

# ENERGY UPDATE

## Cleaner, cheaper energy for Queenslanders

November 2021 — Issue 4



### Queensland hydrogen projects

The Queensland Government has assisted in excess of 50 hydrogen projects as part of the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy 2019–2024, a five-year plan to grow the hydrogen industry in Queensland.

More than \$60 million has already been committed across multiple initiatives to help stimulate the hydrogen supply chain and support future hydrogen jobs in Queensland.

Projects include Ark Energy's first hydrogen hub, located in Townsville, along with a \$5 million grant to Sun Metals to commence hydrogen production in North Queensland. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Port of Townsville and Ark Energy has the potential to spur renewable hydrogen exports of up to 120,000 tonnes to South Korea in the next decade.



### Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund

In June 2021, the Queensland Government established the \$2 billion Queensland Renewable Energy and Hydrogen Jobs Fund. The fund allows energy government-owned corporations to increase ownership of commercial renewable energy and hydrogen projects, as well as supporting infrastructure, including in partnership with the private sector.

The fund will ensure Queensland capitalises on economic development opportunities for more jobs and more industries through cheaper, cleaner energy.



Photo courtesy of Genex Power.



### Queensland Renewable Energy Zones (QREZ)

The Queensland Government has committed \$145 million to establish three Queensland Renewable Energy Zones (QREZ) in northern, central, and southern Queensland. Combined, these will unlock more than 3,300 megawatts (MW) of renewable capacity in these regions, and form just the first stages of QREZ development.

The Northern QREZ kicked off development in May 2021, with the government announcing a \$40 million investment to upgrade transmission lines between Cairns and Townsville, unlocking up to 500 MW of renewable capacity. The first new project connecting to the REZ is Neoen Australia's 157 MW Kaban Green Power Hub wind farm, worth over \$370 million.

Consultation is underway to deliver the first stages of QREZ investment. Following on from initial community input, a Technical Discussion Paper on QREZ design and access has been released.

The Technical Discussion Paper presents the desired QREZ model attributes and how this model corresponds to renewable energy zones at the national and jurisdictional levels. Industry stakeholders are invited to provide feedback by 14 January 2022.



Photo courtesy of Genex Power.



Queensland  
Government



## Borumba Dam Pumped Hydro

The Queensland Government is investing \$22 million to investigate the potential to construct pumped hydroelectric energy storage at Borumba Dam, located 70 kilometres south-west of Noosa in the Sunshine Coast hinterland.

Borumba Dam was identified as a potential pumped hydro site through the Queensland Hydroelectric Study, as part of the Powering Queensland Plan. Detailed cost and design analysis, including engineering and design, hydrological modelling, geological testing, and assessment of environmental impacts commences soon. These studies will take around 24 months to complete.

Residents in the Gympie and Mary Valley regions are invited to learn more about the proposed Borumba Pumped Hydro Project, with community information sessions to be held in early December 2021.



Photo courtesy of Seqwater.



## Decarbonising Remote Communities

Under the \$3.6 million Decarbonising Remote Communities program, four Indigenous communities in Queensland's far north have had renewable energy systems installed to reduce their use of diesel power. More than 5,500 Queenslanders can now access cleaner, cheaper renewable energy.

At completion, the program has installed 1,000 kilowatts of solar and 32 kilowatt hours of battery storage across 28 council-owned buildings. The switch to solar will collectively save around \$170,000 on electricity costs, 392,000 litres of diesel use and more than 1,000 tonnes of carbon emissions, each year.




Photo courtesy of Yurika.



## Achieving our renewable energy targets


The Queensland Government is delivering affordable, reliable and sustainable energy solutions for Queenslanders. In 2015, we started a renewable energy boom in Queensland to reduce emissions, create new jobs and diversify the state's economy by establishing a 50% renewable energy target by 2030.

### Large-scale renewable energy in Queensland

  
**48** projects

  
**\$10.9 billion**  
invested

  
**7,600**  
construction jobs

  
**5,686 MW**

### Renewable energy in Queensland

  
**7,111 MW**  
renewable capacity

  
**20%**  
from renewable sources

\*Figures current as at November 2021.



[www.epw.qld.gov.au](http://www.epw.qld.gov.au)



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