

Walcha Energy: Salisbury Solar Farm



Introduction to our project

Welcome to our first newsletter for the Salisbury Solar Farm – a proposed 700 megawatt (MW) solar farm. The Salisbury Solar farm is situated between Uralla and Walcha on the New England tableland. This newsletter is the first in a series that will provide updates and information about the project. The solar farm is sub-divided into two parts, Salisbury East and Salisbury West, with a capacity of 350 MW each.

The Salisbury Solar Farm is part of the Walcha Energy Project which combines solar photovoltaic and wind energy generation with pumped hydro storage to provide a secure, reliable source of renewable energy. Once operational, the Salisbury Solar Farm will generate enough electricity each year to power the equivalent of 300,000 households in NSW.

Walcha Energy project is a partnership between two Australian organisations – Mirus Wind Pty Ltd and Energy Estate Pty Ltd. Together we form an experienced and capable developer.

The Salisbury Solar Farm is situated between about 7km south of Uralla on the New England Tableland. It is located on land well suited for large scale solar. The project will be constructed on approximately 3600 hectares of land that was chosen after extensive consultation with the host landowners, taking into account grid connection potential, minimising the areas prone to flooding or containing sensitive and natural heritage features. The land is currently mostly used for grazing.

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The importance of the community – its voice and the benefits

We are at the front end of this project and are passionate about listening to the community's view about our proposed solar farm.

We are committed to consulting and engaging with the local community and all the other stakeholders frequently and in a way that is genuine, transparent, honest and informative.

We will be holding a large number of community information sessions

and face to face meetings with those who are impacted. We are about to lodge our Preliminary Environmental Assessment for this project and we are happy to discuss this in detail with the community. The full document will be available for download from our website or from the NSW Department of Planning & Environment website.

Our team at Walcha Energy are excited about the range of benefits that our solar farm will deliver to

the wider community. These include a progressive benefit sharing scheme where the neighbours and the local community receive direct financial benefits from the proposal. The other benefits for the wider host community include jobs during construction and enduring jobs once the solar farm is operational, opportunities for local businesses and service providers, improvements in local infrastructure and increased economic activity.