

GREAT WESTERN

BATTERY

Community Information Booklet

February 2026



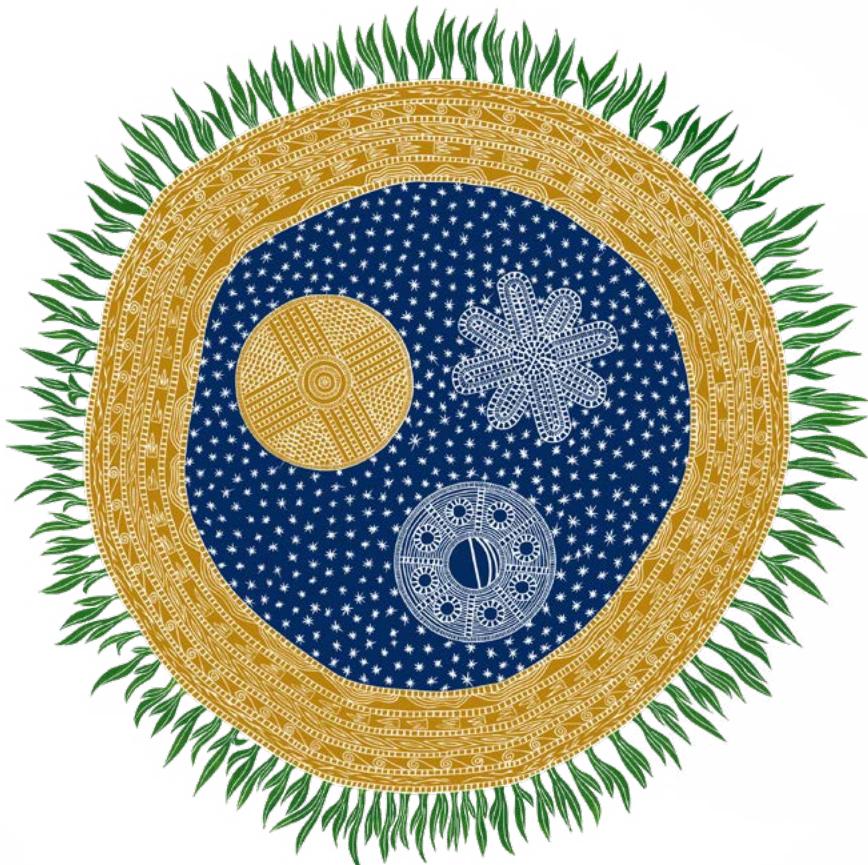
NEOEN

Acknowledgement of Country

Neoen acknowledges the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture.

We pay our respects to their Elders – past and present.

In particular, we acknowledge the Wiradjuri people, Traditional Owners of the lands on which we are developing the Great Western Battery.



RAP ARTWORK

Celebrating Renewal

Teho Ropewayarn, 2022

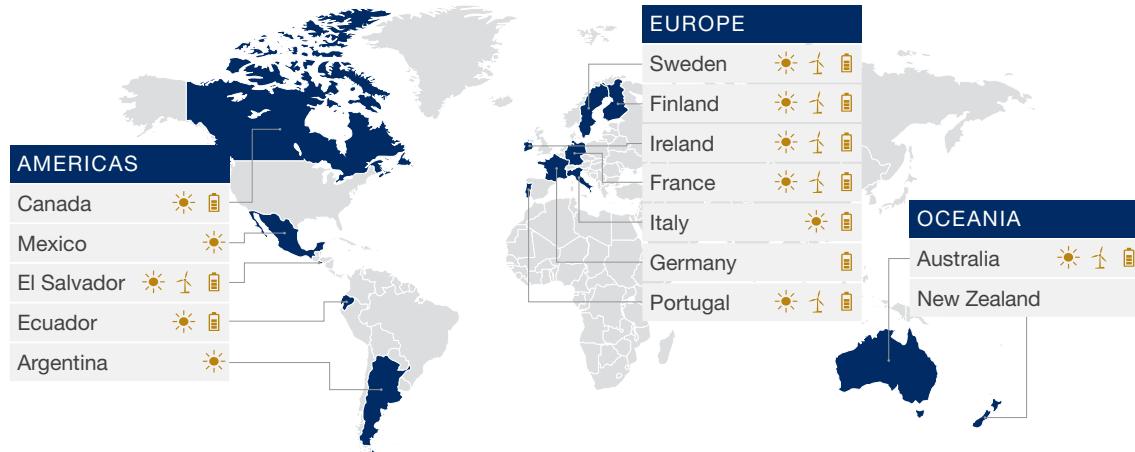
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Neoen produces green electricity from renewable sources such as sunlight and wind using mature, tried and tested technologies. We are also leaders in energy storage.

