

HORSHAM ENERGY HUB PROJECT FACT SHEET

THE PROJECT

The Horsham Energy Hub project is a proposed \$170 million firming power station capable of operating on gas and/or high blends of hydrogen. The project consists of a 60 MW gas turbine power plant and a 20 MW hydrogen electrolysis plant.

The project will help firm and stabilise the intermittent renewable energy generation across western Victoria and the wider east coast of Australia by filling the gaps when other renewable energy sources such as wind and solar cannot supply sufficient power.

Located adjacent to the Burnt Creek Industrial Estate along the Western Highway, the project is expected to support up to 150 jobs during construction and five ongoing operational jobs.



The Horsham Energy Hub will play an important role in the transition to renewable energy generation. The project will generate electricity at peak times – when there is a high energy load or when renewables are at low production.

The hydrogen electrolysis plant will run during times of surplus renewable energy from wind and solar farms or when demand is low across the electricity network.

LOCATION



ABOUT US

Project developer Energy Transition Solutions specialise in value creation projects which balance fluctuating electricity supply and demand and provide support for regional renewable energy and grid stability.

With proven experience and expertise across a project's lifecycle, Energy Transition Solutions works with local communities and customers to lead the transition to Australia's clean energy future.

The Energy Transition Solution project portfolio includes the Dubbo Firming Power Station (NSW) and the Barnawartha Energy Hub (Victoria).

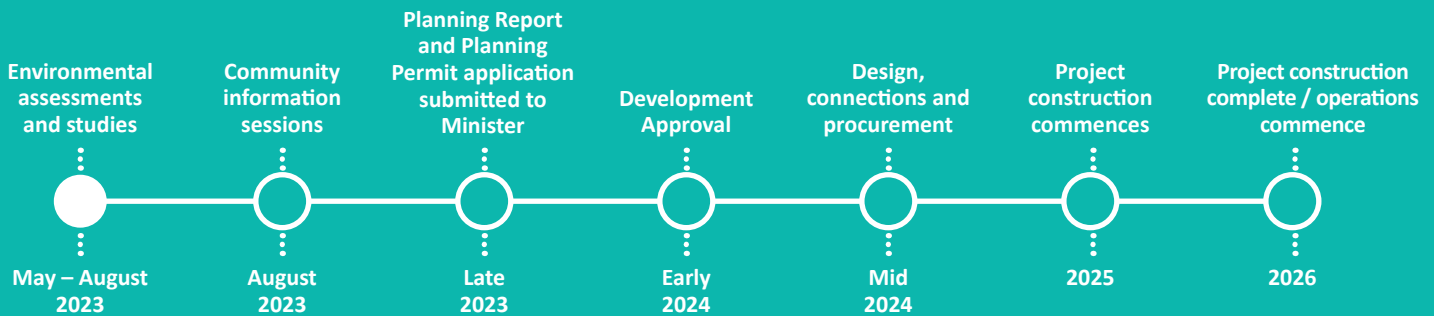
ASSESSMENT & TIMELINE

A comprehensive impact assessment is currently considering the potential impacts to environmental, cultural heritage and social values associated with the project, together with the safety and licensing requirements.

A Planning Report will be prepared to support an application for a planning permit and for approval of the project from the Minister of Planning.

The project is anticipated to commence construction in 2025 (subject to approvals), with first operations from 2026.

INDICATIVE TIMELINE:



FAQs

What is “firming”?

Firming is the term used for supporting energy supply provided by projects such as pumped hydro, battery storage, and gas for peak loads.

These projects supply dispatchable energy that can be activated quickly and effectively for a committed period to top up supply when:

- the sun is not shining
- the wind is not blowing
- demand suddenly surges; or
- supply is affected by large maintenance outages.

Where is the gas coming from?

Gas will initially be obtained from conventional supplies connected to the Victorian Transmission System (VTS). The project is also seeking to source Victorian bio-methane connected to the VTS, resulting in only renewable gases (bio-methane and hydrogen) being used by the project in the longer term.

What is hydrogen?

Hydrogen is the simplest and most abundant element in the universe. It is colourless, odourless, non-toxic and an excellent carrier of energy.

The proposed electrolysis plant will extract hydrogen from water using excess renewable electricity from the grid.

What is hydrogen used for?

Hydrogen can be produced and stored as a gas or liquid, or made part of other chemicals. It has many uses such as fuel for transport or heating, a way to store electricity, or a raw material in industrial processes. In the short to mid-term for the project, hydrogen produced on site will be blended with natural gas to power the turbine.

As with other fuels, hydrogen is flammable and must be treated carefully and handled safely.

All the necessary Commonwealth and State approvals will be in place before construction and operation, ensuring the whole project operates in a safe and reliable manner.

How much water will be used and where is the water coming from?

The project’s annual water requirement is anticipated to be about 30ML (enough to fill approximately 12 Olympic pools). This will be sourced from the existing water supply networks via GWM Water. The project will include water storage on site to reduce or avoid water use through periods of dry weather or drought.



CONSERVATION

The Horsham Energy Hub site includes an area of Buloke Woodlands – a threatened/endangered native vegetation community under State and Commonwealth legislation. An area of approximately 7.5 hectares will be fenced off, allowing the native vegetation community to regenerate and permanently protected as part of the project.