

RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES

ACCELERATING HAWAII'S CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE



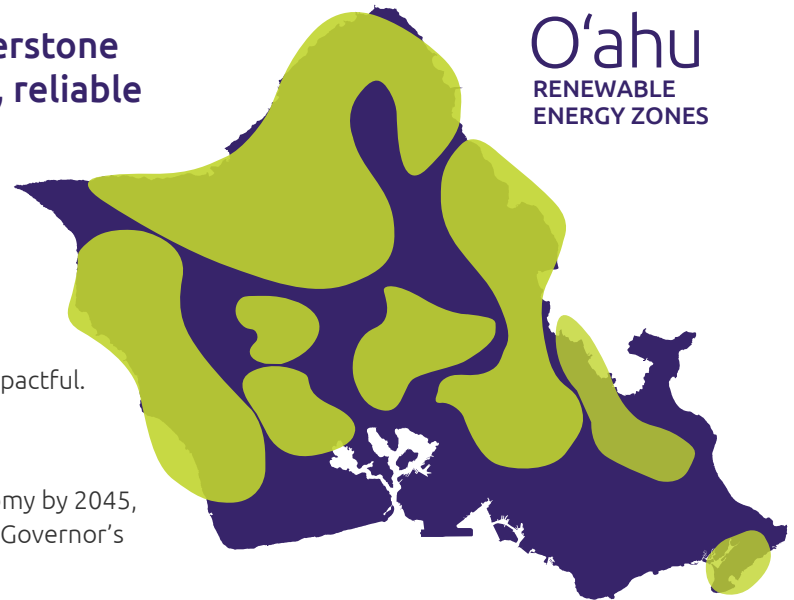
Renewable energy zones (REZ) are a cornerstone of Hawaiian Electric's work to build a safe, reliable and resilient grid.

What are REZ?

REZ are designated areas with high potential for clean energy generation—such as solar or wind—and that can be easily connected to the grid. They help focus development where renewable projects will be most efficient, cost-effective and impactful.

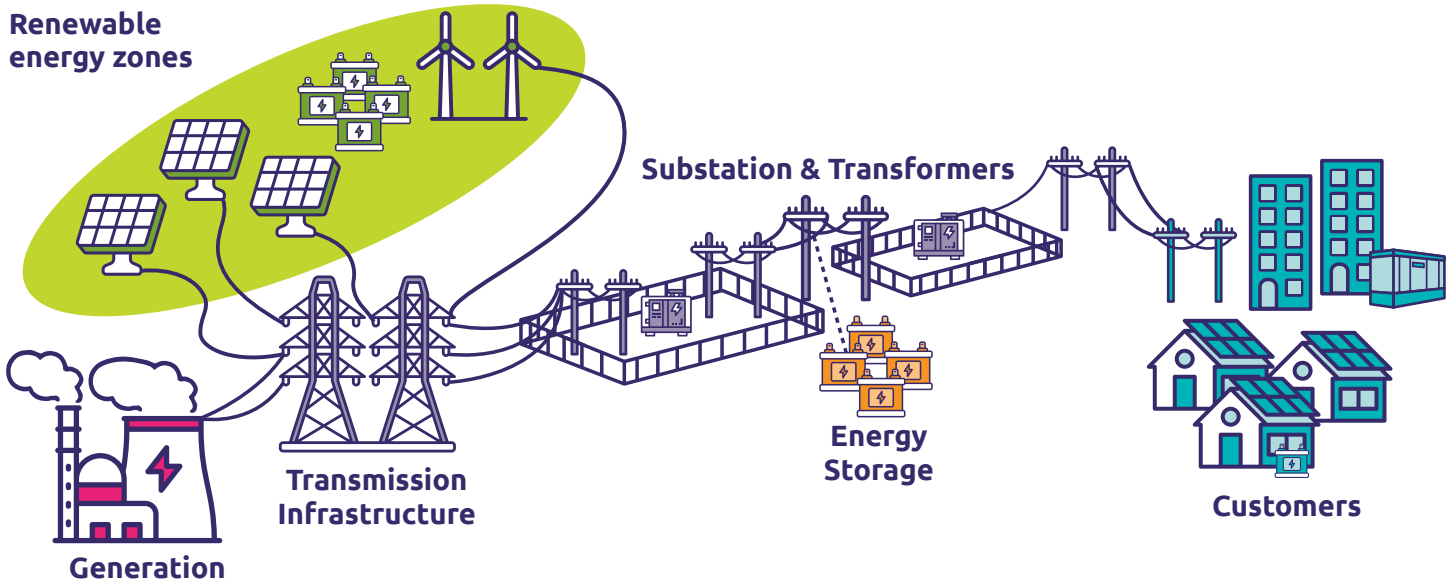
What are the benefits of REZ?

- Support Hawai'i state law to achieve a net-zero carbon economy by 2045, as outlined by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the Governor's Executive Orders
- Expand grid capacity and modernize infrastructure, improving capacity and system resilience
- Reduce dependence on imported oil, enhancing energy security and stability



Renewable energy zones

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Why do we need to identify REZ now?

- The PUC has directed Hawaiian Electric to designate at least two REZ on O'ahu by June 2026. This is a key step in helping Hawai'i reach its carbon-reduction goals and create a sustainable, reliable and resilient energy system.

What does it mean for you, our customers?

- Increased capacity and more diverse resources
- More stable electricity rates in the long-term, as local clean energy generation reduces Hawai'i's reliance on imported oil and protects against fluctuating global prices



What does the REZ process involve?

- Data analysis to identify optimal zones for clean energy
- Community engagement to ensure alignment with local values and priorities
- A detailed environmental review of each area and development of clear scoring criteria—such as environmental impacts, climate risk, geography and community input—to compare zones
- Phased implementation including planning, permitting and construction of transmission and generation infrastructure

What are the considerations in identifying REZ?

To identify the best places for REZ across Hawai'i, Hawaiian Electric strives to balance energy potential, community impact and long-term sustainability. Factors we consider include:

- **Resource and site suitability:** How physically and environmentally suitable an area is for renewable development
- **Community and equity considerations:** How development aligns with community priorities, local support and existing activity
- **System performance and resilience:** How well the zone can sustain reliable, long-term operation and grid benefits

Timeline and next steps:

- **2022** – Hawaiian Electric first introduces REZ concept to the public and gathers comments
- **2025** – Criteria development and initial scoring with stakeholders
- **2026** – Initial evaluation and zone selection
- **2027-2034** – Design, planning and permitting
- **2035 and beyond** – Construction and ongoing buildout of renewable energy zones statewide



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