Microgrid Demonstration Initiative

SwitchDin – Birchip Cropping Group Microgrid Demonstration

The facts

Project name: Birchip Cropping Group Microgrid

Project lead: SwitchDin Pty Ltd
Project partners: Walnut Energy Systems

Birchip Cropping Group (BCG)

Project status: Complete

Project description

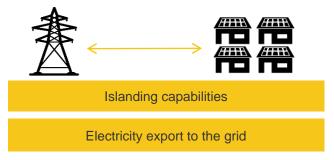
A microgrid based on solar photovoltaics (PV) and batteries has been installed at Birchip Cropping Group's agricultural research facility.

The project provides a working demonstration of microgrid technology and its ability to lower energy costs and improve energy reliability for the region's farmers.

Project Particulars



Grid Interactions



Project outcomes

- ▶ Demonstrate the ability of a microgrid to disconnect and reconnect to the main electricity network.
- Share knowledge with the local community on the performance of the system and potential for these technologies to be used for farming applications.
- ► Islanding capability during power outages, allowing BCG to continue serving its member base of > 400.



Figure 1 – Birchip Cropping Group solar installation.

Sector benefits

- Significant replicability potential for other farms, facilities and businesses in rural areas.
- Demonstrates the viability of microgrid technologies for constrained edge of grid locations.
- Potential to provide local services to the Distribution Network Service Provider.



Figure 2 - Birchip Cropping Group research site.

Contact

- SwitchDin: 02 4786 0426 | info@switchdin.com
- ► Walnut Energy Systems: 02 8542 4991 | info@walnutenergy.com.au
- Birchip Cropping Group:03 5492 2787 | cameron@bcg.org.au

For more information on the Microgrid Demonstration Initiative contact microgrid@delwp.vic.gov.au or visit energy.vic.gov.au/microgrids