

Application to modify the approved New England Solar project

Project Update | August 21, 2022

The Modification Application for the New England Solar and Battery project is nearing completion and will be submitted to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) in the coming week. The modification has supporting technical studies and investigations assessing the impacts of the proposed changes included in the application. Following a formal review process by DPE, it will then be placed on public exhibition for community feedback and comments.

Summary of proposed modifications

There are a number of changes to the original development consent being proposed in the application. These include:

- The inclusion of an additional 130 ha of land to the approved project footprint to help optimise the detailed design of the project. This land is owned by existing project landholders.
- An increase to the maximum capacity of the Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) of up to 1200 MW/ 2 hours. This means that if fully built out, the battery project would be able to guarantee the supply of 700 MW for 4 hrs. The proposed change responds to market signals for the need for more dispatchable capacity to replace ageing coal fired power stations.
- An increase from 56 to 84 daily heavy vehicle movements along the vehicle access route during the construction phase of the project.
- An increase of oversize vehicles from the approved 15 to 30 for the lifetime of the project.
- Extension of working hours on Saturday from 8am to 6pm (currently limited to 8am to 1pm), with some works allowed on Sunday, albeit limited to inaudible works.

Due to the varied weather conditions and the impact of COVID-19, the proposed changes will allow the works to progress as scheduled, whilst the expanded BESS will provide much needed support to the NSW grid and help ensure security of supply for energy consumers.

No additional neighbouring landholders have been identified as being impacted as part of these proposed project refinements.

Further information will be provided once the Modification Application has been placed on public exhibition by the Department of Planning and Environment.

For more information, email info@newenglandsolarfarm.com.au or call **1300 250 479**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

 @newenglandsolarfarm

 newenglandsolarfarm.com.au

 @newenglandsolarfarm