



Botany Area Community Power Network

Community update – August 2026



We're trialling a fairer way to share the benefits of clean, local energy.

Ausgrid is piloting a Community Power Network in the Botany area, sharing the benefits of local solar and battery storage with the whole community.

A Community Power Network is a group of small batteries, spread across a local area, working together to store and share solar power.

Solar panels make the most power in the middle of the day, but people use more power in the evening, after work. This mismatch means a lot of solar energy can go to waste.

There are also a lot of places where there is the potential for much more solar energy to be made locally. This is especially true on large roofs like warehouses and shopping centres. These buildings often only have a small strip of panels in one corner. Right now, the amount paid for extra solar isn't enough to justify putting in extra panels.

At the same time, people who rent or live in apartments usually can't install solar panels or batteries. They are missing out on the benefits of clean, local electricity.

A Community Power Network solves both these problems at once. During the day, batteries store surplus solar power from local homes and businesses. In the evening, when demand is highest, that stored power is released back into the local network for everyone to use.

By sharing batteries locally we can reach renters and apartment dwellers who could never get solar on their own. By paying more when homes and businesses make extra solar, we can help make it worth the investment. And by using solar close to where it's made, we rely less on power travelling long distances to reach us.

\$150–200 a year

Annual benefits of up to \$150–\$200, even if you don't have solar.



Get paid more for your solar

If you have solar panels, you'll be paid more for the extra power you send back to the grid.



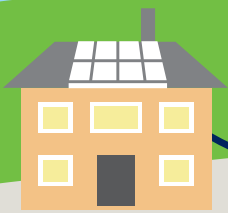
For more information visit engage.ausgrid.com/botanyCPN



Daytime – solar is generated and stored



Homes and businesses who have extra solar power get paid more for their power. This makes it worth investing in more solar panels.



Solar home



Renters and apartments
(benefits from shared power)



Shared battery
(charging)



Shop/warehouse
(rooftop solar)

Extra solar from homes and businesses into the shared batteries, ready to power the local network – day and night.

Everyone benefits – no matter your situation

A Community Power Network makes the local energy network more...



Fair

Everyone connected to the network shares in the benefit each year. You don't need solar yourself to get it. Right now, cheap solar energy is mostly only available to homeowners. A Community Power Network is built to reach renters and apartment dwellers too.



Local

The batteries soak up extra solar through the day, especially on sunny days when the local area generates more than it needs, and releases it later when demand picks up. This means the electricity is generated, stored and used locally.



Value for money

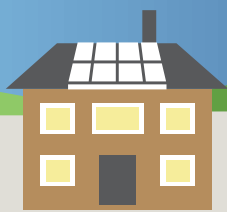
Getting more out of the poles, wires, and batteries already there means fewer costly upgrades. Those savings are shared with everyone, not just the people with solar panels.



Artist impression of a Community Power Network battery. Indicative only.



Evening – Stored power
is released to everyone



Solar home



Renters and apartments
(benefits from shared power)



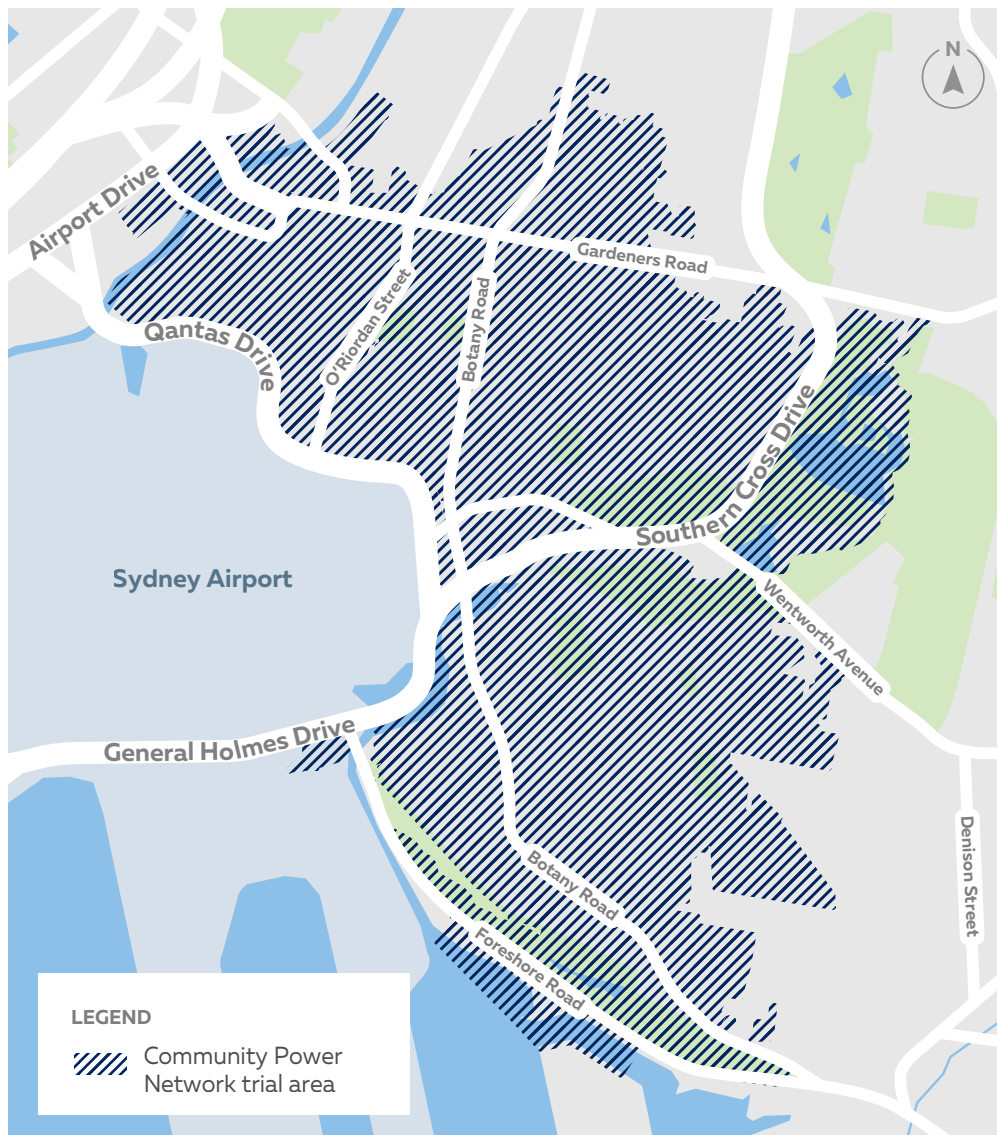
Shared battery
(releasing)



