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## Next generation of clean energy workers tour New England Solar site

Forty students from schools across the New England region joined us on the Stage 1 New England Solar project site last week to learn about future careers in renewable energy.

The visit was part of the NSW Department of Education's Educational Pathways Program which helps students learn about the skills and qualifications required to join industries including the clean energy sector.

Students from Armidale Secondary College, Guyra Central School, Uralla Central School, and Walcha Central School were given a guided tour across parts of the 1,000 hectare site, learning about the construction and operation of one of Australia's largest solar projects.

It's expected that more than two thousand construction and ongoing operational jobs will be created from renewable energy developments across New England over the next decade.

These include a range of jobs from electrical engineers, electricians, construction and project managers as well as large equipment operators, riggers, drivers and other labourers.

The industry also requires legal and finance experts, communications and engagement staff and planning and development team members.

## Key contracts struck for New England Solar Stage 2 and battery projects

We're celebrating some important milestones for our Stage 2 solar and battery project.

Energy storage specialist Energy Vault has been awarded the contract to deliver and maintain our 400 megawatt hour battery energy storage system. And Brisbane high voltage connection specialists the EPEC Group has been appointed to complete the substation works to connect our Stage 2 solar project and the battery system.

The news comes after our earlier agreement with Lumea to help connect the battery to the Transgrid transmission network.

It's all good news as we start to scale up for works on our solar and battery project.

The team from Energy Vault has already joined us on site this month to inspect the works area for the battery project.

The Federal Government expects that more than half a million workers will be required to help deliver the new energy developments across the country up to 2050.

The Clean Energy Council has identified better promotion of jobs in the clean energy sector as one of several key priorities to help support the industry.



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