

29 April 2026

Mr Charles Millsted  
Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Competition Authority  
GPO Box 2257  
Brisbane Qld 4001  
Submitted via <https://www.qca.org.au/submissions/>

Dear Mr Millsted,

**Submission to the Queensland Competition Authority Regulated retail electricity prices in regional Queensland for 2026–27 – Draft determination**

The Queensland Renewable Energy Council (QREC) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission on the Queensland Competition Authority's (QCA) draft determination for regulated retail electricity prices in regional Queensland for 2026–27.

QREC is the only dedicated industry association for developers, investors and suppliers to renewable energy generation projects in Queensland.

The draft determination forecasts meaningful reductions in electricity prices for residential and small business customers across regional Queensland. QREC welcomes this draft determination.

These price reductions are materially driven by lower wholesale energy costs embedded in the QCA's cost build-up methodology.

They are contingent on the successful delivery of near-term generation and storage projects that are explicitly assumed in the ACIL Allen modelling, listed in Table 2.4 of its "Estimated energy costs" report (attached) commissioned and used by the QCA.

As the forecast reductions in electricity prices for regional Queensland depend on the timely delivery of near-term renewable and storage projects, on behalf of its members and energy consumers, QREC is advocating for more efficient and streamlined planning, assessment and approval processes across all levels of government to ensure these projects can be delivered on schedule.

Specifically, ACIL Allen's assessment – on page 44- highlighted that:

*"[T]he rapid rollout of utility scale BESS is projected to substantially change the time-of-day wholesale spot price profile in 2026-27 by stabilising prices during daylight hours (when BESS are recharging and hence increasing demand) and smoothing out the evening peak, which is resulting in a decline in the shape premium."*

The downward trajectory in electricity prices identified by the QCA depends on the successful and timely delivery of Queensland's near-term renewable energy and battery storage pipeline.

QREC welcomes Treasurer and Minister for Energy and Home Ownership The Honourable David Janetzki's 17 April 2026<sup>1</sup> update on the Energy Roadmap, including that:

*"Through the Investor Gateway, QIC is matching investors and developers to drive new investment in more than 1,700 megawatts of capacity across Queensland's energy sector, in partnership with Government Owned Corporations, including:*

- *The 228 MW Boulder Creek and 285 MW Lotus Creek Wind Farms with CS Energy.*
- *The development of the 400 MW Brigalow Gas Peaker near Chinchilla, with CS Energy acquiring a 20 per cent ownership interest while offtaking 100 per cent of the asset.*
- *Identifying potential offtake opportunities for Stanwell at the privately-owned 436 MW Tarong West Wind Farm and similar opportunities for CleanCo with the private developer on the proposed 360 MW Moah Creek Wind Farm."*

This update refers to a number of projects listed by ACIL Allen.

The QCA's draft determination reflects a future electricity system with significantly more renewable generation and storage.

Delivering that future, and securing the associated price reductions, requires governments at all levels, working with proponents, suppliers and stakeholders, to ensure that projects can move from commitment to operation without unnecessary delay.

Yours sincerely,



Katie-Anne Mulder  
Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Renewable Energy Council

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<sup>1</sup> The Honourable David Janetzki, "Media statement: Energy Roadmap delivering affordable, reliable and sustainable power for Queensland", 17 April 2026 <https://statements.qld.gov.au/statements/104909>