



**NEW·E**  
HUNTER ENERGY



**HUNTERNET**  
The power of many

# INVITATION TO PARTNER

*New.E - The driving force behind the New Energy  
revolution in the Hunter and beyond.*

# INTRODUCTION



In 2021 the Hunter region was chosen as the geographic base for NSW's Hydrogen Technology Cluster and seeded as part of this cluster, NewH2 was formed. Now hosted at HunterNet – Australia's leading industry cluster – and renamed New.E, we are supporting the NSW new energy economy by facilitating connections and sharing knowledge throughout the state and beyond.

## OUR VISION



We envision a future where the Hunter will be Australia's leading new energy hub and technology cluster, demonstrated by excellence in research, innovation, technology and education, production, use, export and employment participation across new energy supply chains. Through strategic initiatives and partnerships, we are paving the way for regional and state-wide economic growth, environmental sustainability, and energy security.

## OUR MISSION



To spearhead innovation, foster collaboration, and drive economic development to accelerate the growth of the new energy and hydrogen industries within our local communities and across the state.



# NEW.E MILESTONES & ACHIEVEMENTS



## **TRANSITION TO INDUSTRY-LED MODEL**

New.E successfully transitioned to an industry-led model, with support from HunterNet, which marked a new era of industry collaboration and sustainability, ensuring that the Hunter region and NSW remain at the forefront of hydrogen and new energy innovation.

## **PATRON SUPPORT**

We are proud to have secured seed patron support from leading industry players within the Hunter region and across NSW more broadly. Their investment underscores the commitment of local businesses to driving innovation and economic growth in the hydrogen and new energy sectors.

## **GOVERNMENT AND INTERSTATE ALLIANCES**

New.E has forged strategic alliances with government agencies and interstate partners, ensuring alignment with regional, state, and national cluster and industry development initiatives. These partnerships are instrumental in shaping policy, driving investment, and accelerating the transition to a new energy-based economy within the Hunter region and NSW.

## **INTERSTATE AND INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT**

Our commitment to collaboration extends beyond borders, as we actively welcome interstate and international delegates to participate in our initiatives. These partnerships facilitate knowledge transfer, foster innovation, and position the Hunter region and NSW as global leaders in new energy technology.

## **PORT OF ROTTERDAM PARTNERSHIP**

Our partnership with the Port of Rotterdam – Platform Zero underscores our commitment to international collaboration and knowledge sharing as a lever for growth to our region.

## **UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE, NSW DECARBONISATION INNOVATION HUB AND NSW TRACE**

The University of Newcastle foundation partnership and New.E's involvement in initiatives such as the Energy and Resources Knowledge Hub, NSW Decarbonisation Innovation Hub, and NSW TRaCE highlights our dedication to driving connections between industry, research and innovation in the new energy sector.

## **KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE EVENTS**

New.E hosts a series of knowledge exchange events throughout the year, providing a platform for industry leaders, researchers, and stakeholders to share insights, collaborate on key challenges, and drive innovation forward in the Hunter region and NSW.

## **CONSULTATIONS AND WORKING GROUPS**

We actively engage in the Hunter Hydrogen Taskforce, plus a range of consultations and working groups to develop future workforce skills, address industry challenges, identify opportunities for growth, and shape the future direction of the new energy economy.



# HUNTER NEW ENERGY SYMPOSIUM SUCCESS



The inaugural Hunter New Energy Symposium in 2023 brought together key stakeholders from across the region and beyond to discuss the latest advancements and opportunities in the new energy sector. Building on this success, the second symposium in February 2024 further solidified New.E's reputation as a cluster for new energy and hydrogen thought leadership and innovation, and saw:

- 230 Attendees across the two day event
- 80 Speakers sharing knowledge in 4 main sessions and 9 breakout sessions
- 20 Sponsors
- 5 tours on the Hydrogen Fuel Cell Bus
- 6 Exhibitors at the first-time exhibition component
- 190 attendees and VIPS at the Industry Dinner
- Substantial media coverage
- Over 1,300 forms of engagement on New.E's LinkedIn profile.





*“It was a great event – the keynote speakers were all really relevant and interesting, timing of sessions and breaks was perfect, and the general energy and positivity for the region across the week was high.”*

**2024 Symposium Attendee**



# FUTURE PRIORITIES



New.E is committed to prioritising the following areas within the Hunter region and NSW:

- 1. Knowledge:** Continue facilitating knowledge sharing and collaboration to advance new energy and hydrogen technologies, develop best practices, and address industry challenges.
- 2. Skills & Future Workforce:** Support investment and initiatives in skills development and workforce training to ensure a skilled workforce capable of driving innovation and growth in the new energy sector within the Hunter region and NSW.
- 3. Research & Innovation:** Supporting research initiatives and foster innovation to drive technological advancements and commercialisation in the new energy and hydrogen industries within the Hunter region and NSW.
- 4. Projects & Investment:** Identify and support projects and investments that promote the development of new energy supply chains, infrastructure, and technologies within the Hunter region and NSW.
- 5. Outreach & Alliances:** Strengthening outreach efforts and alliances to expand our network, engage with key stakeholders, promote and advocate for our region for the new energy and hydrogen industry at local, state, and national levels within the Hunter region and NSW.
- 6. Key Events & Trade Missions:** Actively participate in world dialogue and summits, trade missions, national and international forums to showcase our expertise, explore collaboration opportunities, and promote the Hunter region and NSW as global leaders in new energy and hydrogen technologies.



# NEW.E CO-LEADS



## CLARE LARKIN-SYKES

Clare is Co-Lead of New.E and Managing Director of Forelight Advisory. Clare's expertise is in the leadership of multi-stakeholder initiatives including technology and decarbonisation strategy, place-based industry development and mission-based innovation programs. She is a strong collaborator and advocate of future resource and energy industries including the symbiosis of clean technology solutions to traditional processes and value chains.

