

# GLENROWAN solar farm

## FACT SHEET

# Glenrowan Solar BESS



### About the project

Pacific Partnerships is proposing to develop a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at the operational Glenrowan Solar Farm site to help secure the energy supply in Victoria by providing storage of excess energy generated during off peak hours for use during the high demand periods.

In October 2025, a development application (DA) was lodged to the state government through the Development Facilitation Program (DFP) for the BESS, which will have a capacity of 102 MW and up to four hours of storage. As part of our DA application process for the BESS, a Notice of an Application was mailed to neighbours within a 1km radius of the proposed BESS, as required by the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning. These residents can make comments on the development, within four weeks of the commencement of the notice period from 23 February 2026.

The BESS will be located in the northwest corner of Glenrowan Solar Farm, at the corner of Glenrowan-Winton and Chivers Roads. The BESS will operate in conjunction with the existing solar farm, which has been operating since May 2024.



### Existing grid connection

The proposed BESS will connect to the 33kV connection infrastructure at the site. No external cabling connection work will be required.

## Project description

The proposed BESS will be arranged as containerised units, or cabinets, connecting to the existing solar farm.

Battery units, inverters, cooling systems and other equipment will be installed as follows:

- BESS battery units accommodating up to 4 hours of storage
- Inverters to convert the direct current (DC) electricity from the BESS into alternating current (AC)
- Auxiliary kiosks that supply battery ancillary systems such as cooling, control, monitoring and fire suppression to ensure safe and reliable operation of the plant
- A BESS Harmonic Filter located adjacent to the existing harmonic filter which will improve power quality that feeds into the grid
- A connection to the existing solar farm 33kV switchboard at the solar farm
- Fire water tanks which are compliant with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) guidelines
- A new crushed rock laydown and car parking area
- A new retention basin for catching firewater run-off
- A minimum 10-metre fire break between the facility and any vegetation.



*Pictured here are sample images of cabinet-style BESS units (top) and larger container-style units (bottom).*

## Project need



Strong alignment with State and local policy to increase battery storage capacity, to ensure the renewable energy grid remains resilient and able to respond to energy demands as Victoria transitions to a net zero energy grid.



Will provide substantial social and economic benefits to area and the State of Victoria.



Noise and vibration associated with the project will remain well below acceptable limits during construction and operation.



Is consistent with the purpose and decision guidelines of the Farming Zone.



A Risk Management Plan and Fire Management Plan have been prepared, which demonstrate compliance with Wangaratta Planning Scheme and the CFA design guidelines and requirements.



Will not impact the existing visual character of the area, including the existing vegetated backdrop of the prominent hill faces and ridgelines in the surrounding area, and the overarching rural landscape.



Avoids any impact to remnant or indigenous vegetation.

## Project timeline



## Project benefits

A Social and Economic Impact Assessment (SEIA) identified the following project benefits.

### Construction

- Up to \$130 million capital investment, of which 10% will flow to the local economy.
- 50 FTE construction-related jobs supported, of which 20 FTE jobs will be sourced locally (includes direct and indirect employment).
- New participation opportunities for local construction businesses through Pacific Partnership's procurement activities.
- Increased opportunities for local businesses providing support services to project workers such as accommodation, retail, food & beverage, fuel and medical.

### Operation

- 2 FTE ongoing operational jobs, of which 1 FTE will be local (includes direct and indirect employment).
- **\$0.25 million** - provided over 10 years through Pacific Partnership's community benefit sharing program.
- **\$7.8 million** - to Wangaratta Rural City Council over 25 years through the Victorian Government's Payment in Lieu of Rates scheme.
- **\$0.9 million** - Local wage stimulus over 25 years, associated with the 1 FTE operational job supported.

### Social benefits

- **Employment opportunities benefitting livelihoods:** Local and regional jobs created during construction, with flow-on spending in local businesses.
- **Community revenue / benefits benefitting livelihoods:** Contributions to local councils and community benefit sharing initiatives.
- **Educational opportunities:** A visible BESS facility can increase awareness, understanding and acceptance of renewable energy technology.



## About us and Glenrowan Solar Farm

Glenrowan Solar was developed by Pacific Partnerships and is being operated and maintained by fellow CIMIC company, UGL. We are a leading infrastructure developer and owner with local experience and presence in Australia and New Zealand.

Pacific Partnerships draws on the strength of the wider CIMIC Group, a global leader in building, infrastructure and concessions, to create, finance, own, deliver and operate sustainable solutions that unlock benefits for our communities.

Long-term relationships have been established with our neighbours and stakeholders, through proactive community engagement at Glenrowan Solar. Regular engagement has been ongoing since acquiring development rights for the project in 2021 and has included communication in person and via emails, calls, visits, website and publications to ensure our team understands and acts on community needs and values. This has informed initiatives such as formation of our Community Reference Group, collaborative planning of planting schemes, establishment of a local habitat planting opportunity and delivery of an ongoing benefit fund to deliver lasting outcomes for the region.

Find out more about the project on our website here: [glenrowansolarfarm.com.au](https://glenrowansolarfarm.com.au)

## Have your say

Pacific Partnerships has engaged with the local community via a survey and in-person meetings with neighbours and with relevant authorities since the start of the BESS planning process.

For more information about the DA process, please go to website here: **Glenrowan Solar Farm**

Please contact us if you have any questions via email at:  
**[contactus@glenrowansolarfarm.com.au](mailto:contactus@glenrowansolarfarm.com.au)**

And by phone at: **03 6289 8919**