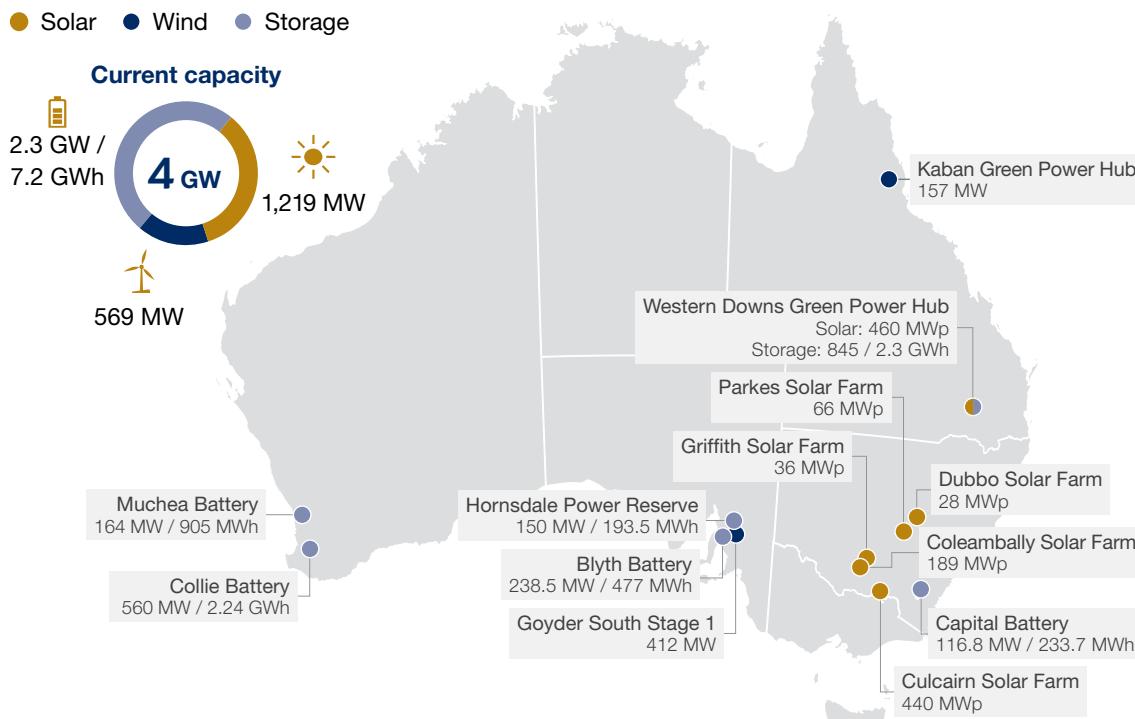
Globally

Neoen has a presence in 14 countries with over 8 GW of assets in operation and under construction worldwide.



In Australia

Since 2012, Neoen has contributed over 5 GW of renewable energy and storage capacity to accelerate Australia's energy transition. We currently have a balanced portfolio of wind, solar and battery assets with a total capacity of 4 GW under construction or in operation.



Australia's most successful renewable energy company



LONG-TERM APPROACH

Neoen has end-to-end expertise in developing, building and operating its assets, ensuring high quality projects that are well-integrated into the community over their 30+ year lifetime.