Clare is a mining engineer (UNSW) - who also holds applied finance qualifications - is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD), a Churchill Fellow, and member of the Australian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy (AusIMM). She serves on the Advisory Board of the NSW Decarbonisation Innovation Hub and Newcastle Institute of Energy and Resources (NIER). She is a Commissioner - NSW Independent Planning Commission, Chair - Resources NSW, and a member of the Hunter Hydrogen Taskforce.



## BORIS NOVAK

Boris is Co-Lead of New.E and Managing Director of Science & Technologies Knowhow. Boris' expertise is in mobilising new venture collaborations, sense making of complementary technology solutions for integrated commercial strategies, and maturing governance frameworks for businesses seeking succession solutions. He is a keen advocate for the repatriation of manufacturing to Australia, and especially the Hunter region.

Boris is an Electronics & Electrical Engineer (UNSW) who spent nearly 30 years in Defence and the Defence Industry as a founder of an innovative systems engineering business. The Judge for The Collaboration Award and Rising Star Award in The Hunter Manufacturing Awards (HMA), Boris was the inaugural Chair of NewH2 prior to it coming under the stewardship of HunterNet. He is a graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) and Chairs two commercial Advisory Boards. Maintaining business interests in innovation for complex problems, Boris has grown a passion for the energy and resources industry and considers the present to be an exciting and especially privileged time to be an engineer.



# INVITATION TO PARTNER



Your organisation is invited to partner with us in our mission to drive the growth of the new energy economy within the Hunter region and NSW. Your financial support, engagement, and expertise will enable us to support innovation, foster collaboration, and accelerate the growth of the new energy economy, creating industry opportunities and environmental benefits for our communities.

By becoming a partner member of New.E, your organisation will not only demonstrate leadership in supporting regional industry cluster development and clean energy initiatives, but also contribute to the collective effort in driving innovation and economic growth in the new energy sector. Together, we can shape a sustainable and prosperous future for generations to come.

## PARTNERSHIP BENEFITS



As a partner of New.E, your organisation will gain access to a range of exclusive benefits designed to maximise exposure, enhance brand visibility, and demonstrate your leadership in advancing the new energy economy including:

- 1. Brand Exposure:** As a partner of New.E, your organisation will receive prominent recognition in all promotional materials, including event signage, marketing collateral, and digital platforms. Your logo will be prominently displayed, ensuring heightened visibility among key stakeholders, industry leaders, and decision-makers within the Hunter region and NSW.
- 2. Networking Opportunities:** Partnership of New.E grants your organisation access to exclusive networking events, allowing you to connect with industry leaders, government officials, researchers, and potential collaborators. These networking opportunities provide a platform for building strategic partnerships, fostering new business relationships, and exploring collaboration opportunities within the hydrogen sector.
- 3. Thought Leadership:** Showcase your organisation as a thought leader and innovator in the emerging new energy industry by participating in panel discussions, keynote presentations, and expert forums facilitated by New.E. Position your company at the forefront of industry discussions, share insights, and demonstrate your commitment to driving innovation and sustainability within the Hunter region and NSW.
- 4. Community Engagement:** Demonstrate your organisation's commitment to corporate social responsibility by supporting New.E's initiatives aimed at community engagement, education, and outreach. Showcase your dedication to environmental stewardship and community development, enhancing your brand reputation and fostering positive relationships with local communities.





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- 5. Media Exposure:** Potential to increase exposure through New.E's promotional campaigns, reaching a wider audience through press releases, interviews, and feature articles in local, national, and industry-specific publications. Leverage media coverage to amplify your organisation's message, increase brand awareness, and highlight your contributions to the new energy industry.
- 6. Customised Partnership Packages:** Tailor your partnership to align with your organisation's specific goals, objectives, and budget. Whether you're seeking brand exposure, thought leadership opportunities, or community engagement initiatives, New.E can help customise a partnership package to suit your needs.

## Key considerations for partnership within the Hunter Region and NSW:

- **HunterNet is a not for profit cooperative and is the Host of New.E.** HunterNet has overall accountability for the delivery of Cluster administration and delivery. A New.E Committee has been established to support and guide the Cluster by providing expert knowledge, connections and professional opinions. The New.E Committee has established a Terms of Reference (ToR) and meets quarterly.
- **Not a "Cash for Comment" Advocacy Group:** New.E is committed to maintaining integrity and impartiality in its promotional efforts. We prioritise providing strong representation to all areas of business and government, ensuring that the voice of the region is heard without bias or undue influence.
- **Focus on Representation:** A key focus for New.E is to enable the advancement of the hydrogen and new energy industries and represent the interests of our region across various sectors. We believe that regular interaction and engagement with stakeholders are paramount to understanding the needs and priorities of the region.
- **Regular Interaction and Engagement:** We value regular interaction and engagement with our cluster members, ensuring that their voices are heard, and their perspectives are considered in shaping the future of the new energy economy. Through open dialogue and collaboration, we strive to drive meaningful change and innovation.



Join us in leading the charge towards a new energy future for the Hunter and make a lasting impact on our region and beyond.

# TAKE ACTION TODAY

Contact us at [clare.sykes@hunternewenergy.com.au](mailto:clare.sykes@hunternewenergy.com.au) or [boris.novak@hunternewenergy.com.au](mailto:boris.novak@hunternewenergy.com.au) to learn more about how your organisation can partner with New.E and make a meaningful impact in the Hunter region and NSW.

## FUNDING PARTNERS



## FOUNDATIONAL MEMBERS

