

Community Update

Muswellbrook Solar Farm

A Development Application was submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI) in August 2023. The application was exhibited on the Major Projects website for 28 days and 61 submissions were received from the public.

A Response to Submissions report prepared by the proponent, ESCO (a joint venture between OX2 and Idemitsu), is now available on the Major Projects website.

<https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/muswellbrook-solar-farm>

The Next Steps

Due to the number of submissions received, the application will now be decided by the Independent Planning Commission (IPC).

Once a proposed development is assessed by the DPHI and provided to the Commission for decision, the Chair of the Commission will appoint a panel, typically comprised of between one and three Commissioners, that will:

- hold targeted meetings with the developer, DPHI, the local council, and others,
- hold a public meeting where appropriate, or a public hearing if directed by the Minister,
- take and consider written public submissions on the proposed development,
- make a determination based on legislation and policy to either refuse or approve the development,
- publish a Statement of Reasons explaining the reasons for the decision.

OX2 will advise you once the panel has been appointed and further information is available regarding the timeframe for a public meeting or hearing.

Community Consultation

OX2 wish to continue an open dialogue with the community as the project progresses and welcome the opportunity to discuss the project further with near neighbours. If you would like to meet with a member of the team, please reach out to Helen Kennedy on 0403 920 098 or at helen.kennedy@ox2.com.

To receive future Community Updates via email, please provide your email address to helen.kennedy@ox2.com

Contact Us:

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Project Facts

Website	https://www.ox2.com/australia/projects/muswellbrook-solar-farm
Technology	Photovoltaic Solar Farm & Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
Solar Farm Capacity	Up to 135Mwac
BESS Capacity	Up to 135Mwac and two hours of storage
Environmental Benefits	Clean energy to power approximately 79,000 homes & offset approximately 7.6 million tonnes (Mt) of CO2e over its operational life
Number of PV Panels	Approximately 300,000
Project Area	482 ha/1191 acres
Location	Approximately 2.5km east of Muswellbrook, NSW

Local Economic Development

OX2 aim to maximise investment in the regional economy through the engagement of local businesses. We work towards utilising local contractors wherever possible throughout the construction and operation of the project.

We would welcome contact from local businesses and service providers to register their interest in the project to grow our current database. Businesses and the local community will be advised once the solar farm receives approval, and how to find out more about potential business opportunities.



Acknowledgment

The project is located within the Traditional lands of the Wonnarua people. We wish to acknowledge them as traditional custodians of the land and pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people past and present. We acknowledge their continuous connection to Country.

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