

Proposed Mologa Solar Hybrid

November 2025



What is Mologa Solar Hybrid?

Potentia Energy, a leading Australian renewable energy developer and asset owner, is proposing to develop, construct and operate a Solar Hybrid project in Mologa.

The proposal includes:

- Construction and operation of a 325MWdc/ 250MW Solar Farm
- Construction and operation of a 250MW, 4-hour Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) for on-site energy storage
- Connection of the BESS to the existing 220kV transmission line



Image: Girgarre Solar Farm

This newsletter provides an update on the proposed Mologa Solar Hybrid project and outlines what we've heard so far, future engagement opportunities and next steps.

Last month we met with local landowners and the community at our community drop-in sessions in Mitiamo and Pyramid Hill. Thank you to everyone who attended and shared their feedback on the proposal so far.

Potentia Energy is committed to building strong relationships in the communities it operates in. We do this by engaging early in the planning process and providing accurate, up-to-date information as plans progress. Potentia Energy aims to keep the community informed at each stage of the proposal through a series of engagement and communication activities.

We understand the importance of clear and timely responses, and we're committed to providing the most up to date information available. However, as we are in the early stages of the proposal and currently undertaking technical assessments, there may be occasions where the information requested may relate to studies or processes that are still in progress or yet to be implemented. We are committed to providing updates and sharing information when this becomes available.

What's next for engagement?

There was strong interest in learning more about the proposed Mologa Solar Hybrid project from the feedback we received in October. In response to this, Potentia Energy will host four additional information sessions to provide you with an update on the proposal. These sessions will include a presentation from the project team in a small group setting to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to ask questions and have their say.

You can choose to attend either of the following sessions:

- **In person**
At Pyramid Hill Community Centre
Wednesday 3 December 9am, 11.30am, 4pm or 7pm

Numbers at these sessions will be limited to ensure that all participants can get the most out of the attended session.

Registration is required to secure allocated spots. To register, please scan the QR code or email engagement@urbis.com.au



Project Benefits

Sustainable agricultural land use: As part of our ongoing commitment to agricultural land use, the project will assess the feasibility of integrating managed sheep grazing within the proposed solar farm, drawing on the successful grazing model implemented at our Girgarre Solar Farm, Bungala Solar Farm, and Cohuna Solar Farm.

Maximises efficiency and affordability: Renewable energy is clean energy because it is generated from abundant natural sources like the sun and wind. The proposed project would include both Photovoltaic and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) components, the BESS would store excess energy during low demand periods and release it during peak times, maximising electricity value and reducing energy costs.

Supports the clean energy transition: Renewable energy sources emit little to no greenhouse gases and are readily available. The integration of BESS with solar technology would significantly contribute to Victoria's renewable energy target of 95% by 2035 and at least 2.6GW of energy storage capacity by 2030.

Improves grid reliability: Solar energy production also aligns with peak daytime usage, stabilising the grid and reducing strain on other energy sources. The flexibility and fast response time of batteries enhance grid reliability by efficiently meeting peak power demands, ensuring a stable energy supply.

Enhances economic benefits: The proposed project would create local jobs during construction and operation, and by engaging the local supply chain, foster regional economic investment. Potentia Energy is committed to delivering significant local community benefits throughout the proposed project lifespan, creating lasting value by prioritising local community needs and fostering meaningful partnerships.

What we heard from the community

The following provides a summary of the feedback we've heard from local landowners and community so far:

Minimising fire risk and ensuring community safety

Renewable energy projects are thoroughly assessed for fire hazards with agreed mitigation strategies to reduce fire risk a priority. The Mologa Solar Hybrid project will be designed to comply with relevant fire safety standards. The CFA also has strict design guidelines that must be incorporated into the project design. Measures include requiring cleared vegetation zones, CFA access and roadways, breaks between panel arrays, water storage on site, and strict vegetation management plans.

If the project is approved, an Emergency Management Plan and Fire Management Plan will be prepared in consultation with the CFA (who are required to assess this as part of any consent conditions) before construction can start.

