RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK HORSHAM

Project update

April 2025

About the project

The SEC Renewable Energy Park – Horsham is Victoria's first 100 per cent publicly owned large-scale renewable energy project.

The SEC is working with developer OX2 to build the energy park which includes a 119-megawatt solar farm comprising more than 212,000 PV solar panels. This will generate around 242,000 megawatt hours (MWh) of renewable energy a year, enough to power 51,000 homes, along with a 100MW two-hour battery energy storage system (BESS).

Highlights

Powers
51,000 homes

Development partner
OX2

Generation capacity
119MW

Storage capacity
100MW two-hour BESS

Solar panels
More than 212,000

Project activities

Preconstruction works at site began in February 2025 and are ongoing. Activities underway include weed management, establishing a 'laydown' or temporary storage area, erecting a fence around the site, constructing access tracks and the delivery of materials for the solar farm.

From the end of March, we began installing support structures for the solar panels. This involves piling works and the installation of torque tubes which support the solar panels. These tubes allow the panels to tilt east to west to get the best sunlight.

Installing the solar panels will begin following completion of these works.

Over the coming months, works will continue in accordance with planning approvals, including completing the laydown area and access tracks and roads.

We'll keep you updated as the project progresses.

How we're managing fire risk

Safety is our number one priority, and we will be adhering to strict fire management conditions throughout the project. A detailed Fire and Emergency Management Plan was developed in consultation with the CFA and we are committed to working with the local fire brigade on fire management.

This includes working with the local CFA and inviting them to the site to build their familiarity with the project, discuss training and find opportunities to support the local brigades. This will continue as the project progresses.

We're managing fire risk currently in the following ways:

- Only having diesel vehicles onsite.
- All vehicles must have a fire extinguisher.
- All temporary buildings must have a fire extinguisher outside.
- Weed management with the guidance of an agronomist.
- A requirement for a hot works permit for any activities governed by fire risk and total fire ban days.
- Two water carts on-site. One cart carries 10,000 litres of water and has a water cannon attached. The second water cart carries 20,000 litres of water.
- Regular meetings with the Horsham and Green Lake CFA.

How we're managing dust

We are working hard to minimise the impact of dust during the project's construction. Spraying water is the most effective way to do this and water trucks are being used to wet down work areas and unsealed roads as needed.

Our dust mitigation is in line with the Environmental Management Plan which was developed as part of planning permit approvals for the project.

Job opportunities

Enhancing local employment and supplier opportunities is one of our key goals.

The SEC, OX2 and our delivery partners will continue to closely engage with the local community and businesses to maximise opportunities for local businesses and employment where possible.

Available roles for the project have been advertised, including:

- Electricians
- Telehandler operators
- Labourers
- Piling operators
- Diesel mechanics

To find out more about open roles, email **info.sec@secvictoria.com.au.**

Community benefit sharing

In the coming months we will be engaging with the Horsham community and key stakeholders on the project's Construction Community Benefits Sharing Fund.

We want to hear from community members about their aspirations, specifically during the project's construction phase which provides $42,000 a year over the next three years to local initiatives.

The fund will also provide $70,000 a year during operations, and we'll continue to seek feedback on this fund as the project progresses.

Register for updates to be the first to hear about this upcoming community engagement.

Stay informed

Subscribe to receive the latest project updates by scanning the QR code.

Project timeline

Early 2025
Establish site access roads and construction buildings

Construction begins

Mid 2026
First supply of electricity to the grid

Late 2027
Project fully operational

Community conversations

In May we'll be holding a Coffee and Chat session, where you can meet members of the project team and ask us your questions.

When: 8am to 10am, Wednesday 14 May 2025

Where: Cheeky Fox, 27 Firebrace Street, Horsham

If you can't make the session but would like to speak to a member of our team, please call 1300 305 700 between the hours of 9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, or at any time via email at info.SEC@secvictoria.com.au.

For urgent enquiries relating to construction activities outside of the above hours, please call 1800 809 740.

SEC VICTORIA State Government | Delivery partner OX2

secvictoria.com.au

SECVictoria SECVictoria_ secvictoria