

ACE Power is developing a new clean energy hub near Uralla in New South Wales as part of its commitment to transition Australia to a clean energy future.

If approved, the hub will include a 1000 MW Battery Energy Storage System, a 250–300 MW solar farm, and a 200–300 MW wind farm.

A priority as we plan for this project is understanding potential impacts the project may have on nearby homes and businesses. We are prioritising one on one engagement with neighbours, surrounding businesses and farms and appreciate the environmental and agricultural context that the project is being developed in.

It's important that we engage with our neighbours to accurately identify and measure potential impacts that may occur at residential properties, businesses and within the surrounding landscape. Your insights ensure that neighbour feedback can be considered and incorporated into the project planning as it progresses.

# Who do we define as neighbours?

Neighbours are properties within 5 km of the project site. This means you may be impacted by the projects if they are approved. Each neighbour can experience project impacts differently.

### What are property impacts and mitigations?

Potential impacts could include noise, increased traffic movements, dust, vibration, changes to visual amenity, proximity of temporary construction infrastructure like workers accommodation or laydown areas, or permanent changes like road upgrades and new access points. There may also be impacts to properties that live along the transport route.

As the hub is made up of three separate co-located projects, you may be a neighbour of one project, or all three. It is important we understand your views on the separate projects and the whole hub to ensure that feedback is proportionate to the impacts you might experience.

As part of planning, ACE Power will consider and implement a wide variety of measures to avoid and mitigate these impacts. Measures will be considered depending on the outcomes of impact assessments and in response to neighbour feedback.

# Hillview Energy Hub

Neighbour impacts and benefits factsheet









Neighbours are central to the consultation and engagement activities for the Hillview Energy Hub.

# Our principles to neighbour engagement

We will:

- engage with you early and provide updates
- provide specific, respectful and ongoing opportunities for you to give feedback or raise your concerns
- provide options for multiple meetings and consultation activities, depending on a your level of interest and concerns
- provide accurate and transparent information, including access to specialists to help you understand technical considerations
- explain how your feedback can shape the project
- be open to discussing mitigations if required.

#### Get in touch to start a conversation

We're prioritising neighbour engagement as the project progresses. It's important we provide respectful and meaningful opportunities to engage so we can understand your concerns and actively seek to mitigate them where possible. At this stage of the project, we want to understand:

- what you value about the surrounding landscape
- details of your business practices and operations
- your sentiment towards potential cumulative impacts and how we might manage these
- your preferences and aspirations for how we might return long term value to the community.

# Our commitment to developing and offering a neighbour payment scheme

We are in the process of developing a neighbour payment scheme for impacted neighbours. We note that there are relatively few neighbours to the battery and solar projects. As the wind farm is at much earlier stage in its development, we need to do more work and investigations to understand its impact to neighbours. We will share more information on the neighbour payment scheme for all projects as we progress.

### Sharing project benefits with the community

ACE Power will look to deliver tangible benefits to the broader community in several ways including local procurement and jobs, training opportunities and investment.

ACE Power will also look at ways in which the project can support the local community directly through community benefit sharing programs, support for local initiatives or through partnerships with key community groups to improve the vitality of the local area.

As the project progresses, we will develop a benefit sharing program in consultation with the community that addressees local priorities and needs. If you have ideas about how the project should benefit the local community, get in touch. We'd love to hear from you.

Through our recent engagement, we've heard a preference for initiatives that deliver legacy benefits and long-term outcomes supporting the future of the region. We'll continue to engage the community on what they value and will collaborate to design a benefit sharing program as the project progresses.

If you have not had an opportunity to speak with us, please contact us through the below channels. We will regularly provide newsletter updates, advertise events to meet with the project team and seek to connect with you on your property.

- Call us on 1800 931 994
- Email info@hillviewenergyhub.com.au

If you have significant concerns, you can also visit our project website <u>hillviewenergyhub.com.au</u> to view our complaints process.