

Windorah Solar Farm and Battery Project Update



August 2024

Windorah solar farm and battery project is set to shine

Solar farm project stages

We're excited to announce that we are on track to build the new, modern solar farm and battery storage facility at Windorah. The project is being delivered in the following stages - see Figure 1:



Fig 1 – Project stages.



Fig 2 – Yurika brand.

Decommission Solar Concentrator Dishes

Early works conducted in late 2023 saw the decommissioning and dismantling of the old solar concentrator dishes, clearing the way for the new solar farm and battery facility which will be built at the same location.

Stage 1 – Solar & Battery Tenders

The contracts for the construction of the solar farm, and provision of the batteries, have now been finalised. Yurika – another part of Energy Queensland – was awarded the contract, following a competitive tender process, to design and build the solar farm component of the project.

So, if during the construction phase, you see crews around town sporting the Yurika brand, give them a wave and make them feel welcome!

One of our experienced battery partners, Penske Australia, has been awarded the contract to provide the battery units for the Windorah facility. We have been working with Penske for some time, as they install batteries right across our network at locations like up the road at Bedourie, as well as Howard, Kewarra, Gordonvale, Emerald, Morayfield, and Bribie Island.

Stage 2 – Solar Farm Design & Build

With these contracts now in place, our Isolated Systems team is ready to finalise the design before the new solar farm will then start to take shape on the ground.

The Yurika team also visited Windorah recently to scope out the site and talk to local suppliers before civil and construction works commence.

Stage 3 – Battery Design & Build

Stage 3 will involve the design and construction of the batteries and inverters. During the design phase the team will design how Windorah's solar, batteries and diesel generator interact into a single integrated system. Stage 3 commenced in June 2024 and be completed in April 2025.

Stage 4 – Microgrid Construction and Commissioning

The fourth and final stage of the project is system integration and commissioning. During this stage, our technical experts will test the system to ensure all aspects of the intelligent microgrid system are integrated and operating properly.

They will conduct a range of tests to ensure safe operations and performance before commissioning the system to power the Windorah community. This final stage of the project will run from April to December 2025.

Project Timeline

The early stages of the project are well progressed, and construction is scheduled to commence in October. The project timeline - see Figure 3 - has the facility being fully commissioned and operational by the end of 2025.

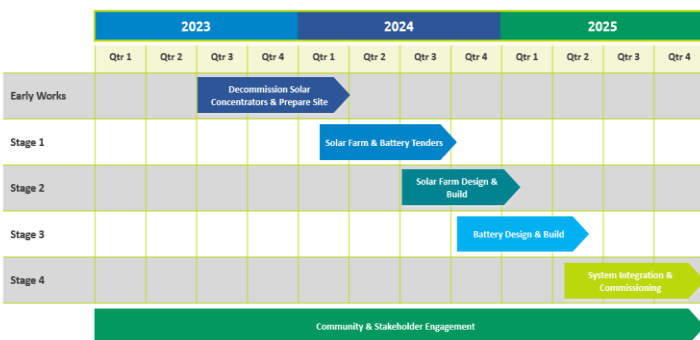


Fig 3 – Windorah solar farm and battery facility project timeline.

About the solar farm and battery

The first stage of the solar farm will comprise of 850 kilowatts of solar PV - see Figure 4 - which, coupled with the battery, is enough to power around 50% of Windorah’s total energy needs on the same sized site as the previous solar trackers.



Fig 4 – An artist’s impression of the new Windorah solar farm and battery facility.

As well, we’re building 1,000 kilowatt hours of energy storage at the facility using batteries. The batteries will store excess energy for use after the sun goes down.

In the early stages of the project, the old solar trackers were decommissioned and dismantled, clearing the way for the new solar farm and battery facility to be constructed on the same site adjacent to the power station on Quilpie Windorah Road - see Figure 5.



Fig 5 – The proposed layout of the new solar farm and battery facility adjacent to Windorah’s existing power station.

The Windorah solar farm and battery project will deliver significant benefits, generating clean energy from the sun and reducing diesel emissions with an anticipated saving of around 150,000 litres of diesel each year.

Stay up to date – visit our project webpage

To keep up to date on the project, visit our project website where you can find information about the project, including our regular project updates and frequently asked questions.



Project website QR code.

Getting in touch with us

Still have questions or want to provide feedback? You can **register for future updates via email or SMS**, scan the QR code or follow this link:

<https://www.ergon.com.au/network/contact-us/forms/major-project-feedback-form>



Register for updates QR code.

You can also contact our Senior Community Engagement Advisor, Kate Austin on 1300 653 055 or email us at:

NetworkProjectEngagement@energyq.com.au

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