

Renewable Energy Trail

The ACT and surrounding NSW region is leading the world in presenting such a diverse and splendid range of renewable energy generation sites, and we're inviting you to come along and explore.

The Renewable Energy Trail is a self-drive touring route that showcases the many different sources of renewable energy generation across the region. From acres of solar panels with their faces to the sun, to majestic wind turbines set within spectacular rural landscapes, to hands-on experiences in Canberra's best interactive centres, the Trail offers a unique way to explore the region, and to experience the innovation and wonder of renewable energy.

Check out the rivers running backwards at the Snowy Hydro scheme or the Woodlawn Bioreactor near Tarago. Once an open cut mine, this site is now a waste-to-energy facility diverting 20% of Sydney's landfill waste and generating enough power for a small town while producing waste heat to farm Barramundi for some of Australia's top restaurants. Whether the technology is large or small, whether it is part of Australia's heritage or cutting edge innovation, by understanding how it works you're bound to see things from a different perspective.

The Renewable Energy Trail celebrates the ACT and region's position as the nation's hub of excellence in renewable energy, and raises awareness of the region's renewable energy assets and their global significance. It also tells the story of how the development of this region's renewable energy sector is creating new jobs and growing local businesses - strengthening our communities.

So come and visit some of the best renewable energy sites on Earth ...

The ACT and surrounding NSW region has many of the BIGGEST and the BEST Renewable Energy infrastructure sites in Australia:



World's largest parabolic solar thermal dish concentrator – ANU Big Dish (500m²)



Australia's largest hydro-electric generator – Snowy Mountains Scheme (4,100MW)



World's largest bioreactor landfill project – Woodlawn Bioreactor (waste to energy)



One of Australia's largest utility-scale PV solar facilities – Royalla Solar Farm (20MW)



NSW's largest wind energy generator – Gullen Range Wind Farm (165.5MW)



Southern Hemisphere's largest geothermal heat pump – Geoscience Australia



Australia's largest community-owned solar farm project – SolarShare Canberra (1MW)

ACT Loop

Stoke your renewable wanderlust - right here in the ACT. Whether it's a feat of scientific genius—like The Big Dish at the Australian National University (pictured) — finding out how you can generate your own renewable energy at the Renewables Education Centre, or just a new view on a familiar place, like Questacon, there are multiple opportunities to renew your passion for power.

Northern Loop

We can never forget how much beauty there is in our own backyard. On this Trail we go quintessentially rural and get out on the open road, forfeiting the Federal Highway to blaze new trails. While it's good to have a plan, the best stories come from the detours. Make memories with these off-the-beaten track experiences taking in Taralga Wind Farm (pictured), the local towns of Taralga, Collector and Gunning and all the wind farms along the way. Who knows what treats you'll find (renewable of course).

Eastern Loop

Now here's something worthy of a photo. Get up close and personal with a wind turbine in this landscape that will adjust your perception of the world. But most of all, it will elicit a thrill. Capital Wind Farm and Woodlawn Bioreactor (pictured) and the Wind Farm near Tarago are inspiring enough, but take in the local towns of Bungendore, Tarago and Collector (and the local wineries along the way) and you'll renew your energy.

Southern Loop

Dive deep into the Snowys and emerge with renewed energy. Here you will find the Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre at Cooma. This state-of-the-art visitor facility showcases the amazing story of the Snowy Mountains Scheme from the early construction days, to the role the Scheme plays today in the continuing development and growth of renewable energy in Australia.

A bit further on down the road you'll find Boco Rock Wind Farm. Stop at Nimmitabel for a megawatt of caffeine before you head out to this beautiful location where you can look up and out across the Monaro plains to Mt Kosciuszko for views with infinite dimensions.



Enjoy an educational, self-drive tourism experience that showcases the diversity of renewable energy sites ... SIGHTS!, located within the south east NSW - ACT region.



Corporate Members



Key Partners



The Renewable Energy Trail will also be developed to tell the bigger story of the region – to link in with the many delights of our region, including its gourmet food and wine, its natural history and cultural heritage, and points of interest. RDA Southern Inland has also provided funding to support the branding and marketing of the Trail as part of the Phase II development. The SERREE initiative is led by Regional Development Australia ACT, in collaboration with a range of key partners (see over), to promote the economic growth and synergistic regional development of the ACT and surrounding south east NSW region leveraging the opportunities of the burgeoning renewable energy industry.

Zhenfa Australia are supporting SERREE to engage RRC Tourism to further develop the Renewable Energy Trail concept, and to present a Project Plan that will provide more detail on the potential scope and benefits of progressing the Trail initiative. We envisage route signage will help to navigate Trail participants around the region, with viewing areas and interpretive displays available at each site to best exhibit and provide information about the extensive array of available generation technologies. The Renewable Energy Trail will also be developed to tell the bigger story of the region – to link in with the many delights of our region, including its gourmet food and wine, its natural history and cultural heritage, and points of interest.

