

# Morven Solar Farm

## Project Update



Image: Proposed site of the Morven Solar Farm project  
(Coach Road, Culcairn)

**42 km** north of Albury

**200,000** solar panels

Generation capacity of  
**125 MW of clean energy**

**125 MW battery** energy  
storage system

**50 years** operational life span

Potential to power around  
**48,000 homes**

**220,000 tonnes** of emissions  
avoided per year

**150 jobs** during construction

**Ongoing jobs** in operation

Morven Solar Farm is a proposed solar farm and battery energy storage system (BESS) project about 11 kilometres north of Gerogery, in the Greater Hume Shire Local Government Area.

The site was selected due to:

- Immediate proximity to the existing transmission grid
- The strong solar resource
- Site topography, which is relatively flat with minimal environmental constraints.

The proposed project would involve the installation of 200,000 ground mounted solar panels, similar to those installed on residential rooftops across Australia.

The solar panels would have the potential to generate enough clean, renewable electricity to power approximately 48,000 homes and would help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 220,000 tonnes per year.

# Where are we now?

Following submission of the Scoping Report in late 2024, the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (NSW DPHI) issued the Secretary's Environmental Assessment Requirements (SEARs) for the Project.

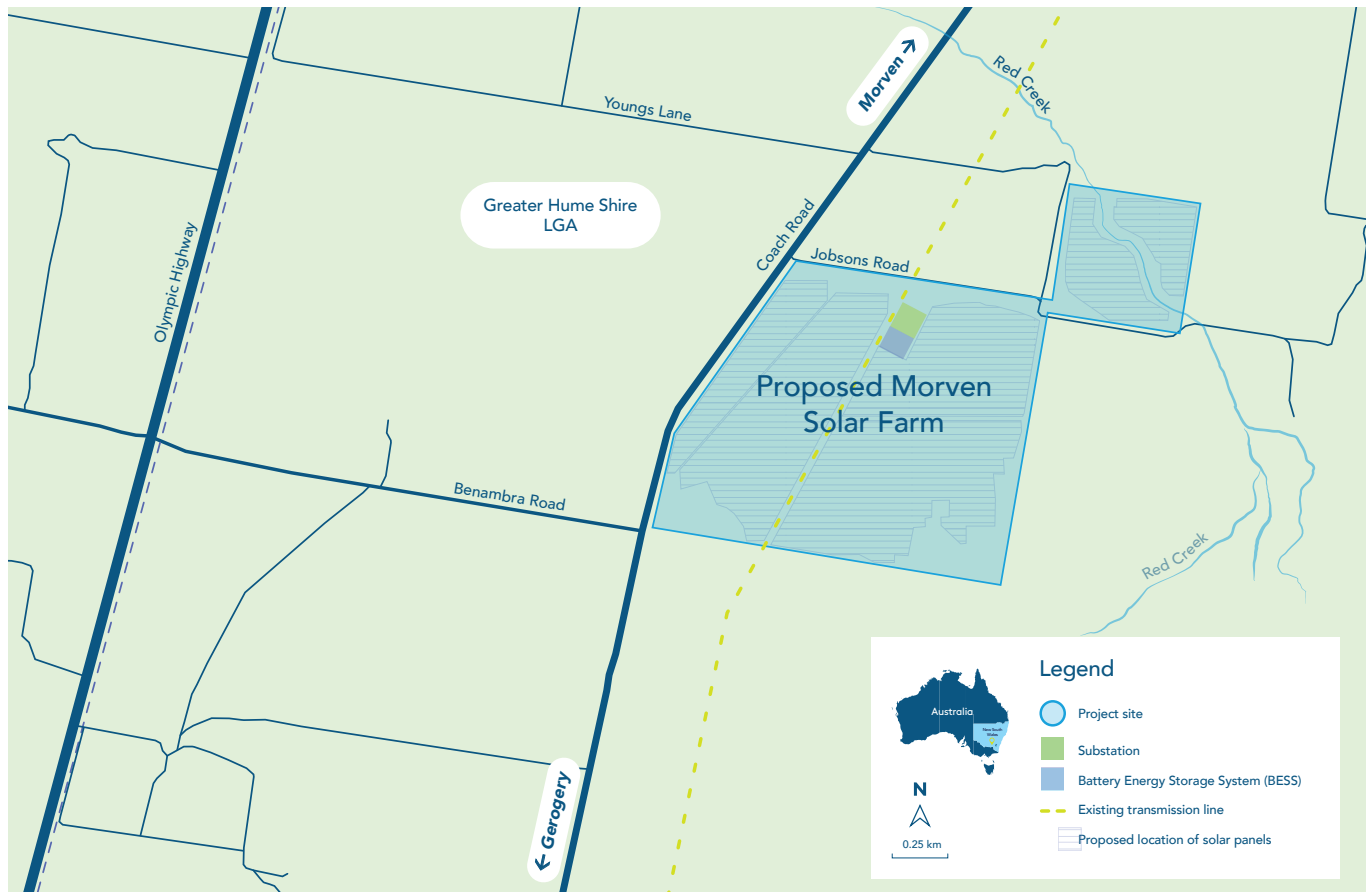
The SEARs outline the specific economic, environmental and social matters that need to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and extend on the initial assessments that were undertaken as part of the Scoping phase of the Project.

