

AEMO
Level 12, 171 Collins Street
Melbourne, VIC 3000
Submitted electronically: ISP@aemo.com.au

12 February 2026

To whom it may concern,

Consultation Submission: 'Draft 2026 Integrated System Plan (ISP)' – Consultation Feedback

Spark Renewables Pty Limited (Spark Renewables) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback in response to AEMO's 'Draft 2026 Integrated System Plan (ISP)', released for consultation on 10 December 2025.

Spark Renewables is a leading developer, long-term owner and operator of renewable energy assets across the National Electricity Market (NEM), with a diversified portfolio of wind, solar and energy storage projects. This portfolio includes the Bomen Solar Farm, which has been operational since 2020, along with a number of mid- to late-stage solar, wind and battery energy storage system (BESS) developments across the NEM.

In reviewing the Draft ISP 2026, Spark Renewables has identified data and a figure within [Appendix A3 – Renewable Energy Zones](#), specifically Section N5 (South West NSW), that we seek clarification on.

Figure 1 below, produced from Appendix A3 of the Draft ISP 2026, presents existing and projected variable renewable energy (VRE) capacity in the South West REZ. Spark Renewables notes that the projected solar capacity between 2028 and 2049 appears higher than expected. To our understanding, only one solar project in the South West NSW REZ has been awarded access rights to date - the Dinawan Energy Hub (Point of Connection 3), with a listed capacity of 300 MW.

Further, the chart does not show any material wind capacity until 2044, and only a small amount thereafter. This appears inconsistent with the approximate 3.5GW of projects that have already been awarded access rights in the SW REZ. Under the "Slower Growth" scenario, we would have expected the allocated capacity to be reflected, with the Step Change scenario building on this.

We also note the high degree of certainty associated with VNI West Stage 1, which will upgrade Dinawan substation to 500kV and enable the full 2,500MW of export capacity from SW REZ. Given the strong wind resource in the REZ and the relative ease of project development in this region, it would be reasonable to expect earlier and more material wind deployment in both scenarios.

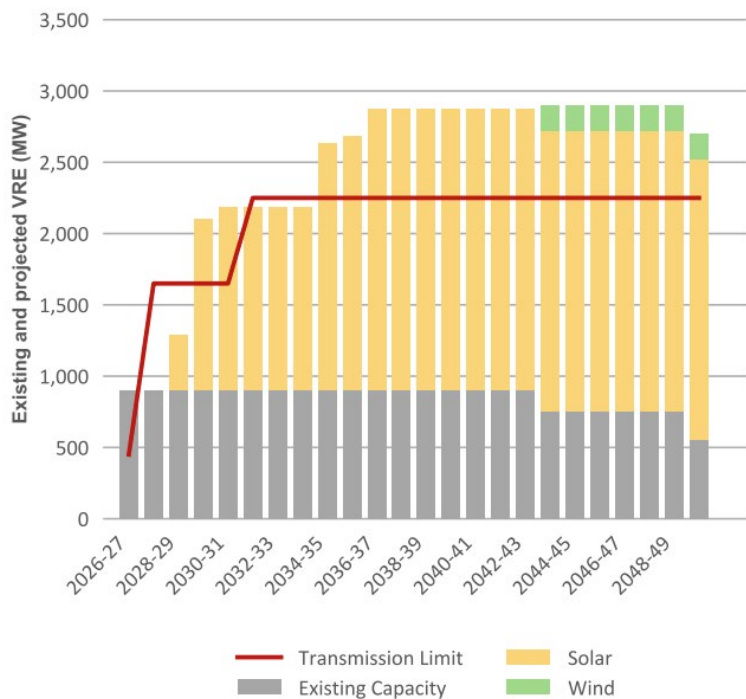


Figure 1: Figure reflecting existing and projected VRE in South West NSW obtained from Appendix A3 - Draft ISP 2026

Could AEMO please clarify the source and assumptions underpinning the projected solar capacity for the South West REZ over this period? Would AEMO also please elaborate on any assumptions around network development within the region to accommodate the significant anticipated influx of solar?

Spark Renewables appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback and looks forward to the final publication of AEMO's Integrated System Plan 2026.

Should you have any questions regarding this submission or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me via the details provided in my signature below.

Sincerely,

Charbel Antoun
 Head of Grid and Engineering
 Spark Renewables
 Level 4, 1A Rialto Lane, Manly 2095
 M: +61 [REDACTED]
 E: [REDACTED]@sparkrenewables.com
 W: www.sparkrenewables.com