The Renewable Energy Trail is an initiative of SERREE – the South East Region of Renewable Energy Excellence industry Cluster, being developed in collaboration with key renewable energy stakeholders to showcase the ACT and south east NSW as Australia's exemplar region of renewable energy excellence. Phase I of the Trail – an introduction, is being launched at SERREE's Renewable Energy Day 2015. Phase I provides a 'taste' of what's to come, but first we need a Renewable Energy Trail Project Plan to develop the initiative.

Renewable Energy Trail - Phase I

Phase II

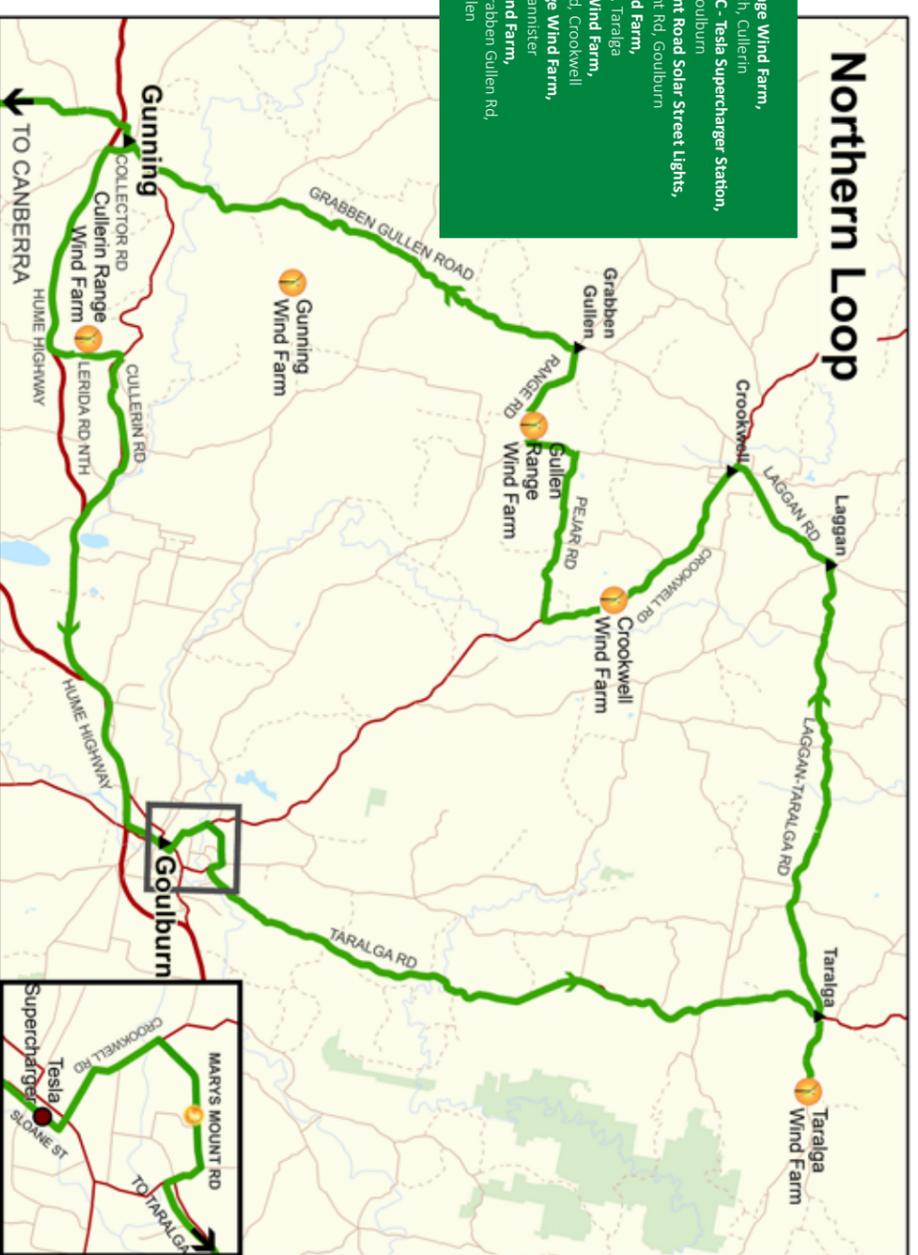


ACT Loop



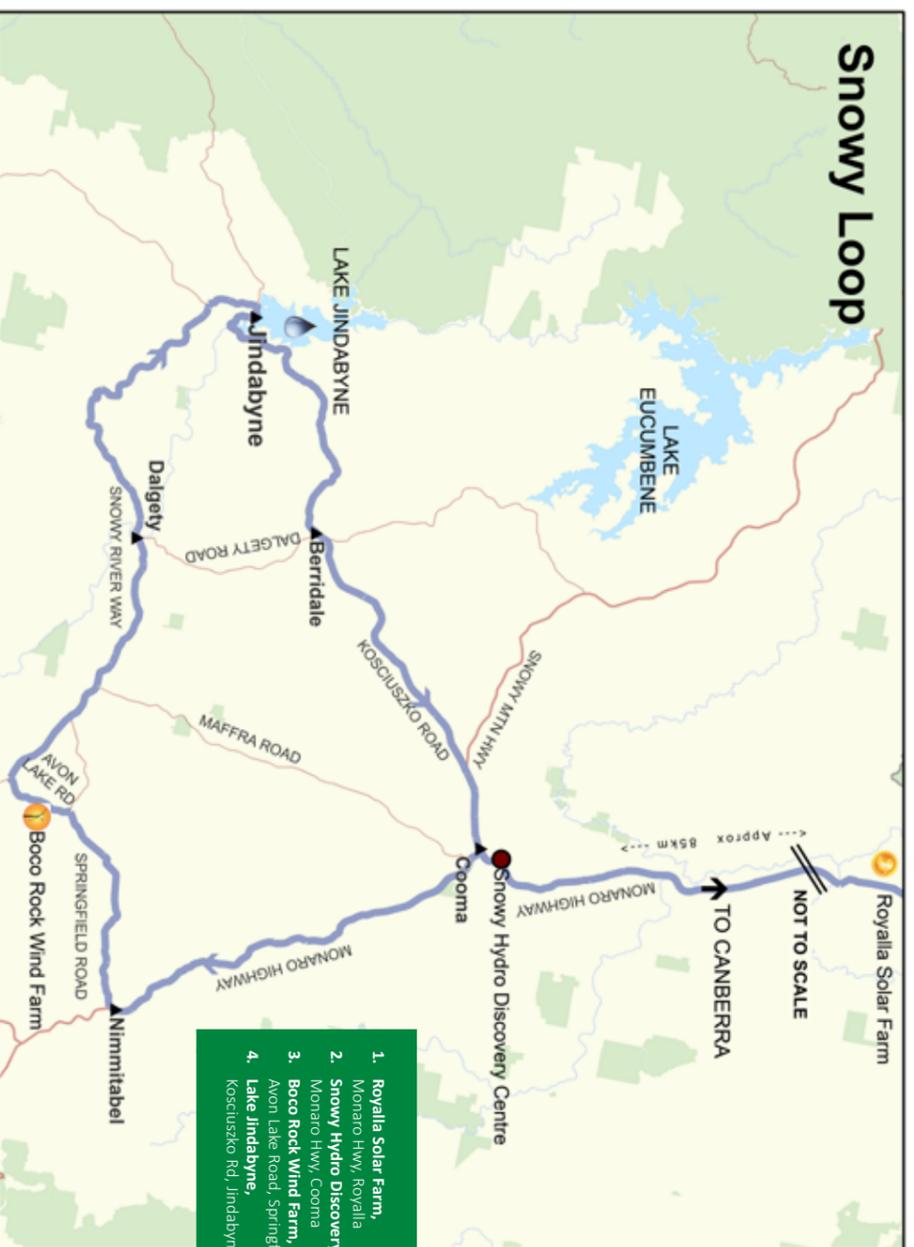
1. Canberra and Region Visitors Centre, 330 Northbourne Ave, Dickson
2. ANU Big Dish, Garran Rd, Acton
3. Questacon, King Edward Tee, Parkes
4. Geoscience Australia, Cnr Hindmarsh Dr And Jerrabomberra Ave, Symonston (geothermal movie and static display inside)
5. Mugga Lane Solar Park (under construction), Mugga Lane, Hume
6. Royalla Solar Farm, Monaro Hwy, Royalla
