

December 2020



Overview

Thunderbolt Energy Hub is a hybrid renewable energy project with the ability to provide affordable, reliable power to New South Wales consumers.

The project will combine around 380MW of wind, 120MW of solar generation and a 400MW battery.

The project is proposed near Kentucky, approximately 40km north-east of Tamworth. The project is proposed within the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ).

Project benefits



The project is predicted to produce enough renewable energy to power approximately **276,800 New South Wales homes.**



The project represents approximately **\$1.01 billion investment in infrastructure.**



During construction the project would create over **600 jobs**, with **20-30 jobs during operations** (25-30 years).



Anyone interested in working on the project can **register their interest on the Thunderbolt Energy Hub project website.**

In the pre-construction period, we will hold a Local Employment and Supplier Networking session.

About Neoen

Neoen is an independent power producer headquartered in Paris. With over 200 employees, the company operates in 14 countries on four continents.

In Australia we currently have 4 operating wind farms and 6 solar farms including Coleambally, Dubbo, Griffith and Parkes.

Our South Australian Big Battery has been keeping the lights on in SA since 2017, and has saved consumers over \$150 million.

Neoen owns and operates all of the projects we build (rather than developing them to be sold) and as long-term neighbours we are committed to sharing the benefits with surrounding communities.

Wind and Solar Farm Design

Figure 1 shows the preliminary layout for the wind farm, designed to be located in areas identified as having higher wind resources.

This figure also shows the area under consideration for the solar farm (pink area). The solar farm is designed to avoid highly vegetated areas.

The layouts of the wind and solar farm will be refined once specialist studies have been undertaken to minimise impacts.

Environmental assessments

Thunderbolt Energy Hub is classified as a State Significant Development (SSD) and a Scoping Report has been submitted to the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE).

The NSW DPIE will issue a list of all the requirements that Neoen and specialist consultants must address to inform the next stage – the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed wind and solar farm.

The Scoping Reports are available here:

Wind Farm Scoping Report:

www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/40551

Solar Farm & Battery Scoping Report:

www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects/project/40601



This video, from Neoen's Thunderbolt Energy Hub project, provides an idea of what's involved in ecology surveys for a renewable project: www.youtube.com/watch?v=0yUZIKBJ1jk or search **Thunderbolt Ecology** on YouTube.

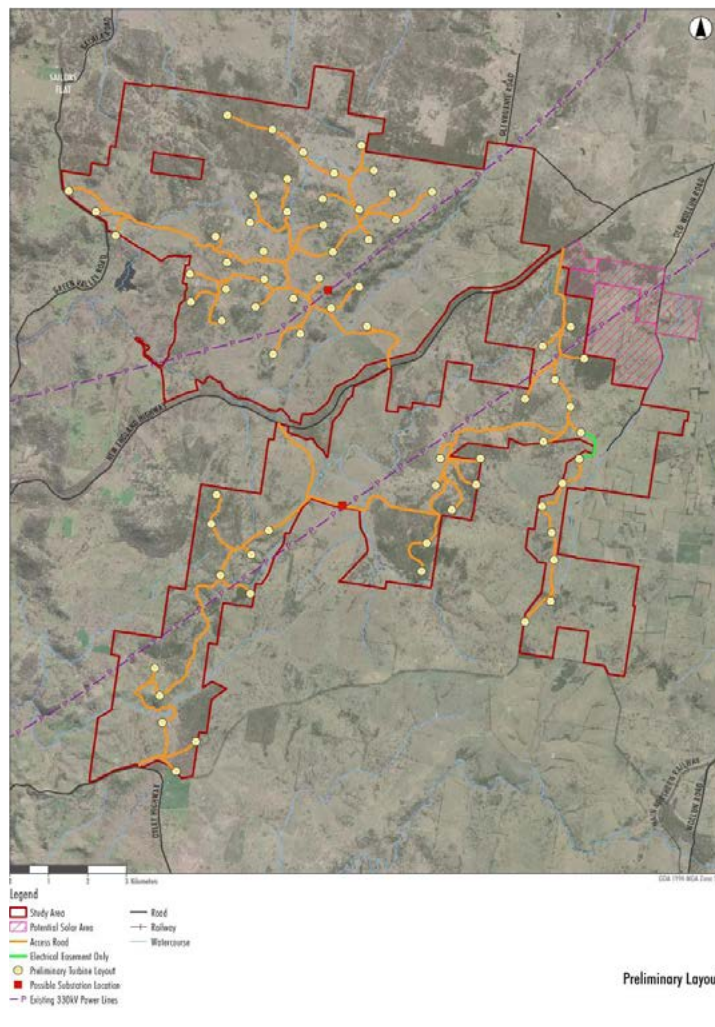


Figure 1

Community Open Days

A Covid-safe Community Information Session was held at the Alternate Root Café in Uralla in September. Neoen would like to thank all those who attended and provided their initial feedback which helped to inform the project's Scoping Report.

Another Community Information Session will be held in 2021 prior to the submission of the EIS to show the final proposed layout. Further details about this event will be made available via the project website and the next project bulletin.

Community Engagement

Anne-Marie Ward has recently joined the Neoen team as Community Engagement Officer for Thunderbolt Energy Hub. Anne-Marie is based in Kentucky and will continue discussions with members of the local community. Feel free to contact Anne-Marie if you have any questions or would like further information.

Anne-Marie Ward

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Have your say

Community feedback forms can be completed via: www.surveymonkey.com/r/neoenthunderbolt

Or you can email: contact@thunderboltenergyhub.com.au to comment or request further information about the Thunderbolt Energy Hub project.