

Boulia Solar Farm and Battery Project Update



Part of Energy Queensland

August 2024

Boulia solar farm and battery project a bonus for the community and the environment

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 Boulia. The project is being delivered in the following stages - see Figure 1:

Stage 1 – Solar & Battery Tenders



The first stage of the project is to go out to tender for the contractors who will construct the new solar farm and battery facility. Tender applications are reviewed and assessed, and the successful tenderers awarded the contracts.



This stage commenced in December 2023 and is now complete.



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.



Fig 1 – Project



Part of Energy Queensland

Fig 2 – Yurika brand.

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 facility. We have been working with Penske for some time, as they install batteries right across our network at locations like down the road at Bedourie.

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 Boulia 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 the solar, batteries and diesel generator will interact in a single integrated system.

Stage 3 commenced in April 2024 and is expected to 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 Bouliia 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.

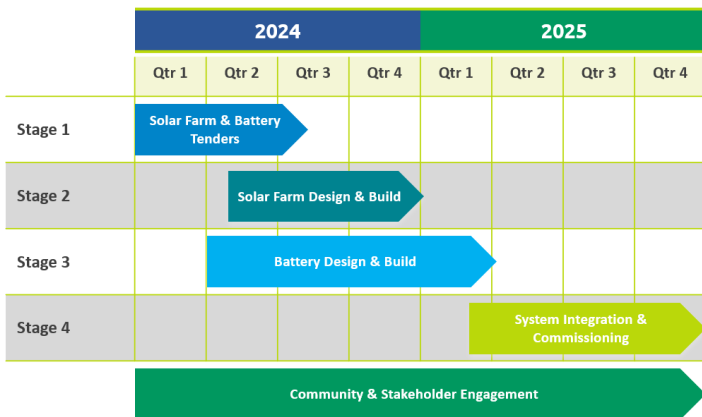


Fig 3 – Bouliia solar farm and battery facility project timeline.

About the solar farm and battery

The project will use the latest technology to help to reduce our reliance on diesel generation, transitioning the town’s energy supply to cleaner, renewable energy. The facility will include 1700 kilowatts of solar PV - see Figure 4.



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

As well, we’re building 1500 kilowatt hours of energy storage at the facility. The batteries will store any excess energy, that was generated during the day, for use after the sun goes down.

The facility will be constructed on the rear of the block on Ergon Energy’s site on Selwyn Road - see Figure 5.



Fig 5 – The proposed layout of the solar farm and battery facility.

The 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 360,000 litres of diesel each year, limiting our impact on the environment.

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:

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