Maintaining use of productive land

As part of our ongoing commitment to agricultural land use, the project will assess the feasibility of integrating managed sheep grazing within the proposed solar farm, drawing on the successful grazing model implemented at our Girgarre Solar Farm, Bungala Solar Farm, and Cohuna Solar Farm.

This will also keep vegetation growth low and reduce the need for weed and grass management.

We will be preparing an Agricultural Land Use Assessment to assess the proposal's impact on agricultural land quality. An important part of the assessment will be to demonstrate that the project will not impact the agricultural viability of the land including future use. Therefore the Agrivoltatics is an important part of the project, as has been demonstrated elsewhere in Victoria and globally.

Ensuring protection of local waterways

The project will be designed to ensure solar panels are set back from waterways, helping to maintain natural water flow and protect surrounding ecosystems. In addition, hydrology and flood studies are being undertaken to analyse water flow patterns, flood risks, and management to protect all waterways and channels from indirect impacts from development of the site. These studies will guide the design to avoid impacts, manage potential risks, and ensure appropriate controls are in place.

Connection to the grid

Mologa Terminal Station (MGTS) is to be connected into the existing overhead 220 kV network between Kerang Terminal Stations (KGTS) to Bendigo Terminal Station (BETS).

Potentia Energy is proposing to use grid forming technology which means rather than simply feeding power into the grid, these systems will set and maintain voltage and frequency. This means they can help the grid recover faster from faults or outages by providing system strength, reducing the need for additional reactive equipment.

Protecting wildlife and vegetation on the site

Community members told us the importance of local wildlife in the area including plain wanderer birds, long-necked turtles, and brologas, along with important vegetation. Potentia Energy is undertaking the technical assessments to determine the potential impact to the ecology and wildlife on the site, to avoid, minimise or mitigate any potential impacts to vegetation and potential wildlife habitats.

Minimising the visual impact of the solar farm and BESS

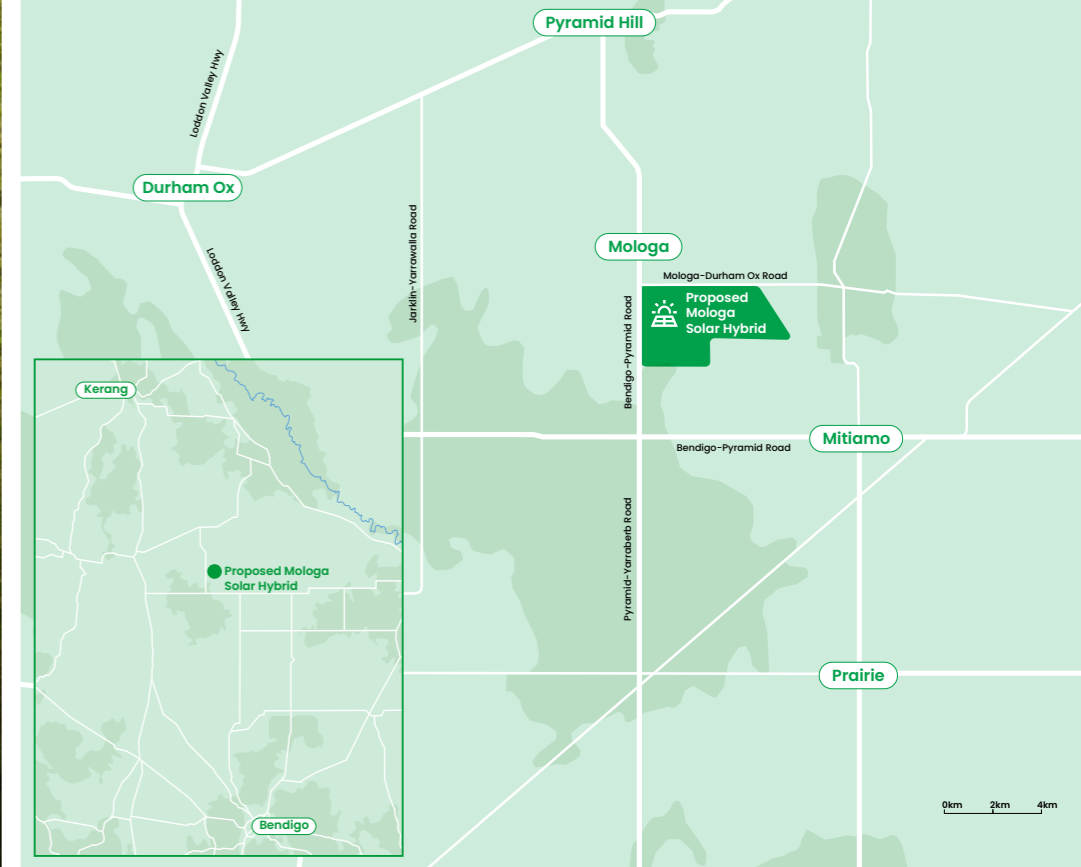
As part of the planning application, Potentia Energy has engaged experts to conduct a Landscape and Visual impact Assessment, which will evaluate potential impacts on local character and visual appearance for adjoining landowners.

