

The Calala BESS will deliver a set of initiatives designed to support local communities, First Nations People, and regional economic development throughout the project's lifecycle. These initiatives reflect Equis' belief that communities deserve to share in the benefits of the energy transition, and that responsible development means investing in long-term social, cultural and economic outcomes.

First Nations Spend Commitments

Project phase	Commitment Timeframe	First Nations Commitment	Training and Workforce Development	Project phase	Commitment Timeframe	First Nations % of workforce
Construction	24-Mar-2025 – 17-May-2027	\$1,515,000	\$140,000	Construction	24-Mar-2025 – 17-May-2027	3.57%
Operations	17-May-2027 – 17-May-2052	-	\$300,000			

Additional Commitment	Commitment Timeframe	Cost at Signing Date
Voluntary Planning Agreement	One-time payment by 17-May-2027	\$280,000
First Nations Benefits Sharing Funds	17-May-2027 – 17-May-2030	\$120,000

Local Content Commitments

Project phase	Commitment Timeframe	Description
Development and Construction	1-Nov-2021 and 17-May-2027	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$59,823,500 of Capital Expenditure will be spent on Local business procurement. \$656,640 of steel will be sourced Locally.
Operations	17-May-2027 – 17-May-2052	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$88,150,000 of the Operating Expenditure will be spent on Local business procurement.

Local Employment Commitments

Workforce category	Development (FTE)	Construction (FTE)	Operations (FTE)	% of Project Workforce
Learning Workers	5.0	4.3	-	8%
Underrepresented Groups	4.0	5.5	-	8%
Women	5.0	13.2	1.0	19%
Local Workers	10.0	65.3	7.0	73%
Apprentices	-	3.2	-	10%
Women in Trades	-	2.4	1.0	10%
Local Trades	-	31.9	-	100%

Community Benefits Sharing Commitments

- A total of \$480,000 will be committed to the community through the Calala Community Benefit Fund (between 17-May-2027 and 17-May-2030).
- A total of \$1,117,000 committed to Volunteer Planning Agreement with Local council in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (NSW) (by 17-May-2027).

Notes:

Apprentice means a person who is working on the Project and undertaking an approved employment-based training program under a registered contract that leads to a recognised qualification.

First Nations Business means a business that is at least 50 per cent First Nations-owned and is certified as a First Nations business through an appropriate organisation, such as Supply Nation, Indigenous Chamber of Commerce or equivalent.

Full Time Equivalent (FTE) means the estimated FTE number for a group which is calculated as: (estimated working hours of a group / (working days x 7.6 hours)).

Learning Worker means a worker with or without qualifications, who needs to upskill to meet the needs of the infrastructure project.

Local or Locally means Australia and New Zealand.

Local Content means goods or services procured from Australia and New Zealand.

Underrepresented Groups include women, under 25-year-old, mature-aged employees, employees with a culturally and linguistically diverse background, long-term unemployed people, people with disabilities, refugees and asylum seekers.

Trades mean skilled manual occupations that require special training.

Training means undertaking accredited vocational education and training or nationally recognised professional qualification that meets the needs of the Project and can be full or part qualifications.

The amounts shown are representative of a percentage of overall spend as at the date of execution and that the total project, CAPEX and OPEX value have been withheld due to commercial sensitivities.

Need more information?

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