

Muswellbrook Solar Farm Community Newsletter

ESCO
Pacific | Part of OX2

“We are excited to reach this milestone for the project and becoming one step closer to the transition to clean energy for the area”.

Rhiannon Olle, Head of Development, Esco Pacific, part of OX2



Finley Solar Farm, NSW, ESCO Pacific

A Development Application has now been submitted to the NSW Department of Planning & Environment, a significant milestone for the Muswellbrook Solar Farm.

Muswellbrook Solar Farm is a 135MW solar and battery project located approximately 2.5km east of Muswellbrook, with the majority on the site being land owned by Muswellbrook Coal Company (MCC), a wholly owned subsidiary of Idemitsu Australia Pty Ltd. The project is being developed in partnership with

Idemitsu. Once operational, the solar farm will supply renewable electricity to the national electricity market, generating power for approximately 79,000 Australian homes. The Muswellbrook Solar Farm would require the installation of solar PV panels and associated infrastructure including a 2.5km 132kV transmission line to connect into the grid.

Muswellbrook Coal Mine

Coal mining operations at the Muswellbrook Coal Company site were completed at the beginning of 2023, after 115 years of operation. This is an exciting opportunity to redevelop the site and generate postmine investment and employment in the region.



Muswellbrook Clean Industries Precinct (MCIP)

Muswellbrook Solar Farm is part of the proposed MCIP. Idemitsu has developed a Draft Master Plan and collaboration is underway with several industry partners, to investigate the viability of and, plan for a wide range of renewable energy and other projects, on and around the Muswellbrook Coal Mine site.

The plans for MCIP, includes the Bells Mountain pumped hydro energy storage project, which Idemitsu is developing with AGL Energy.

ESCO Pacific is only developing the solar farm and battery and the Development Application only relates to these components.

Idemitsu

Idemitsu has been operating in Australia for more than 40 years. Idemitsu Australia is a subsidiary of Japanese company Idemitsu Kosan, which has a long history with renewable energy projects in Japan.

In 2021, Idemitsu Renewable Developments Australia (IRDA) was formed, to focus on innovation, including new solar, hydro, wind and battery hybrid energy development projects and export opportunities.



Renewable Energy Zone (REZ)

The project is within the NSW Government declared Hunter Central Coast Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). It will play an important role in achieving the objectives of the REZ by contributing to the continued growth of renewable energy generation and storage capacity.



Leading Swedish renewable developer OX2 has acquired ESCO Pacific

OX2 sees great potential in the Australian market for renewables and opportunities to expand the operations of ESCO Pacific.

OX2 also plans to scale up operations through acquisitions in solar and energy storage and has the ambition to expand operations to onshore wind while exploring offshore wind and hydrogen.

Over the coming weeks, the ESCO Pacific name and logo will be replaced with OX2.

To view the recent media release, please visit:

