



Powering a Sustainable Future

WINTON SOLAR FARM PROJECT UPDATE

FRV, a global renewable energy solutions provider and leading solar developer, is currently constructing the 85 MW AC Winton Solar Farm, near Benalla in Victoria.

May 2021 – What is happening on site?



Block 2 solar array – all panels now rotate in sync with the sun.



Plants within the site's vegetation buffers continue to flourish.



Seeded grass on sloped areas around the substation is starting to emerge.



The last bins of timber pallets are sent offsite for recycling.

Health and Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safety of all workers is a priority for us.</i> • Approximately 20 workers onsite. • No safety incidents recorded this month.
Major activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major construction works are complete. • Commissioning works progressing with 70% completion. Cold commissioning works (verification of site technologies and infrastructure) is almost complete. • Thermal imaging study of PV modules and electrical conditions under live load has commenced. • Testing work investigating the performance, safety and efficiency of the solar farm under increasing electrical loads (hold point testing) is ongoing. • Staff training in solar farm operational software (SCADA) and working with AEMO, the energy market operator, is underway. • Initial investigations into potential for sheep grazing to be reintroduced on to site (agrisolar). • All rubbish has now been removed from site and surplus materials recycled.
Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring for permanent workers to operate and maintain the site is complete. Five workers have been recruited, with all candidates from the local region.
Contact us	<p>We welcome your questions and feedback! To contact the Project team, please email infoaustralia@frv.com or call 0418 142 173.</p> <p>Please also visit our website at www.wintonsolarfarm.com</p>



2 MINUTE READ

Winton Solar Farm COMMUNITY UPDATE

EDITION 2 / APRIL 2021

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter! It has been a busy few months with crews completing the installation of electrical infrastructure and starting the process of testing and commissioning. This hard work has paid off, with the Winton Solar Farm generating clean energy for the first time in early February.

CONSTRUCTION HIGHLIGHTS
Despite the challenges of COVID-19 and a wetter than usual year, construction is now complete. At peak activity, over 200 personnel were onsite, with many of these workers living in the area. Site crew members were also involved via local businesses – including Watters Electrical, Delatite Steel, ACLE, James Civil and Sandy Creek Trees. Even small suppliers played a key role supplying meals, accommodation, fuel, fencing, and wildlife handling.

WINTON ON A NEW CLEAN ENERGY GENERATION HUB
On February 9, Winton Solar Farm started sending clean, renewable energy to the grid. While output is at low levels through this early commencement phase, first generation is a key milestone for the project. Energy output will progressively increase as the project progresses through 'hold point' tests post full registration with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO). When complete, the solar farm will generate 65 megawatts, enough clean power for 82,000 homes.

ACTIVE IN OUR COMMUNITY
Last year, we awarded \$35,000 in community grants to six organisations. As a result several exciting new community projects are now underway. Benalla Woodworkers Association and Merit Shed has purchased two new dust filters drastically reducing the amount of dust in their workshop. Valminda House in Benalla is working on a new community garden that will feature water-wise wicking beds provided by a North-East manufacturer. These are just two examples of projects Winton Solar Farm has been proud to support; well done to all the winners of our Community Grant Program!

VEGETATION BUFFER TREES SHOW STRONG GROWTH SINCE PLANTING 3 MONTHS AGO.

New dust filters have dramatically improved conditions at the Benalla Woodworkers Association.

www.wintonsolarfarm.com

frv
The future happens here

Winton Solar Farm Community Newsletter

Edition Two of the *Winton Solar Farm Community Newsletter* has been issued!

If you haven't received a copy of our Newsletter and would like a more in-depth update sent to you, please email infoaustralia@frv.com or visit <https://wintonsolarfarm.com/news-and-events/>