

# Tumuruu Newsletter

Vol 4 | June 2023

Welcome to the 4th edition of the Tumuruu newsletter



Australian Solar Enterprises' approach to the design and delivery of the Tumuruu project is underpinned by environmental sustainability, active community engagement, and the desire to leave a long-lasting positive legacy for all our stakeholders.

We would appreciate your time to help us better understand community feedback.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZVYZFKM>



Email:  
[tumuruu@planc.com.au](mailto:tumuruu@planc.com.au)

Phone:  
0422 794 072

Project website:  
[www.tumuruusolar.com.au](http://www.tumuruusolar.com.au)

Australian Solar Enterprises (ASE) is proposing the Tumuruu Solar project in Blackbutt on a private property on Bowman Road. It is important we continue to inform the community on the assessment process, if you have any questions or comments, please do reach out to the team on the details below left. We are here to listen and answer to all parties.

## Project Activity

- The public notification period is open and onsite signs, letters and online information on how to share responses to the council have been distributed.
- All detailed reports are available on the SBRC website.

## Corrections

Recently we provided updated information on the Tumuruu project and we have had feedback on two discrepancies that we wish to address, as below. We do apologise for this and encourage anyone with questions to please reach out to the contact details provided.

**Ground Mount:** The ground mount is fixed position and has no tracking capability. The panel installation uses a simple ground mount structure that does not require cement footings and can be installed with hand tools. The system has an 8-degree pitch.

**Visual:** There are 62 lots adjoining the project site; approximately 44 have dwelling structures. The Development Assessment submission and subsequent information requested by Council have assessed impacts on water, visual, noise. There were 20 viewpoints that were considered for the visual aspect. A wider correction is being provided to the community.

## Project Information

One key issue we have been informed of is risk of insurance premiums increasing from the project's existence. ASE have confirmed with the project insurance advisor that the following applies to neighbouring properties:

- The Tumuruu project insurance for property and revenue protection policies will include a waiver of fault that specifically names the adjacent landowners and their entities.
- Adjacent landowners and entities declare the above to their Third-Party Liability insurers to ensure that they recognise, even if at fault, the Solar Farm and its insurers will not be able to rely on their Third-Party Liability policy to pay for damage.
- This would mean that any increase in premium would not be impacted by the solar farm's existence and will remove the exposure for adjacent landowners.

Further information (previously mailed out to the broader community) is attached.

FAQ have moved to the Tumuruu website (<https://tumuruusolar.com.au/faqs>)

If you have any questions not answered here or on the website, please reach out.

## Tumuruu Solar Project

A new solar project is being proposed on a site north of Blackbutt at 341 Bowman Rd, Taromeo.

The project, as currently planned, will be approximately 400MW connected to the Powerlink network supplying power to Queensland. The project will cover around 400 hectares of the 700-hectare site. The remainder of the site - about 40% will be retained as rural and likely will be used for cattle.

The project seeks to design and deliver a large-scale project that moves the renewable sector forward to help meet the Australian climate targets. We are proposing a low-profile, high density solar solution that will limit visual impact, utilise low value agriculture land whilst delivering benefits to the community.

A specific solar mounting technology that uses a lightweight and compact structure has been selected for this project to minimise installation impacts and ground disturbance as well as reducing materials used.

**\$70M**

Regional construction spend

**\$4.1M**

Annual regional spend

**100+**

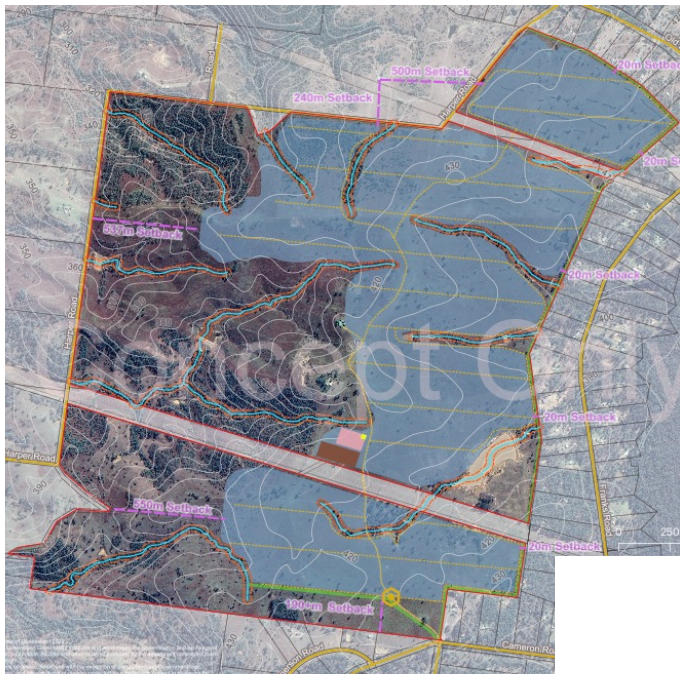
Construction jobs

**17**

Operational ongoing direct & indirect jobs

**\$4.8M**

Community funding over life of the project



### Legend

- Property Boundary (Total Area 673.2Ha)
- Development Envelope
- 10m Wide Landscaped Setback Area
- Site Office
- Setdown Area
- High Voltage Switchyard
- Primary Access Road & Internal Roads
- Entry / Access Gate
- Existing Watercourse / Drainage
- Existing Watercourse / Drainage - 20m Buffer

## About the Developer

Australian Solar Enterprises (ASE) was founded in 2021 by two passionate individuals who want to help Queensland achieve its climate goals. The founders are supported by a highly qualified and experienced group of consulting partners with a combined 100+ years in development approvals and the renewables industry.