Our 24/7 Operational Control Centre in Canberra monitors and oversees our 21 Australian operating assets including wind farms, solar farms and big batteries*.



STRONG TRACK RECORD

Neoen has contributed over 5 GW of renewable energy assets and has invested more than \$7 billion in the Australian market.

We have proven experience in partnering with stakeholders to develop, build, commission and operate power plants in the NEM and WEM.



TRUSTED ENERGY SUPPLIER

Neoen is a trusted supplier of clean energy to major energy consumers including AGL, BHP, Engie, Flowpower and Shell.

We have contracts with governments in South Australia, New South Wales, Western Australia and with Cleanco in Queensland as well as with the Australian Energy Market Operator.

We are known for our professionalism and innovative contract models.



100% RENEWABLES

Neoen is not involved in any other energy business streams outside of the investment, construction, and operation of renewable energy assets.

We are a 100% clean energy company.



Leaders in the energy transition



HORNSDALE POWER RESERVE

IN OPERATION

150 MW / 193 MWh, South Australia

This was the world's first big battery. Co-located with a wind farm, this battery took less than six months to build and saved SA energy consumers over \$150 million in its first two years.



COLLIE BATTERY STAGES 1 & 2

IN OPERATION

560 MW / 2.24 GWh, Western Australia

The first long-duration 4-hour battery in our portfolio and in the state. The Collie Battery can charge/discharge 20% of the average demand in Western Australia's south-west system.