The preparation of the assessments for the EIS must comply with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation, and follow other planning guidelines such as the *NSW Government Large-Scale Solar Energy Guideline*.

As identified by the SEARs, the technical assessments that will be carried out as part of the preparation of the EIS include:

- |                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| → Biodiversity                 | → Transport                            |
| → Aboriginal Cultural Heritage | → Water                                |
| → Historical Heritage          | → Hazards, such as bushfire and health |
| → Land use (agriculture)       | → Social                               |
| → Landscape and visual         | → Economic                             |
| → Glint and glare              | → Waste                                |
| → Noise                        |  |

Community input is an integral part of preparing each assessment and the EIS. The Project team will be engaging with the Greater Hume Shire Council, local community, businesses and stakeholders from late June to refine the Project design, understand community concerns, and explore opportunities to co-design the Community Benefit Fund for the Project.



Indicative site layout (subject to ongoing consultation and Project design refinement)

# Planning and approvals

Renewable energy projects in NSW undergo a rigorous planning and approvals process to avoid or minimise any potential impacts during construction, operation and decommissioning to the greatest extent possible.

The proposed Morven Solar Farm is being assessed under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) as a State Significant Development (SSD) and must follow a comprehensive assessment process.

During the formal public exhibition phase, the community and other stakeholders are encouraged to prepare a submission outlining their support or any concerns they have on the Project. Submissions are important to the assessment process as they help the DPHI to better understand the views of local communities and provide local knowledge that assists in the assessment process.

At the conclusion of the public exhibition period, Elgin must provide responses to the submissions received in a submissions report. The DPHI publishes this report on the Major Projects planning portal ([planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects](http://planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects)) and considers all feedback from the community as part of the assessment and determination of the Project.

Following a thorough review, the DPHI will make an assessment and determination on the Project, and will publish this information on the Major Projects Planning Portal.

If the Project is approved, Elgin would continue to refine the Project design and construction planning would continue. Keeping stakeholders informed on the development of the Project is a key commitment, and Elgin would notify the community of the timing of any construction work and ongoing planning activities.

From the engagement and studies in the Scoping phase, we are working to **avoid, minimise and offset identified issues** important to stakeholders, including:

- Avoiding impacts on existing significant biodiversity and riparian ecosystems
- Minimising visual impacts particularly for near neighbours and the view from Jobsons Road, including setbacks and landscaping
- Solar panel design for sheep grazing/agricultural activities
- Incorporating feedback from the community, including site access and transport concerns related to Jobsons Road and Coach Road



Scan the QR code to visit the Major Projects Portal for Morven Solar Farm.



Community engagement occurs throughout all stages of the Project



# Social Impact Assessment

State Significant Developments like the proposed Morven Solar Farm are subject to a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) as part of the preparation of the EIS. An SIA aims to identify, predict and evaluate the potential social impacts of a Project (positive, negative and cumulative) and propose how the Project would address these likely impacts.

The preparation of an SIA must follow the NSW Government Social Impact Assessment Guideline and any requirements set out in the SEARs. It must also consider the potential impacts of other technical studies, such as visual and noise, by understanding how people might experience these environmental changes and how these changes can be managed or mitigated.

The SIA is an independent assessment and will be carried out by Mott MacDonald. The study methodology includes detailed research, data collection and consultation with the community, including local community groups, businesses and individuals. Feedback from the community is a critical component of the SIA.



You can provide feedback at any time by completing the Project survey, or speaking to one of the team members from Mott MacDonald during our in-region visit in late June. Scan the QR code to begin the survey or visit: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/elginenergy](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/elginenergy)

## Have your say

This month, the Project team will be in the region to meet with the community, local residents, landowners, and stakeholders.

If you're in the area, please stop by and say hello. We'd love to hear from you!

**Thursday 26 June 2025**

**3pm – 7pm**

Gerogery Commemoration Hall  
Main Street, Gerogery

**Friday 27 June 2025**

**9am – 1pm**

Culcairn Memorial Hall  
25 Balfour Street, Culcairn

## Upcoming events

Elgin is committed to working closely with you to ensure that the design of the project is aligned with local needs and that investment in community-led initiatives delivers long-term benefits for the region. Where possible, we're also committed to sourcing local goods and services to support all phases of development of the Project.



Artists impression of argi-solar farming practice

## Get involved

Your input is important to us, and we encourage you to get involved and share your thoughts and questions with us.

- Subscribe to our Project updates
- Register your business or service through our Expression of Interest form on our website
- Visit us at a community information event

**T: 1800 311 859**

**E: [morvensolarfarm@premierstrategy.com.au](mailto:morvensolarfarm@premierstrategy.com.au)  
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