

Proposed Solar Farm at Glanmire, NSW

FAQ March 2022



**ELGIN
ENERGY**

Introduction

Elgin Energy is seeking views from local residents on the proposal to develop a solar farm on land at 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, NSW 2795.

The project is categorised as a State Significant Development under environmental legislation and therefore the Development Application will be assessed by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. Elgin Energy will be undertaking community and stakeholder engagement throughout the process.

Elgin Energy have engaged specialist consultants Premise to assist with the Development Application process.

Key project details

Location: 11km east of Bathurst township

Project size: ~ 60MW (ac)

Site area: 186 hectares

Grid connection: 66kV line

Construction duration: ~ 12 months

Grazing: Sheep can continue grazing once operational

Project Overview

Glanmire solar farm is proposed to have a capacity of approximately 60 megawatts (MW)(ac) comprising ground mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) modules (panels) similar to those installed on rooftops around Australia.

Glanmire solar farm is proposed on a site at 4823 Great Western Highway, Glanmire, NSW 2795. This site is located approximately 11km east of the township of Bathurst and approximately 4.5km east of Raglan.

The project will cover a development footprint of approximately 140 hectares on land that is currently used for grazing and intermittent cropping. The project is aiming to continue sheep grazing within the development footprint of the project once operational.

Reasons for choosing the proposed site include:

- High solar irradiance
- Cost-effective grid connection with capacity
- Relatively flat and clear land with few environmental constraints
- Not identified as highest quality agricultural land or 'Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land'.



Physical elements of a solar farm

The following components are proposed for this solar farm:

- Solar PV modules, either on a fixed-tilt or single-axis tracking system (East/West orientation)
- Inverters
- Transformers
- Underground cabling from the panels/inverters to the substation
- A substation to connect the project to the electricity network
- An upgrade to existing powerlines from the site back to the substation located in Raglan
- Access roads from the local road network and internal access tracks
- Fencing and CCTV around the perimeter
- The project may also include a battery energy storage system (BESS).

Benefits of the project

The project will provide a number of benefits including:

- Opportunities for both local and regional businesses to support delivery and operation of the project
- Employment opportunities, with approximately 150 employees needed during the construction period of approximately 12 months, and approximately 3 ongoing jobs during the operational phase
- Contributing to progress towards the NSW government renewable energy targets
- Annual reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and generation of enough clean electricity to power approximately 24,000 NSW homes; and
- Ongoing community benefits through a local community benefit scheme.



Will there be a Community Benefit Fund?

Elgin Energy aims to deliver a community benefit fund on every project and is committed to delivering a Community Benefit Fund if this project proceeds to energisation. There are several successful examples of the delivery of Community Benefit Funds from renewable energy projects across Australia.

Funds are usually based on the project owner paying a fee to the local community organization on a fixed sum per MW basis. This fund is then distributed to suitable local projects/initiatives. We are keen to hear the community's thoughts in relation to this and invite residents to share their views on suitable local projects/initiatives.

What are the next steps?

Following this first stage of initial preliminary consultation with local landowners, Council, and the local member, a project layout can be finalised and included in the Preliminary Environmental Assessment (PEA). The PEA will be lodged with the Department of Planning Industry and Environment (DPIE).

Following consideration of our PEA, DPIE will issue the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) which will define the requirements for a detailed Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project, which is the key component of the formal Development Application.

Should we progress to this stage, further consultation will be undertaken during the preparation of the EIS and also during the Development Application assessment process.

About Elgin Energy

Elgin Energy is a leading independent international solar and storage development platform with operations in Australia, UK and Ireland. The company has a portfolio of projects in late-stage development totalling over 4.5GW across three key markets of Australia, UK, and Ireland, in addition, Elgin Energy has delivered 21 solar projects, totalling 230MW. Last year, Elgin Energy secured financing with Berenberg Green Energy Fund for the development of solar PV projects totalling 1.36GW.

Elgin Energy takes a long-term view on solar development. We follow a strong methodology and adapt this to each market. Our proven approach can be simplified to four key stages of solar development. These are the same across all active markets and consist of grid, legal, planning and route to market. Our team is applying this knowledge and expertise from ten years



We would be grateful for the opportunity to assist with general enquiries or to arrange a time to discuss the project in person.

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