WESTERN DOWNS GREEN POWER HUB

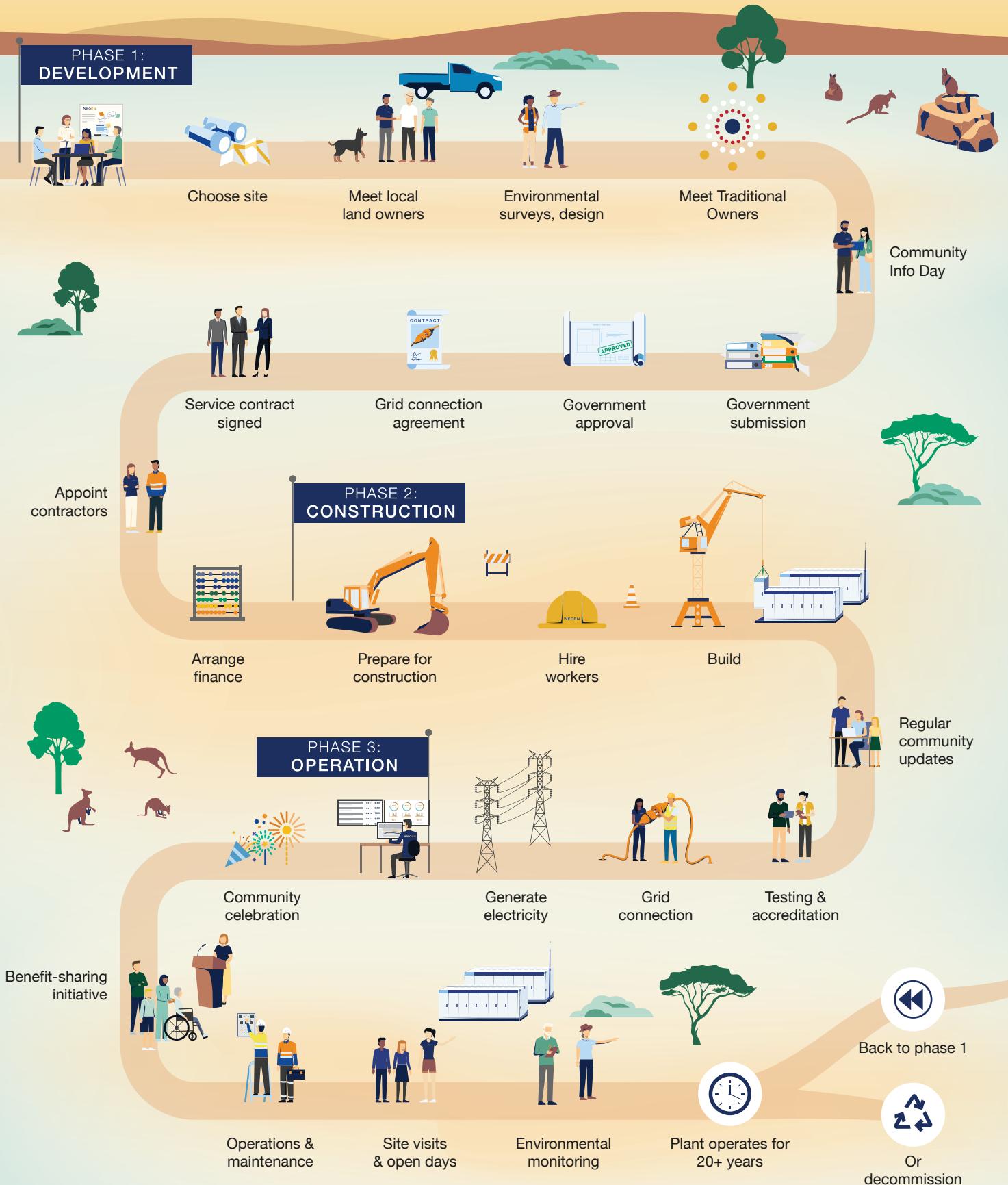
IN OPERATION

540 MW / 1.08 GWh, Queensland

Co-located with a solar farm, this site hosts our innovative virtual battery solution with customers including AGL and Shell Energy Australia.



Project lifecycle



Project layout –

The proposed Great Western Battery will have a capacity of up to 500 MW, and up to eight hours of stored energy. It will likely be built in two stages.

It will be located in the Lithgow region of NSW, just north of Wallerawang and about a 40 minute drive from Bathurst.

The battery will help power homes during evening peaks and provide essential grid stability and reliability services. The Great Western Battery can help support the NSW Government's commitment to a clean energy transition and target of net-zero emissions by 2050.





About big batteries

What does a big battery do?

Like a pocket knife, a big battery has many uses:



Basic Function

When there is excess energy, the battery will charge. When there is high demand for energy, the battery will discharge.

Frequency support

To maintain stability of the system, the grid has frequency control. The battery discharges electricity in response to frequency changes, this also adds competition to the energy market.

Virtual Inertia

Like cruise control in your car, inertia services are a way of maintaining stability of the grid. A big battery enables advanced power inverters to emulate the existing inertia services supplied by fossil fuels.

Network support

Like adding another lane to a freeway, the battery can unlock additional capacity on existing transmission networks, saving customers millions in expensive transmission line upgrades.

Firming renewables

Along with wind and solar, batteries firm varying renewable energy. Batteries are an essential component in the stable transition to clean electricity and achieving emissions reduction targets.

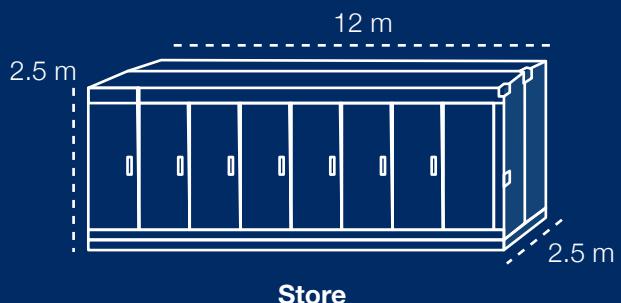


What's inside?

The battery packs are likely to be lithium-ion enclosed in steel cabinets, similar to shipping containers. The battery brand is yet to be determined.

Cabinets are water and dust-proof and the colour is light to assist with heat management. Each cabinet has its own internal thermal management system.

Inverters are made from galvanised steel, and may exist as one single 12m container or a few outdoor cabinets on concrete slabs.