Australian Solar Enterprises' approach to the design and delivery of the Tumuruu project is underpinned by environmental sustainability, active community engagement, and the desire to leave a long-lasting positive legacy for all our stakeholders.

Stay up to date with project developments and sign up to our project newsletter



Want more information?

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email us at [tumuruu@planc.com.au](mailto:tumuruu@planc.com.au)

## Project Location

The site is located north of Blackbutt (see map below). It has been selected as it is located on existing Powerlink transmission lines and has topography and aspect that is suited to solar.

Processes to secure planning and grid approvals are currently underway. A planning application for the project is currently being considered by South Burnett Regional Council (Planning Ref. MCU22/0034). A statutory public notification period will be held in due course.



### PROJECT NEED

- At least 25Gw of renewable energy needed for the QLD Energy & Job Plan; Tumuruu is 400Mw with 635GwH of annual solar production
- Queensland has three energy zones; Tumuruu is located within the Southern QREZ
- All publicly owned coal-fired power stations to shut and operating as clean energy hubs by 2035, including Tarong. Tumuruu is 20km East of Tarong Power Station – reduces coal dependency and helps fill gap in electricity supply to Brisbane and creates both construction and operational employment opportunities
- Around 1500km of new high voltage backbone transmission to move more power around the state. The Tumuruu site has existing infrastructure – less capital expense by QLD Government, no infrastructure community impact, secured site.

## Specialist Studies

### Visual:

The visual assessment process identifies properties and dwellings with a direct boundary and views to the project site. This detailed assessment will include proposed mitigation strategies, which will be determined by the level of defined visual impacts. The most common mitigation strategy is a vegetated buffer on the outer perimeter of the project.

### Noise:

As outlined in the [Queensland Solar Farm Guidelines](#), solar farms typically generate minimal noise from inverters, transformers and tracking motors. Tumuruu will utilise a high-density fixed ground mount tilt system, this means no moving parts unlike trackers and will reduce ongoing operating noise. Construction vehicles and machinery during the construction phase would be most relevant in contributing to noise and vibration impacts from the solar project. An operational noise assessment will be included as part of the Development Assessment to assess potential noise impacts for affected residents.

### Glint and Glare:

All solar panels are designed to absorb light as much light as possible, rather than reflect it. The Tumuruu solar project is proposed to be fitted with fixed tilt panels that are approx. 8-degree pitch; pointing them towards the sky.

A glint and glare assessment will be undertaken for the solar project to model and assess these impacts to ensure any potential significant impact is avoided or mitigated appropriately.

## Project Timeline



## Community Engagement

The Tumuruu team have been engaging with the Blackbutt community and surrounds since late 2022. In addition to providing updates to the community through our monthly newsletter, factsheets and website, we have been regularly engaging with neighbours to the project and community groups, including the Blackbutt Avocado Festival and Rural Fire Brigade, and local businesses.

As the project progresses we remain open to discussion and feedback and encourage all members of the community to reach out to us with any questions either via email or call 0422 794 072. We can also arrange face to face discussions where necessary.

### Changes made to address issues raised:

- Solar panels at 1m high; Invertors relocated away from boundaries
- Footprint redesigned to minimise impact to stormwater catchments
- No B-double trucks
- Buses being considered for transport
- No floodlights – will use infrared security cameras
- Panels relocated 190-200m away from southern boundary to reduce concerns about visual and stormwater impact
- Site entry moved away from neighbouring residents
- Site set-down area relocated to centre of site to reduce noise and light impacts to neighbours

## Community Benefits

### Social Benefits:

- Environmental benefits from reduced CO<sup>2</sup> emissions
- Community benefits scheme
- Community development and liveability
- Education and training of contractors and local residents

### Economic Benefits:

- Boost of jobs and skills in the area increasing local employment
- Improvements in local infrastructure
- Energy & income security are not impacted by weather with landholders drought proofed
- Increase in property value through population growth, increase job opportunities, reduced rental vacancy rates
- Local spend and opportunities for local suppliers and contractors

### Community Benefits Scheme:

ASE has committed to a community benefits scheme for the project, which would see a financial commitment contributed annually for the lifetime of the project. The community benefit scheme would be managed and administered by a committee of local community members. The monies accumulated in the scheme would be used to fund local community projects or infrastructure. The proponent is committing to the below contribution each year for the lifetime on the project. The final contribution total will be dependent on the finalised registered capacity of the project:

COMMUNITY BENEFIT SCHEME			
Tumuruu	(MWac) Planned	Contribution \$/MWac	Total \$/yr
Solar and Battery	400	\$250	\$100,000

LATE 2024-2025

2025+ (30 YEARS)

~2055

CONSTRUCTION

COMMISSIONING AND OPERATIONS

RECOMMISSIONING OR DECOMMISSIONING

## Register for updates

Use this QR code to register for project updates or to set up a time to discuss the project further.

Or contact Plan C via:

Email: [tumuruu@planc.com.au](mailto:tumuruu@planc.com.au)

Phone: 0422 794 072

Project website: [www.tumuruusolar.com.au](http://www.tumuruusolar.com.au)

SCAN THE  
QR CODE



## Employment opportunities

Do you enjoy outdoor work?

Can you or are you willing to learn how to use these tools?

If you are school age, we will have opportunities during school holiday periods as well!

If the above sounds like you, register your interest with the QR code and help Queensland reach its energy target!

SCAN THE  
QR CODE



## Supplier opportunities

### Construction

Fencing/Security  
Earthworks  
Landscaping  
Catering  
Accommodation  
Cleaning

### Operations

Fencing/Security  
Earthworks  
Landscaping  
Maintenance

30 year  
opportunity

SCAN THE  
QR CODE



This project is an independent solar project by ASE and is separate to the Powerlink transmission lines project and consultation.