Victorian Renewable Energy Auction Scheme

The Victorian Renewable Energy Auction Scheme (VREAS) will support achievement of the Victorian Renewable Energy Targets (VRET).

These targets seek to ensure that 25 per cent of the State’s electricity generation comes from renewable sources by 2020, rising to 40 per cent of generation by 2025.

Winton Solar Farm Break Down

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Technology</th>
<th>Solar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total generation</td>
<td>98.8 MW</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs (created)</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traineeships</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>15km north east of Benalla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Company</td>
<td>Winton Asset Trust (Fotowatio Renewable Ventures)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement of construction</td>
<td>Early 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement of commercial operations</td>
<td>Early 2020</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Community Engagement

- Winton Solar Farm will include local residents to their Engagement and Benefit Sharing Program.
- Information will be exchanged where possible to assist community groups to better understand renewable energy, large scale solar farm development and options for a low-carbon future.

Local Investment Commitments

A suite of programs will be designed to meet the needs of the local community, including the:

- Contribution to Melbourne University as part of the Renewable Energy Research Investment Partnership, involving a research project into Distribution Network Design and Impact on Communities and Research project into Community Renewable Energy Projects.
- Honey Eater Vegetation Screening and Volunteers FRV has committed to fund an initial two-year pilot partnership with the Regent Honeyeater Project (RHEP). FRV will continue support of the Regent Honeyeater Project via direct support for ongoing plantings, either locally or within the broader region.
- Development of a local employment and procurement program as per the Local Investment Development Plan (LIDP) for the project.
- Enrolment to the GO TAFE Traineeship Program to ensure the highest number of suitably-qualified local candidates are available for ongoing positions at WSF.
- Exploration of supporting Benalla Sustainable Futures Group – Zero Emissions which is a local volunteer-run organisation, delivering key aspects of their three-point plan to position Benalla as one of the first ‘zero net energy’ towns.

Project Contact

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Figure 1: Successful VRET Auction Projects

Learn More

• Contact the project proponent to find out more information.

• The Department of Environment, Water, Land and Planning’s Customer Contact Centre will be available to provide information and support.


Accessibility

If you would like to receive this publication in an alternative format, please telephone the DELWP Customer Service Centre on 136186, email, or via the National Relay Service on 133 677 www.relayservice.com.au. This document is also available on the internet at www.delwp.vic.gov.au.