Energy is stored in the battery cabinet.

Convert

Energy is converted from DC to AC at an inverter, then progressively stepped up via transformers.



Send/receive

Energy is imported or exported depending on the needs of the electricity grid.

Do big batteries pose a fire risk to surrounding communities?

Neoen takes fire safety and mitigation very seriously on all its assets.

As a long-term owner and operator of renewable energy assets, we work closely with relevant fire and emergency services from early stages of development to construction and across operations.

Our projects involve building new infrastructure and we are committed to ensuring that in doing so, we do not put unnecessary, additional pressure on valuable, local resources (such as fire fighting) or bring unmitigated risk to the natural environment and communities surrounding our project sites.

Big batteries can be beneficial in mitigating bushfires:

- Asset Protection Zones around the big battery act as a fire break in both directions
- Access to water tank(s) on site, guaranteeing reserves for fire fighting purposes in an emergency
- Additional eyes on the project area to detect and raise alarms during an emergency
- Additional funding opportunities become available for local fire fighting volunteers and authorities.

Over the last decade, Neoen has partnered with the following agencies to successfully develop more than 22 assets across six Australian states and territories:



Local benefits

Community Benefit-Sharing

Neoen will make an **annual commitment** under the Community Benefit-Sharing Program to provide benefits to communities living around our Great Western Battery.

Funding will be available when the project goes into operations and will continue for its 20+ year lifespan. We aim to fund local projects and initiatives in one of the following growth areas:



Arts, culture & events



Disaster relief & emergency services



Education & Training



Energy efficiency & environment



First Nations Initiatives



Health & Wellbeing



Submit your ideas:
shorturl.at/v97kS

Case study

New equipment for emergency support services

Coleambally Rescue Squad is part of VRA Rescue NSW. The squad has been active in the Murrumbidgee Shire since its formation in 1976.

Contributions from Neoen's Coleambally Solar Farm helped the Squad purchase new stabilisation equipment for their Light Rescue Vehicle.





ARTWORK COMMITMENT

We commit to create an artwork on all projects with a capacity of over 50 MW. The artwork celebrates renewable energy and local culture.

For Blyth Battery, after community consultations in 2023, we discovered the town wanted a mosaic celebrating local life. We delivered our artwork initiative by funding this community project in partnership with the Blyth Progress Association.

ENVIRONMENTAL ABOVE & BEYOND INITIATIVES

We are committed to supporting local environmental and biodiversity initiatives in the areas in which we own and operate our projects. This initiative is 'above & beyond' our offset requirements on a project with an energy capacity of over 50 MW.



HAVE YOUR SAY!

You know this area best so we'd like to hear your ideas for community benefits. Scan this QR code or visit our website:



shorturl.at/v97kS



Batteries

How long will it take to build the battery?

Construction of the Great Western Battery will take around 18-30 months.

How big will it be?

The Great Western Battery will have a capacity of up to 500 MW with a storage duration of up to eight hours. It is likely to be built in two stages. Once completed, the battery will take approximately 10 hectares of land. The battery cabinets are normally around 2.5 metres tall.

Where will it be located and why?

The Great Western Battery will be located near the existing Wallerawang substation, on a freehold rural property approximately 2km north of the town of Wallerawang. The land was selected because it is relatively flat, close to the electricity network, and in a rather isolated area.