7. CIT Renewable Energy Skills Centre of Excellence, Purdie St, Bruce
8. Renewables Education Centre, PSC CAN, Hoskins St, Mitchell

Northern Loop



1. Cullerin Range Wind Farm, Lenda Rd Nth, Cullerin
2. Goulburn VIC - Tesla Supercharger Station, Sloane St, Goulburn
3. Marys Mount Road Solar Street Lights, Marys Mount Rd, Goulburn
4. Taralga Wind Farm, Bannaby Rd, Taralga
5. Crookwell Wind Farm, Crookwell Rd, Crookwell
6. Gullen Range Wind Farm, Range Rd, Bannister
7. Gunning Wind Farm, view from Grabben Gullen Rd, Grabben Gullen

Snowy Loop



1. Royalla Solar Farm, Monaro Hwy, Royalla
2. Snowy Hydro Discovery Centre, Monaro Hwy, Cooma
3. Boco Rock Wind Farm, Avon Lake Road, Springfield
4. Lake Jindabyne, Kosciuszko Rd, Jindabyne

Eastern Loop



1. Canberra and Region Visitors Centre, 330 Northbourne Ave, Dickson
2. Capital Wind Farm, Taylors Creek Rd, Tarago
3. Woodlawn Wind Farm, Taylors Creek Rd, Tarago
4. Woodlawn Bioreactor, Collector Road, Tarago
5. Weerewa Lookout, Federal Highway – panoramic view across Lake George to Capital Wind Farm (Utterly majestic!)