

# Capricorn

## Battery Energy

### Storage System (BESS)



## Frequently Asked Questions

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### Project Overview

#### What is the project?

The proposed Capricorn project would involve the construction and operation of a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

A BESS uses rechargeable batteries to store electricity from the grid, during times of low demand for example, and then releases it when needed, such as during peak demand periods or power outages. By doing so, BESS aim at optimising and reducing energy costs in the long term.

#### Where is it located?

The proposed project would be located at Burnett Hwy Bouldercombe, QLD. ~ 2.5 km north of Bouldercombe.

It would consist of several shipping containers which are fitted with the battery units and control equipment, associated with inverters, power transformers, HV substation, as well as operation and control buildings. The proposed project would be directly connected to Powerlink's Bouldercombe Substation (about 100m from site).

#### Why was this location chosen?

The location of the proposed project is within close proximity to an existing Powerlink substation with available capacity and sits on land available through long-term land lease agreements with local landholders. Bouldercombe is a strategic location in QLD with a high penetration of renewable energy projects that needs more storage facility to facilitate their connection to the network, as well as more network reliability.

#### What the investment value of the project?

The construction of the proposed project would have an estimated value of over \$500M.

#### What's the status of the project?

The project is at an early stage of development, with all necessary assessments required for the Development Approvals currently underway. This includes specialist plans and reports by technical consultants such as traffic impact assessments and noise assessments. These reports will be reviewed by the relevant Consent Authority as part of the assessment process.

Construction of the proposed project is targeted to start in the second half of 2026, pending approvals from relevant consent authorities.

#### Who approves the project?

The approval of the proposed project is the responsibility of the Rockhampton Regional Council and will only proceed once other appropriate approvals are in place. The approval process ensures that the project complies with local and state regulations, environmental standards, and community considerations.

The Development Approvals application package is targeted to be submitted in Quarter 3 2024.

Consultation with relevant Local Government Departments is being undertaken throughout the development process. Early community consultation with relevant Councils, neighbours, community organisations has commenced.

### Project Ownership

#### Who owns the project?

Enel Green Power Australia (EGPA) is the owner of the proposed Capricorn BESS project.

## Who is Enel Green Power Australia?

Enel Green Power Australia, a joint venture company co-owned by Enel Green Power and INPEX Renewable Energy Australia Pty Ltd, currently operates 3 renewable energy plants totalling 310 MW of installed capacity powered by solar. EGPA currently has a 76 MW wind project in final stages of commissioning in Western Australia and a 93 MW solar project in commissioning in Victoria. EGPA's next project to commence construction will be 98 MW solar and 20 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) located in NSW. Additionally, EGPA has a significant portfolio of wind, solar, storage and hybrid projects under development across Australia, alongside expanding its activities in innovative solutions within its retail and trading operations.

## Who owns the land where the proposed project would be situated?

The land is owned by a local landholder. A long-term lease is in place for the construction and operation of the proposed project. The landholder would continue their general farming activities alongside the project infrastructure.

## Project Construction

### Who will construct the proposed project?

EGPA would manage the construction phase of the proposed project and would be engaging with EPC (Engineering, Procurement, Construction) contractor to undertake the construction works. Local subcontractors will be prioritised whenever possible.

### How many jobs would be created during construction?

Approximately 120 to 150 construction staff are anticipated to be on site during construction peaks.

EGPA will work closely with the main construction contractors to identify local capability and capacity for construction roles and prioritise local engagement where possible.

### Will there be apprenticeships and traineeships available during the construction phase?

EGPA will work closely with the main construction contractors to identify on site trainee and apprenticeship opportunities where possible.

## What transmission infrastructure will be built for the project?

A high-voltage substation would be constructed on the proposed project site, alongside a new interconnection cable from the project to Powerlink's Bouldercombe substation (~100m) to be built, maintained, and operated by Powerlink.

## Project Operation

### Who would operate the proposed project?

EGPA would manage the operational phase of the proposed project, mainly remotely. An Operations & Maintenance (O&M) contractor will be engaged to manage the operations and maintenance activities on site.

### When will the proposed project start operating?

Operation of the proposed project is targeted to commence mid 2028, approximately 18-24 months following the start of construction.

### How long would the proposed project operate for?

The approximate timeframe for the operational life of the proposed project is 20 to 30 years.

### What will happen at the end of the lifecycle of the proposed project?

EGPA will adhere to the waste hierarchy and comply with all relevant environmental legislation in effect at the time. Our primary efforts will focus on reusing, recycling, or donating materials whenever it is safe to do so.

At the end of operation, the site will be restored to its original condition, and all materials used will be removed and treated appropriately.

## Project Benefits and Impacts

### What benefits will there be for the local community from the project?

EGPA is committed to a Creating Shared Value (CSV) approach during construction and operation of all of its renewable energy assets. CSV means EGPA intends to work closely with the local community to enhance the economic and social conditions in the local area to all projects and proactively share benefits within the local community.

EGPA's overall objective is for the proposed project to be considered as an integrated and valued component of the social and economic fabric of the local community.

EGPA is committed to local sourcing where feasible. It's anticipated the proposed project will create local employment and supply opportunities, with approximately 120 to 150 construction staff anticipated to be on site during construction peaks; and a small operational and maintenance team for the operational phase.

### **What impacts will the project have on the local community and environment during construction?**

The proposed project would have minimal impacts on the local area during the construction period.

Environmental, noise and construction impacts will be assessed by the relevant regulators during the planning and approvals phase of the project. The planning approvals will set out conditions for the proposed project, including management plans. Management systems will be in place to ensure compliance with all conditions.

### **Further Information**

#### **Where can I find more information on the project?**

If you have any inquiries or would like to provide feedback, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Community Engagement team:

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