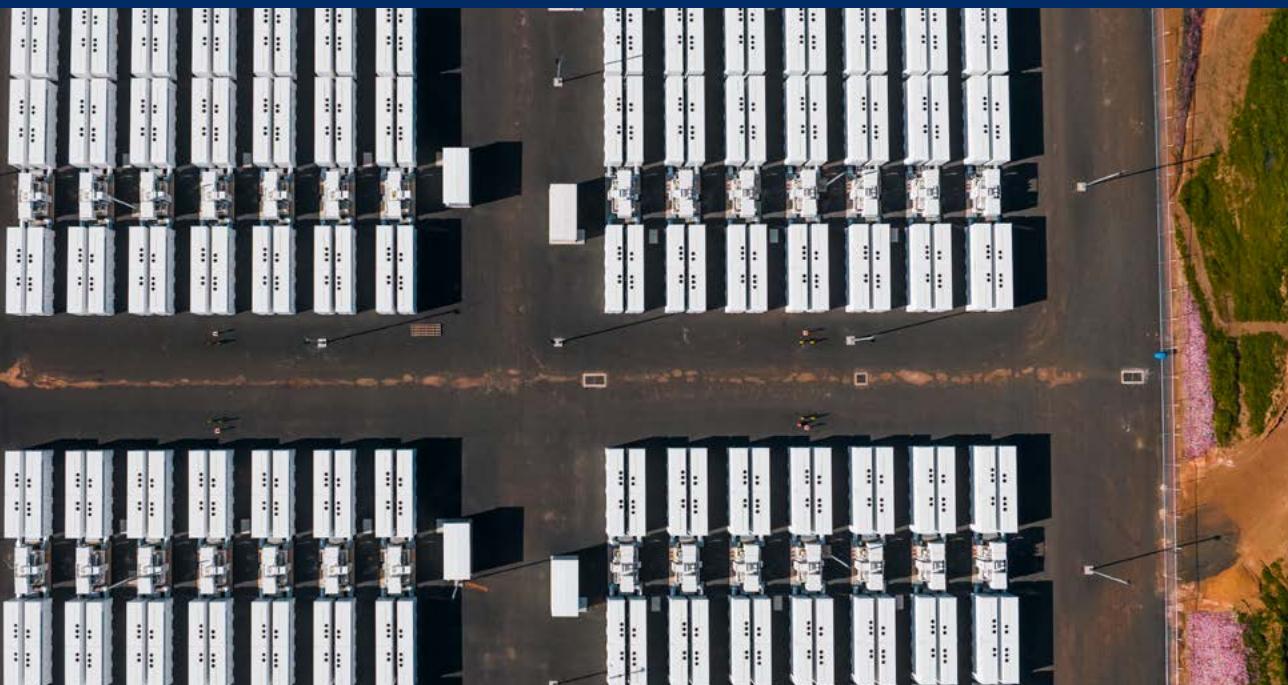
What technology is being used for the project?

The Great Western Battery will utilise Lithium-Ion batteries and associated equipment from leading manufacturers. These manufacturers are selected through a competitive tender process.

The facility will be an orderly arrangement of battery cabinets, inverters and control systems including electrical and data cabling. The battery packs are enclosed in custom designed, dust and waterproof 'cabinets' made of steel. The cabinet colour will be white, or light coloured to assist with heat management and each cabinet has its own internal thermal management system.

What is the life cycle of the Battery?

Current battery technology comes with a 20-25 years warranty. The batteries will still retain the majority of their capacity during this period and will be capable of operating beyond it depending on market conditions and other factors.



How does it work?

The Great Western Battery will store energy in times of high production and release energy in times of high demand, similar to how a battery on a home solar system works. It will also help to stabilise the grid in a few different ways – it has an emergency response mode to prevent blackouts and it can maintain voltage and frequency levels.

What are the benefits of battery energy storage?

In making the transition from fossil fuels to ‘baseload’ renewables, the ability to store and dispatch energy will play a key role. Pumped hydro is an example of longer-term storage that is suitable for storing energy and releasing it over days or weeks. However, pumped hydro has a relatively slow ‘ramping’ time and is less suitable for providing rapid-response services to grid contingency events such as outages or heat waves (with high demand created by air-conditioning). Battery storage fills this key short-term role.