Shop/warehouse

This shared, local power keeps homes and businesses running when they need it most – whether they have solar or not.

Proposed project area



About Ausgrid

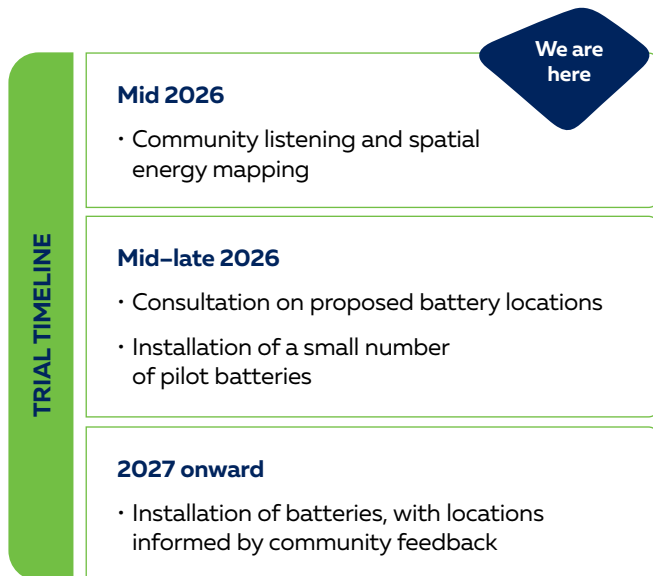
Ausgrid is a distribution network service provider. We operate, maintain, repair and build the electricity network in Sydney, the Central Coast and the Hunter.

We distribute electricity to your home or business, maintain existing infrastructure, and invest in new technologies to make the network more sustainable, reliable and affordable. We also need to make sure the network is ready for our customers' future needs.

What's happening now

This is the first stage of community listening for the Botany area trial. Over the coming months, we'll be:

- Talking with residents, businesses, and community groups about what matters to you
- Mapping local solar and battery potential across the trial area
- Working with you on the best locations for community batteries.



Stay in the loop



Scan the QR code for pop-up locations, webinar registration or more information.

Come and talk with us

We're holding several drop-in pop-ups across the Botany area, plus two online webinars, so there's a way to take part that suits you.

- **4 September, 4pm-7pm**
Level 2, Westfield Eastgardens
- **8 September, 12pm-7pm**
The Cannery, Rosebery
- **10 September, 10am-5pm**
Mascot Library
- **16 September, 11am-1pm**
Eastlakes Community Centre
- **22 September, 4pm-7pm**
At the entrance to Mascot Oval
- **23 September, 10am-5pm**
The Grand, Eastlakes
- **24 September, 4pm-7pm**
Botany Road, near Chemist Warehouse.

Online webinar

The same session, run twice, at alternate times so more people can join.

- **15 September, 12-1pm**
- **16 September, 7-8pm.**

Contact the project team to find out more



13 13 65
Monday to Friday 9am to 4.30pm



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If you need an interpreter, please call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **131 450** and ask them to call Ausgrid on **13 13 65**.

This newsletter is also available in Simplified Chinese and Indonesian on our website.



For more information

Visit engage.ausgrid.com.au/botanyCPN

