

Engagement to date

Potentia Energy has been committed to proactive community and stakeholder engagement from the outset of the project. This commitment has been reflected in a structured approach to engagement delivered across five phases, with the primary objective of ensuring early, meaningful engagement with key stakeholders and the local community.

- Phase 1: Pre-application early engagement (**Completed**) – Q2 2024 to Q2 2025
- Phase 2a: Pre-lodgement engagement (**Completed**) – Q2 2025 to Q1 2026
- Phase 2b: Planning application public exhibition (*To be carried out*)
- Phase 3: Post-exhibition and decision (*To be carried out*)
- Phase 4: Construction and operation (*To be carried out*)
- Phase 5: Decommissioning (*To be carried out*)

Date	Stakeholder	Activity
26 April 2024	Department of Transport and Planning	Pre-application meeting
17 April 2024	Country Fire Authority	Pre-application meeting
20 May 2024	Gannawarra Shire Council	Pre-application meeting / Formal briefing and presentation
29 May 2024	North Central Catchment Management Authority	Pre-application meeting / Formal briefing and presentation
16 May 2025	First Peoples' State Relations	Face-to-face meeting
21 August 2025	Surrounding community (5km)	Direct letter drop – Project Introduction
22 August 2025	Adjacent and near neighbours (1km-2.5km)	Direct letter drop – Project Introduction
17 September 2025	Adjacent and near neighbours (1km-2.5km)	Community door knocking
17 September 2025	Gannawarra Shire Council	Formal briefing/presentation
5 November 2025	Wamba Wamba Aboriginal Corporation Barapa Country Aboriginal Corporation Wiran Aboriginal Corporation First Peoples State Relations	Invitations to Community Drop-In Session
5 November 2025	Gannawarra Shire Council Planning & Economic Development	Invitations to Community Drop-In Session

	Infrastructure and Development, and Community Wellbeing Departments, and Councillors	
21 October 2025	Member for Mallee (Upper House) Dr Anne Webster Member for Murray Plains (Lower House) Peter Walsh	Introduction to the Proposal and invitation to Community Drop-In Session
8 November 2025	Gannawarra Shire Council Councillors	Phone call & email
11 November 2025	All stakeholders	Community Drop-In Session
25 March 2026	Gannawarra Shire Council	Formal briefing/ presentation – Community Shared Values and Benefit Sharing
11 May 2026	Surrounding community (5km)	Direct letter drop – Project update – Planning Application Submission
11 May 2026	Adjacent and near neighbours (1km-2.5km)	Direct letter drop – Project update – Planning Application Submission

Future engagement

The following outlines the Potentia Energy's planned engagement approach across the remaining phases of the project lifecycle. This document will be updated as further engagement is carried out.

Phase 2b: Planning Application and Public Exhibition

The Planning Application has been lodged and is currently under review by DTP. During this phase, Potentia Energy will seek to engage with community members and key stakeholders in anticipation of the public exhibition of the Planning Application, expected in early to mid-2026. Public exhibition will provide a further opportunity for community and stakeholder feedback to be considered in the assessment of the Planning Application.

Phase 3: Post-Exhibition and Decision

Following public exhibition, the project team will respond to submissions received on the Proposal. A decision from DTP is expected before the end of 2026. While the assessment progresses, Potentia Energy will remain focused on building relationships with local community members and organisations. These ongoing conversations will help shape the Community Benefit Sharing Program and ensure it reflects local priorities.

Phase 4: Construction and Operation

Construction is expected to take place between 2027 and 2028, with the Tragowel BESS proposed to become operational in 2029. Throughout this phase, Potentia Energy will continue to deliver the actions set out in the Engagement Action Plan, with a particular focus on rolling out the Community Benefit Sharing Program. The Proponent will provide regular updates on construction progress, notify the local community of any potential impacts, and respond openly to questions or concerns raised by interested or affected parties. This phase will also mark the commencement of monitoring and evaluation activities, including keeping the community informed about benefit-sharing opportunities and progress.

Phase 5: Decommissioning

Decommissioning is expected to occur at the end of the project's operational life, anticipated to be initially 23 years with the option to extend the lease. Engagement during this phase will involve consultation with the community to help guide decisions about site restoration or future use.