

THE CENTRAL BESS

A new 500 megawatt Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
at Bouldercombe, Central Queensland



ABOUT ACENERGY

ACEnergy is a leader in renewable energy development and is 100% Australian owned and operated.

We work closely with all parties in the development process including investors, landholders, regulators and offtakers to develop excellent projects.

With a successful track record of more than 32 projects across Australia, we are a proven partner in renewable energy project development.

For more information about ACEnergy go to www.acenergy.com.au.

ABOUT THE CENTRAL BESS

A Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) is designed to store energy from the grid during times of low demand and distribute energy back into the grid during times of peak demand. This will help to stabilise the grid and minimise the risk of power outages, improving the overall reliability of the transmission network.

The Central BESS will connect to the transmission network at the Bouldercombe Substation.

The proposed facility will be located at the north-western corner of the site and will include BESS units, medium voltage power stations, connection assets, a hardstand area, car parking, landscaping, acoustic fencing and security fencing. A new underground cable route and easement is proposed along the western boundary of the property with a connection under the Burnett Highway to the Bouldercombe Substation.

Visit www.thecentralbess.com.au for project updates and further information.

Capacity

500 MW

Land Size

9 HA

Network Operator

Powerlink

Location

Bouldercombe,
Central Queensland

April & May 2024
One-on-one Project Briefings

May 2024
Development Application
lodged with the
Rockhampton Regional
Council

September 2024
Public notification of
Development Application

September 2024
Stakeholder DA
Briefing Sessions

Late 2024
Anticipated development
approval

2025 onwards
Grid connection approval,
Construction and
commissioning



LEGEND

- BESS AREA
- LANDSCAPING
- CONNECTION ASSET
- FENCE LINE
- CONNECTION EASEMENT
- OFFICE, CAR PARK & HARDSTAND AREA

Note: Indicative locations of legend items, subject to finalisation with the development application approval



DESIGN FEATURES OF THE PROJECT

ACEnergy has engaged an experienced consultant team to assess potential project impacts and advise how these can be minimised, maintained at acceptable levels, and meet all of the relevant development and operational regulations.

The following key matters have been addressed as part of the development application material:

- ▶ **Site Selection:** The site is located in proximity to the Bouldercombe Substation to optimise existing transmission infrastructure and service the demand centres of Gladstone and Rockhampton.
- ▶ **Acoustic:** A noise impact assessment has been prepared and confirms compliance with the applicable noise criteria will be achieved with 4m and 6m high acoustic barriers. The predicted noise levels take into account the cumulative impacts of the existing noise in the area.
- ▶ **Fire Risk:** Fire risk will be minimised through the battery design and use of internal fire suppression systems. A bushfire risk assessment has been prepared and confirms the project will not contribute to increased bushfire risk in the wider area.
- ▶ **Visual Impact:** A visual impact assessment has been prepared to demonstrate the project will be suitably screened from nearby properties and roads. The plant selection for the landscape screening has been chosen to promote rapid growth and withstand drought conditions.
- ▶ **Ecological Assessment:** An ecological assessment has been undertaken and recommends mitigation measures to avoid impacts on ecological values or threatened species. The development site is predominantly characterised by pastoral grassland. Wildlife will continue to use the remainder of the site.
- ▶ **Agricultural Land:** An agricultural land assessment has been undertaken and confirms the development footprint has lower agricultural capabilities than the surrounding land due to the soil type and drainage conditions. Land to the south of the site will continue to be used for farming purposes.
- ▶ **Stormwater:** A stormwater assessment has been undertaken to assess the stormwater quality and quantity of the proposed development. A detention basin is proposed to treat stormwater quality and ensure peak flows leave the site at or below predevelopment site conditions.
- ▶ **Traffic:** A traffic impact assessment has been undertaken and confirms that the additional traffic generated during the construction and operational phases of the project is not expected to have significant adverse impact on surrounding road network operations.
- ▶ **Cultural Heritage:** A desktop cultural heritage assessment has been undertaken and confirms that the proposed development footprint is within an area that has been subject to 'significant ground disturbance' as a result of previous agricultural use. Works will be confined to this area to avoid the potential for impact to any Aboriginal cultural heritage in the broader site.
- ▶ **Community Benefit:** The project will strengthen Queensland's electricity network, improving grid reliability and putting downward pressures on energy costs.



STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

ACEnergy is undertaking a stakeholder and community engagement program to ensure people are informed about the project and can have their say. Interested parties have been able to find out about the project and provide feedback before the development application has been lodged, and during the formal public exhibition period during the assessment of the application.

The engagement program involves:

- **ONE-ON-ONE PROJECT BRIEFINGS**

ACEnergy is offering one-on-one briefings on the project to nearby property owners and occupiers and local elected representatives. Additional briefings can be provided to interested parties on request.

A one-on-one briefing can be requested at www.thecentralbess.com.au or by contacting ACEnergy at info@thecentralbess.com.au.

- **STAKEHOLDER BRIEFING SESSIONS**

ACEnergy is providing Stakeholder Development Application (DA) Briefing Sessions during the Public Notification Period for the development application.

The Stakeholder DA Briefing Sessions will provide drop-in session times for community members to view displays with project information and application documentation, speak to ACEnergy representatives, ask questions and provide feedback about the project.

This will assist interested persons to better understand the project, and how local concerns are being addressed.

Further details for the Stakeholder DA Briefing Sessions are available at www.thecentralbess.com.au.

FIND OUT MORE AND HAVE YOUR SAY

We welcome your feedback on the project. Please contact ACEnergy at info@thecentralbess.com.au with any questions or comments.

Just follow these steps:

- ▶ Tell us your name, home address and contact details. This information will be kept confidential.
- ▶ Tell us about any specific concerns you have with the project.
- ▶ Tell us about any improvements that could be made to the project.
- ▶ Ask us for more information about specific aspects of the project. We will endeavour to respond within 10 working days if you have provided your contact information.

If you are unable to email your feedback to us, please call us on [0482 718 838](tel:0482718838) during normal office hours so we can make arrangements that suit you.

This feedback will be used to inform improvements that could be made to the project.

Project Website: www.thecentralbess.com.au

Company website: www.acenergy.com.au

Information email address: info@thecentralbess.com.au

Phone line during office hours: [0482 718 838](tel:0482718838)