

# Cunderdin Hybrid PV Solar + BESS project

# **Project Status**

Works have been progressing well at Cunderdin Hybris PV Solar + BESS Project. Below, you will find an update on the project status.

### **Activities On Site**

#### • Trackers and Solar panels

- ✓ 100% of the trackers and panels have been fully assembled
- ✓ Testing begins during Q2 2024

### • BESS (Battery Energy Storage System) and inverters

- ✓ 100% of the BESS and Inverters have been installed
- ✓ Testing begins during Q2 2024

### Roads, Trenching and Cabling

✓ All internal roads, trenching and cabling have been completed

### **Grid Connection**

#### Substation

- ✓ Substation construction is completed
- ✓ Switch room and relay room installation is completed
- ✓ Testing begins during Q2 2024

#### • Transmission Line

- ✓ Transmission Line poles erected and stringed up to the last pole below the existing 132kV Transmission Line
- ✓ Works on the last pole to be completed during Q2 2024

#### Communications towers

- ✓ Communication Tower erected in the Substation and testing to be completed in Q2 2024
- ✓ Two repeater towers erected and testing ongoing in Q2 2024



Electrical works being finalised in the Substation

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# Community Engagement & Benefit Sharing

### **GPG Cunderdin Community Grants Program**

On May 22nd, GPG Australia held the official award event of the GPG Community Grants Program at the Cunderdin Sports and Recreation Centre. It was well attended by all the awarded community groups, the Shire CEO and President, Councillors, members of the Cunderdin and Meckering communities and representatives from GPG Australia.



Alison Harris, President of the Shire giving the inaugural speech

The event presented a great opportunity to hear from Fernando Gonzalez, Project Director for the Cunderdin Hybrid PV Solar + BESS project, Stuart Hobley, CEO of Cunderdin Shire, and Alison Harris, Shire President. Additionally, we had the wonderful opportunity to hear the feedback from the grant recipients themselves, giving us better insight into their projects and their impact within the community.

In total, eleven groups were awarded, receiving \$95,000 to execute projects ranging from renewing equipment and maintaining facilities to public art and events.



Representatives from the 11 community groups that were awarded attended the event

The GPG Cunderdin Community Grants Program is one of three social investment initiatives that are being implemented by GPG Australia as part of its Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing Plan for the Cunderdin Hybrid PV Solar + BESS project. The other two are the Solar Power Program, which will see public and educational buildings acquire solar panels and batteries, and the Scholarship Program, which will aim to support local students pursuing careers in trades and agriculture.

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It was a night of celebration, fostering connections, and once again witnessing how deeply involved and committed these community groups are to the wellbeing and development of the Cunderdin and Meckering communities.

As GPG Australia, we are proud to contribute towards the development and enhancement of Cunderdin community and are confident that these wonderful projects will have a positive impact on the lives of our neighbours. A heartfelt thank you to the authorities of the Cunderdin Shire for their support and to the corporate team for their efforts in delivering this program. Once again, thank you for a fantastic night.



Upon receiving their award certificates, the recipients gave an insightful presentation on their projects and organisations.

## **Do You Know About?**

### 2023 Renewable Energy Snapshot

**Renewable energy** accounted for **39.4 per cent of Australia's total electricity generation** in 2023, up from 35.9 per cent in 2022. While there is still a fair way to go to reach the Federal Government's target of 82 per cent renewables by 2030, there is nevertheless plenty of positives for the industry in 2023.

There were records broken in terms of renewable capacity added, the rooftop solar sector continued to lead Australia's clean energy transition, and the utility scale storage sector had its strongest-ever year, offset by a significant slowdown in new financial commitments to large-scale generation projects.

A new-record 5.9 GW of renewable capacity was added to the grid in 2023, up from 5 GW in 2022. Of that 5.9 GW, 3.1 GW was provided by rooftop solar and **2.8 GW from utility scale generation**. In 2022, rooftop solar provided 2.7 GW and utility scale provided 2.3 GW.

In its Draft Integrated Systems Plan released in late 2023, the Australian Energy Market Operator indicated Australia would need to bring on at least 6 GW of new utility scale capacity in the National Electricity Market each year in order to meet the Government's 82 per cent target. While 2.8 GW of new capacity in 2023 is a solid number, Australia clearly needs a rapid acceleration in investment and deployment.

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### **√** 39.4%

• Australia's electricity generation from renewable sources, 2023

### ✓ 24,985 GWh

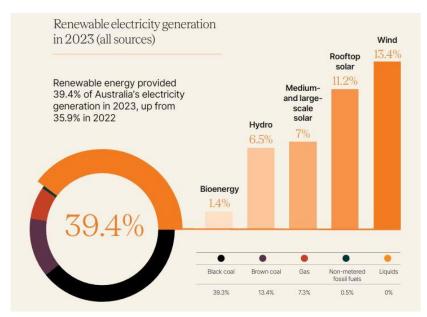
• NSW renewable energy generation, highest of Australian states

### ✓ 3.1GW

• Rooftop solar capacity added in 2023

### **√** 56

• Large-scale generations projects under construction at the end of 2023



Source: Clean Energy Council

### **Contact Us**

For any queries, feedback or to be included in the distribution list of our newsletter and fortnightly construction update please get in touch with our Community & Stakeholder Engagement Officer Marco Romero on:

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From this view, we can appreciate a battery, some solar panels and the communication tower

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