Solar panels are designed to absorb sunlight rather than reflect it, with careful installation to minimise light reflection. This involves angling the panels to reduce reflection and using a dark, non-reflective coating on the panels.

Project and private insurance arrangements

The project would carry comprehensive insurance to protect against potential losses, including unlikely events such as fire, and to cover any liability for damage or injury that may be caused to third parties.

Some community members have recently enquired about the potential impact that our project might have to their public liability premium. There is currently no specific evidence to suggest that renewable energy projects increase the cost or impact the ability for a neighbouring landholder to obtain public liability insurance, and both the Insurance Council of Australia (ICA) and the Clean Energy Council have released publications indicating that, although premiums are rising, this is unlikely to be linked to clean energy projects (<https://cleanenergycouncil.org.au/for-consumers/fact-sheets/impacts-and-benefits-to-consumers-get-the-facts/public-liability-insurance-landholder-protection>).



The Planning Pathway

The development is eligible for assessment through the Department of Transport and Planning's (DTP's) Development Facilitation Program (DFP) which is an accelerated assessment pathway for eligible projects to inject investment into the Victorian economy and keep people in jobs.

All applications lodged to the DTP will be determined by the Minister for Planning or DTP under delegation.

The planning and environmental approvals process ensures that any potential impacts are identified, assessed, mitigated, avoided or managed to minimise the impacts of the local community and environment. Potentia Energy is preparing a range of assessments to support the planning application including:



Visual impact



Bushfire risk



Agricultural, environmental, and biodiversity impacts



Hydrology and flood studies



Aboriginal and cultural heritage



Local traffic and transport



Noise and vibration

These assessments will be available for the public to view as part of the exhibition process.

Timeline

We are here:

Potentia Energy is preparing a series of technical assessments to accompany the planning application. These will outline any potential impacts and will recommend ways to manage or mitigate those impacts.

The outcomes of these assessments will provide directions for Potentia Energy to help ensure any potential impacts are minimised.

Potentia Energy are also out in the community providing information about the project and seeking community feedback on the proposal.

Q1 2026:

Potentia Energy intends to lodge the planning application with DTP. After the application is lodged the DTP will notify the local community via a process that is called "exhibition". The community will be formally invited to provide feedback to DTP as part of the exhibition process.

Mid year 2026:

Potentia Energy is expecting a determination within six to nine months of lodging the application with DTP.

2027/28:

Subject to obtaining the necessary approvals, Potentia Energy would commence construction. Construction is expected to take approximately 18-24 months.



Provide your feedback

Community engagement is an important part of development application and the entire project life cycle and allows us to understand any concerns the community may have. Your feedback will help us to shape the proposal.

To access the survey, scan the QR code

For more information

Potentia Energy has commissioned Urbis Engagement to collect feedback from the community and provide further information about the proposal.

✉ engagement@urbis.com.au

☎ 1800 271 009

🌐 potentiaenergy.com.au/project/mologa-solar-hybrid