have different views

- Impacts on competition
- What role DNSPs should be playing

POTENTIAL NEW ENERGY SERVICE

Data Centre Connections

1 Proposed service

Enable data centre connections through direct negotiation between distribution networks and data centre customers.

2 How it would be funded

Funded by data centre customers as a negotiated service.



3 Benefits for customers

- Potentially faster connections for data centres
- No stranded-asset or connection-cost risk for other customers
- Downward pressure on network charges through increased utilisation

We recognise others may have different views

- Whether a different service classification approach is needed

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Questions from the floor

Erin Riley
Senior Stakeholder & Engagement Lead

Please put your questions in the chat







Wired for good. Ausgrid

Next steps

Timothy Jarratt
Group Executive, External Affairs & Strategy





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HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Next steps

Submissions due
Friday 4 September

Overview of submissions received
Late September

Ausgrid submits Framework & Approach request to AER
End October 2026

AER consultation and consideration of Framework & Approach
November 2026 to July 2027

Lodge a submission and find engagement details during the reset process

engage.ausgrid.com.au/2029-34-regulatory-reset

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