These are some of the functions a grid-scale lithium-ion battery may be expected to perform:

- Frequency support: To maintain the stability of the system, the grid has frequency control. The battery discharges electricity in response to frequency changes. The battery will also add competition to the market, reducing electricity costs.
- Virtual inertia: Like a cruise control button in your car, inertia services are a way of maintaining stability of the grid. A big battery can enable the advanced power inverters to emulate the existing inertia services being supplied by an ageing fleet of fossil fuel power plants.
- Network support: Grid-scale batteries can provide dynamic warp-speed responses so existing transmission lines can operate at full capacity. Like adding another lane to a freeway, the battery can unlock additional capacity on existing transmission networks, saving customers millions of dollars in expensive transmission line upgrades.
- Firming renewables: Along with wind and solar technologies, large-scale batteries help firm variable renewable energy. Batteries are an essential component in the stable transition to clean electricity and achieving emissions reduction targets.

Many of these services have been provided by coal and gas generators in the past. But as they close down, battery energy storage can, and is, being used to deliver these critical services.



Economy

Who will pay for it?

The project will be privately financed by Neoen.

How is the battery reducing costs for consumers?

Great Western Battery can reduce costs for consumers in three ways:

- supporting more wind and solar, which are commonly seen as the cheapest forms of power
- increasing competition in ancillary markets which lowers electricity prices
- helping to avoid blackouts and the associated costs.

Will local jobs be created?

It is expected that Great Western Battery will create a significant volume of construction jobs and a number of full-time ongoing positions during operations. One of our key areas of focus for the broader local community is facilitating the involvement of local jobseekers and businesses to ensure a strong regional economic benefit.

Expressions of interest for work can be registered on the project website. When the project gets closer to construction, we will develop a Local Participation Plan which will go into greater detail to identify and map the following:

1. Employment opportunities for local jobseekers
2. Supply chain opportunities for local contractors
3. Training and apprenticeship opportunities



Local

I live nearby - what impact will this have on me?

During construction, we expect some localised traffic, noise, and dust impacts. However, we will be working with the community, neighbours, and council to minimise the impacts as much as possible.

The battery will also generate some noise, mainly from the cooling fans located within the battery containers. This impact is being carefully assessed, and the project will be designed to comply with all relevant regulations. Measures like equipment selection and layout will help ensure noise levels stay within acceptable limits for neighbours.

How can I have my say on the project?

We will be working with the community throughout the project to understand local concerns and aspirations, and ensure we minimise any impacts.

We encourage the community to provide feedback through completing the survey on the website home page: shorturl.at/v97kS

How will the community benefit from the project?

We have a long-term approach to our projects and we are committed to sharing the benefits with surrounding communities. A Community Benefit-Sharing Scheme will be established for the life of the project.



Safety & Environment

What approvals are required for the project?

The Great Western Battery obtained development approval from the NSW Department of Planning in November 2023.

Will the battery increase the risk of fire?

Big batteries play a critical role in Australia's energy transition by offering services that provide stability, strength and reliability to our electricity grid. However, like all electrical infrastructure, they come with a level of fire risk.

In Australia, there have been two fire incidents at large-scale battery storage sites – one at the Victorian Big Battery in 2021 and another at the Bouldercombe Battery in September 2023. Both fires were contained within the site with help from local fire authorities and did not spread to the surrounding areas.

Australia has strict safety requirements for companies like Neoen looking to develop and operate big batteries. These include ensuring vegetation control around electrical infrastructure and on site, provision of adequate water reserves and more. Neoen ensures that its projects including a big battery site meets all safety requirements from the local and state government fire authorities.

What happens to the batteries when they reach the end of their life?

We make a commitment that all above-ground infrastructure will be removed, and the site rehabilitated when the project ceases to operate. After removal, a large percentage of the material in the batteries will be reclaimed or recycled; over 60% of materials especially critical minerals will be recovered for re-use.

Is the project reducing air quality?

Batteries do not produce any gas or smoke under normal operations.

Before installation, the battery will also be evaluated for the potential release of toxic and flammable gases under abnormal and fault conditions including thermal runaway or mechanical damage. The testing will provide measured data on gas type, quantity, and propagation to ensure that air quality standards are maintained.

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