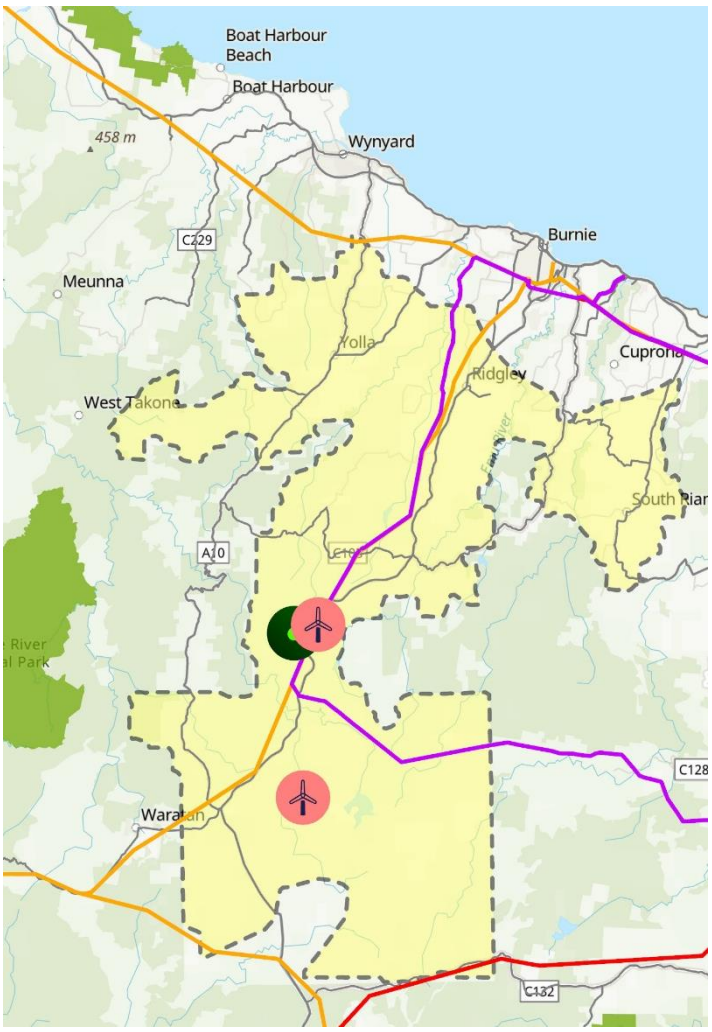
Proposed REZ

This is the proposed area for Tasmania's first Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). It is situated on the land of the noeteeler people, and within four municipal areas of Waratah-Wynyard, Burnie, Central Coast and Kentish.

Key Facts	
Total REZ area	114,244 ha
Potential development area	95,301 ha
Land parcels	3,744
Private freehold	87%
Reserved land (mainly regional reserves)	3%
Forestry land	4%
Roads and railways	3%
Conservation areas (including covenants)	3%
Potential generation capacity by proposed REZ infrastructure	1,000 MW
Potential generation capacity by developable area	9,530 MW



The Proposed Renewable Energy Zone. The red labels indicate proposed wind farms, while the black label indicates a proposed hydrogen development. The solid orange line indicates a constructed 110 kV transmission line; the red line indicates a constructed 220 kV transmission line, and the purple line indicates proposed transmission lines.

Renewables, Climate and Future Industries Tasmania
Department of State Growth

Tasmanian Government

Land Uses

The REZ is largely characterised by private land, which comprises of mostly private timber reserves in the south, with some lower density grazing amongst the forestry operations and a small amount of higher value agricultural land in the north. The balance of land is predominantly a mix of nature and recreational uses.

Key Land Use Statistics	
Forestry	69.8%
Agriculture – Grazing / Pasture	15.8%
Agriculture – Cropping	1.2%
Residential Areas	0.1%
Other	13.1%

Note: there can be several land use classifications assigned to the same land parcels (e.g. mining exploration licences and private timber reserve classifications).

Proposed Projects

Project	Proponent	Type	Capa-city (MW)	Status
Hellyer Wind Farm	Ark Energy	Wind	155	Approvals Phase
Guildford Wind Farm	Ark Energy	Wind	525	Approvals Phase
e-fuel facility	HIF	Load	250	Feasibility Phase
North West	TasNetworks	Transmission	220KV	Approvals Phase

Rural Centres

The rural centres of South Riana, Ridgley and Yolla fall within the REZ. There are also rural residential areas around Natone, Upper Natone, Hampshire and South Elliot.

Community Thoughts

Mapping Important Places was a participatory mapping initiative in 2023 where community were asked to identify places in the north west that are important to them and places that could potentially host renewable energy projects.

Six sites were identified in the Proposed REZ as potentially suitable for future development. Feedback on these sites included:

"would be a great site away from our amazing coastlines"

"abundant in flat land and being logged by forestry. The environment is already altered and visual impact will not be effected"

"this area has been cleared and currently used for farming and forestry… and is always windy"

Development Constraints

Approximately 16% of the Zone contains land that is constrained land for future development based on current known constraints. Examples of such constraints include:

- Threatened Vegetation Communities and habitat important for threatened species
- Threatened Species
- Reserved land
- Conservation covenants
- Aboriginal Heritage (as listed on the Aboriginal Heritage Register)
- Historic Heritage
- Mining leases and licences
- Residential uses

In addition, proponents locating in the REZ will need to consider:

- Applicable reserved land management objectives and potential effects from some significant vantage points within Tasmania Wilderness World Heritage Area
- Future forestry operations including access issues, bushfire management activities as well as harvesting, planting and regeneration operations.
- Agricultural practices, including irrigation, aerial agriculture (crop dusting), intensity of grazing, cropping activities, and management issues. Landowners must be involved early in these conversations.
- Mining exploration requirements within areas of high strategic prospectivity
- Residential uses and any potential amenity impacts
- Intangible and landscape Aboriginal cultural values, through consultation and engagement with Tasmanian Aboriginal people.

Limitations of Data

The estimates of land use and existing values are based on information from databases that are continually updated to reflect new and changing data for an area. As such, they provide an indication only of known values and uses. Site-specific information will continue to be required to inform individual projects within the REZ.