

February 2019

Community Update: planning go-ahead for Clarke Creek Solar Farm

The Development Application for a Material Change of Use permit from Isaac Regional Council has been approved.

We are pleased to report that Council was impressed with the standard of our submission and our communication throughout the process, adding they were happy we had considered potential issues proactively.

We are steadfast in our belief that involving key stakeholders and communities from the very beginning is as important to our business's success as technical and financial factors.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all stakeholders for their involvement, interest and support, and we are now looking forward to realising all the benefits that Clarke Creek Solar Farm will bring to the community.



Early surveying and resource assessment works on site: A met mast has been installed, which will help us to understand the resource and further inform our forecasting.

The Project

Clarke Creek Solar Farm will be a large-scale solar photovoltaic power station. The site has been identified as an area highly suitable for efficiently capturing solar energy – the region is subject to 2,095 kWh/m² per annum, making it one of the strongest regions in the country for solar irradiance that has strong connections to the National Electricity Market (NEM).

It is expected to have a generating capacity of up to 315MWac, enough to power approximately 175,000 homes.

Some of the key characteristics of the Clarke Creek site include:

- flat to slightly undulating terrain with minimal trees and vegetation



- currently rural land, with some areas used for cattle agistment
- strong potential to connect to the National Electricity Market (NEM)

Pacific Hydro can now commission detailed technical studies and analysis to progress the project.

Local Benefits

Pacific Hydro has a strong track record of delivering lasting benefits to the local communities in which our projects are located. The project will deliver a boost to the local economy with approximately 240 workers required onsite during construction, with up to 6 permanent jobs to be created to ensure the effective operation of the solar farm.

Feedback from neighbouring landowners and the local community is being proactively sought and a comprehensive community engagement plan will be implemented at the appropriate time.

Business Register

Pacific Hydro is committed to engaging local suppliers wherever possible. Businesses that are located near the project, or that serve the area, and are interested in becoming a supplier are encouraged to register their capabilities with us by emailing enquiries@pacifichydro.com.au. Types of capabilities sought include civil works and plant equipment hire, building supplies, and food/accommodation.

These jobs will help to diversify local skills and economic output for the region, complementing the agricultural industry and contributing to the prosperity of the local economy.

Community Investment Program

Pacific Hydro is committed to supporting the communities that host our clean energy projects with positive and lasting social, environmental and economic benefits.

Pacific Hydro runs a [Community Investment Program](#) for our projects in operation across Australia. An Australian renewable energy industry first, the Program delivers a portion of revenue back into our local communities each year. We are looking forward to getting the community's input to a program for Clarke Creek. Typically, this occurs at the construction stage.

Since its launch, the Program has provided more than \$3 million to over 700 sustainable projects across regional Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia.

At its core, the Program aims to empower local communities to identify the initiatives and projects that Pacific Hydro should support. A range of methods are used to meet this aim, tailored to the specific needs of each locality.

Future updates

For other information about this update, the Clarke Creek Solar Farm project, or to speak with us, please leave a message with our callback service on 1800 730 734, visit [our website](#), or email: Krista Kim / Martine Holberton – enquiries@pacifichydro.com.au