<https://www.ox2.com/australia/news>

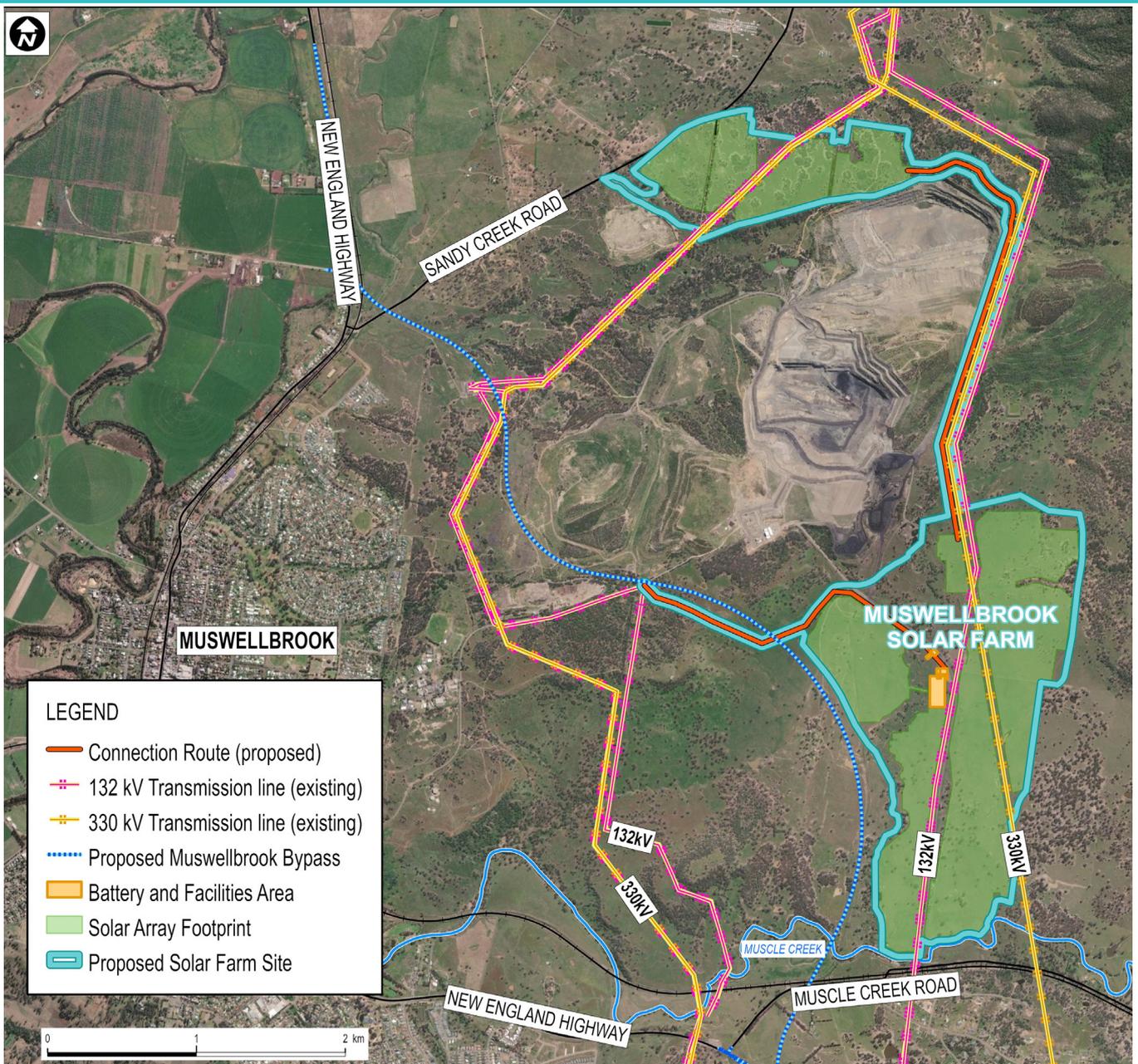
Acknowledgement

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.

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
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

Project Location



Community News

Drop In Session

ESCO Pacific invites you to a Community Drop In Session to learn more about the Muswellbrook Solar Farm, the approvals process and to provide your feedback. Please join us.

Monday 11th September

The Spires Room, The Odeum at Muswellbrook Workers Club, 15 Sydney Street, Muswellbrook

3.30pm - 6pm

No need to RSVP, just drop in.

ESCO Pacific and Idemitsu are committed to engaging with neighbours, local communities and stakeholders throughout the development of the project.

For more information and to contact us please scan the QR code below, or visit our website at:

<https://www.ox2.com/australia>

The Approvals Process

Applications for large scale renewable projects in New South Wales are assessed by the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE). ESCO Pacific has submitted a Development Application (DA) supported by an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to the Minister for Planning.

Project information submitted to DPE is available at: <https://www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/projects/muswellbrook-solar-farm>

Exhibition and Submissions

The DA and EIS will be exhibited on the Major Projects website for at least 28 days.

This gives the community a right to have a say on the merits of this project before any final decision is made.

During the exhibition period anyone can make a written submission on the DA. The applicant must document its response to submissions in a submissions report which will also be published on the website.

For further details please visit:

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



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