Dinawan Energy Hub

NOVEMBER 2023

Introduction to DEH

The Dinawan Energy Hub (DEH) is a proposed hybrid renewable energy project being developed by Spark Renewables. The project would involve the development of a wind farm, a solar farm and battery energy storage. The DEH is in the South-West Renewable Energy Zone, about halfway between Coleambally and Jerilderie near the Dinawan Substation on the traditional lands of the Wiradjuri people and several smaller nations of the Murrumbidgee plains.

Project Overview

The DEH would generate electricity through a combination of wind turbine generators and ground-mounted solar photovoltaic (PV) panels. It will also include a battery energy storage system (BESS) so that energy can be supplied on demand.

The project design has been refined following community feedback and key assessments. Special care has also been taken to protect sensitive ecological areas, including weeping myall woodlands and the habitats of Plains Wanderer.

Ongoing environmental assessments and stakeholder engagement will further refine the project.

The preliminary design is comprised of the following key components:

- Up to 250 wind turbines
- Approximately 2 million solar PV panels on single-axis trackers
- A BESS
- Electrical collection system, substations, switchyards and control room
- Electricity transmission line infrastructure connecting the project substations to the Dinawan Substation
- Temporary construction facilities, including a temporary worker accommodation facility
- Operations and maintenance infrastructure
- Access roads linked to Kidman Way and Bundure Road (including associated public road upgrades).

After construction, grazing will continue on the land and the DEH will supply reliable and clean power to the National Electricity Market, providing enough clean energy to power around a million Australian homes annually.

This will reduce carbon emissions from aging fossil fuel generators in NSW.

Spark Renewables are experts in renewable energy projects and more information on their team and project can be found at: www.sparkrenewables.com.

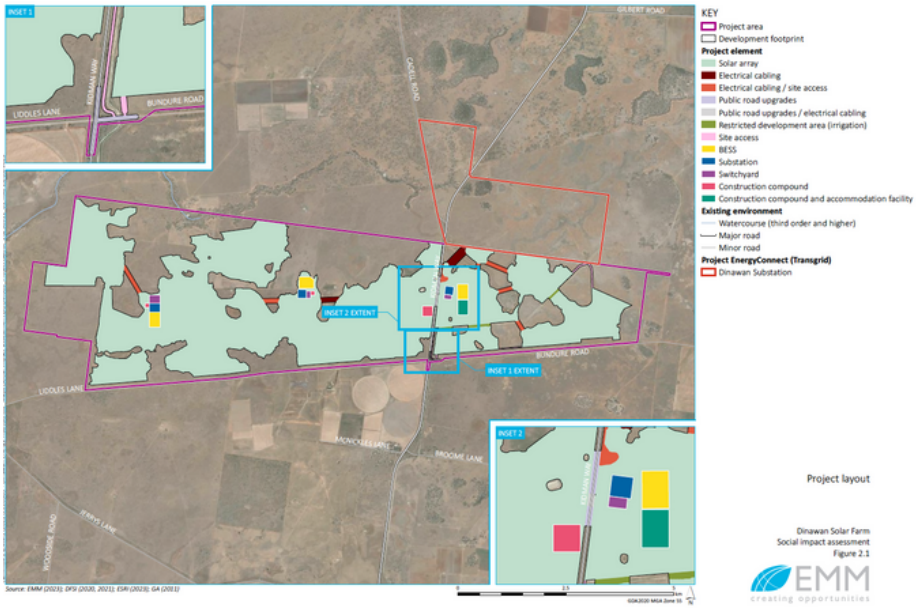
Dinawan Solar Farm Design

As a result of comprehensive biodiversity and cultural heritage surveys, the design of the Dinawan Solar Farm has undergone significant revisions to minimise any potential impacts to the existing environment and surroundings.

Additionally, extensive work has been undertaken to refine the electrical and civil aspects of the site, leading to a revised project layout, which can be viewed in the attached figure.

In response to valuable input received during community consultation sessions and interviews conducted for the social impact assessment, a critical concern emerged regarding the availability of local accommodation for the construction phase.

Consequently, the project will now incorporate an on-site accommodation camp designed to house the construction workforce.



PROJECT TIMELINE

1. Proposal announcement
Project announced to industry, government and community

2. Scoping report
Consultation & preliminary technical studies

3. SEARs issued
Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements

4. EIS and SIA preparation
Community engagement & technical studies to inform the EIS & the SIA

5. EIS submission & exhibition Upcoming
Public exhibition for agency and community comment

6. Response to submissions
Addressing comments and issues raised about the EIS in a Response to Submissions report

7. Assessing the proposal
Assessment by the Department of Planning & Environment

8. Determination
The Minister for Planning or the Independent Planning Commission decides the proposal

DEH Key Facts

Generation & storage

- Up to 2,500 MW (wind & solar)
- Powering around 1 million homes annually
- 'On demand' battery energy 300MW storage capacity and a storage duration of up to 2 hours (600MWh)

Planning status

- Dinawan Solar Farm - EIS exhibition upcoming late 2023
- Dinawan Wind Farm - EIS exhibition 2024

Jobs & training

- Construction: ~1,000 jobs
- Operations: 50-100 jobs

Climate

- Equivalent to offsetting ~6 million tonnes of CO_2 annually

Benefit Sharing Workshops

Workshops regarding the shared community benefits were held at;

- Coleambally Community Club - 22 Aug
- Darlington Point Sports Club - 23 Aug
- Jerilderie Civic Hall - 24 Aug

We greatly appreciate the participation of those who attended our sessions. We look forward to sharing our proposal for the Dinawan Solar Farm community benefits program, which has been shaped by the valuable feedback received during these sessions and the insights we've gained from the community. To access our presentation, please visit www.dinawanenergyhub.com.

Dinawan Solar Farm EIS Exhibition

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Dinawan Solar Farm is in its final stages of preparation, and we anticipate that it will be made available for public exhibition in late 2023.

This exhibition phase is a crucial step in the planning approval and assessment process, providing an opportunity for the community to examine comprehensive project plans and share their feedback by making submissions.

To facilitate engagement and address any queries or concerns, Spark Renewables intends to host community consultation drop-in sessions during the exhibition period.

We will promptly announce the details of these sessions once the exhibition dates are confirmed, ensuring an inclusive and transparent process for all stakeholders.