avenis energy

Newsletter March 2026

Proposed New Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), Warrenheip

Avenis Energy is proposing to develop, construct and operate a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) at 94-100 Coulsons Road (eastern side), Warrenheip. The proposed BESS can deliver up to 240MW of power continuously for 4 hours, enough to provide energy for up to approximately 380,000 homes.

The proposed BESS will provide renewable energy to consumers across Victoria when they need it most by improving reliability, stability, and resilience of the Victorian electricity network.

Project benefits

Supporting the clean energy transition

The proposed BESS will significantly contribute towards Victoria's renewable energy target of 95% by 2035 and at least 2.6GW of energy storage capacity by 2030.

Network reliability

BESS technology provides fast and reliable response times to prevent blackouts and other disruptions, ensuring a more reliable, stable and secure power supply.

Economic benefit

The project will provide local social and economic benefits with approximately 140 jobs during construction and 3-5 full time jobs once in operation.

Local businesses and suppliers will be used where possible, helping support the regional economy.

Efficiency and affordability

The battery stores electricity when demand is low and releases it during peak times. This helps balance the grid, makes better use of existing energy, and reduces pressure on the network, which can help keep energy costs down over time.

Why Warrenheip?

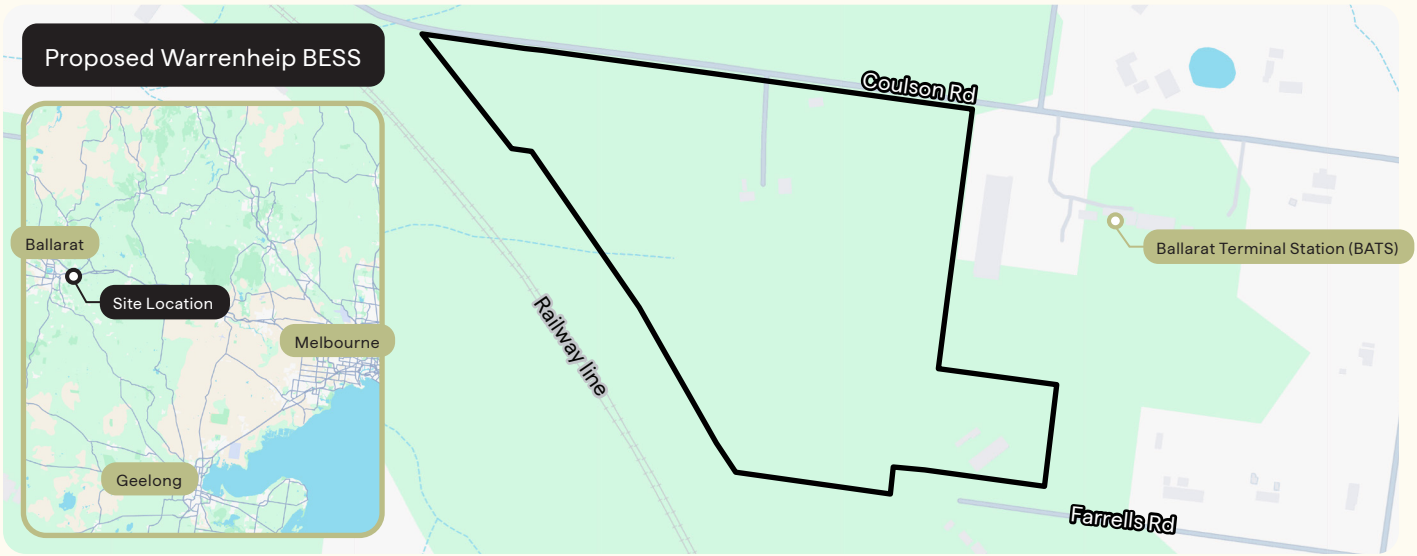
The project site was selected for its strategic merit and proximity to the existing Ballarat Terminal Substation which allows for efficient connection to the grid minimising environmental impacts. The site also has good access to existing roads, which supports safe and efficient construction and ongoing maintenance.

The project's location will support regional growth and presents an immense opportunity for the renewable energy sector to support the delivery of long-term social and local economic outcomes for the local area and wider region.

What is a BESS and how does it work?

A BESS is an energy storage system that uses a group of batteries to store electrical energy from a variety of sources, including solar.

The system compensates for the intermittency of sources, providing backup power to address certain constraints such as weather conditions and lack of grid space. They are crucial to the increased adoption of dispersed energy sources and infrastructure, reducing the risk of widespread power outages.



The planning and approvals pathway

The development is eligible for assessment through the Department of Transport and Planning's (DTP's) Development Facilitation Program (DFP) which is an accelerated assessment pathway for eligible projects to inject investment into the Victorian economy and keep people in jobs.

All applications lodged to the DTP will be determined by the Minister for Planning or DTP under delegation.

The planning and environmental approvals process ensures that any potential impacts are identified, assessed, mitigated, avoided or managed to minimise the impacts of the local community and environment.

Avenis Energy is preparing a range of assessments to support the planning application including:

- Visual assessment
- Bushfire risk assessment
- Agricultural, environmental, and biodiversity impacts
- Hydrology and flood studies
- Aboriginal and cultural heritage
- Local traffic and transport
- Acoustic assessments and vibration

These assessments will be publicly available to view during the public notice period later this year.

Timeline

WE ARE HERE

Avenis Energy is preparing a series of technical assessments to accompany the planning application. These will outline any potential impacts and will recommend ways to manage or mitigate those impacts.

The outcomes of these assessments will provide directions for Avenis Energy to help ensure any potential impacts are minimised.

Avenis Energy are also out in the community providing information about the project and seeking community feedback on the proposal.

MID 2026

Avenis Energy intends to lodge the planning application with DTP. After the application is lodged the DTP will notify the local community through a public notice period. The community will be formally invited to provide feedback to DTP as part of this process.

LATE 2026

Avenis Energy is expecting a determination within six to nine months of lodging the application with DTP.

2028

Subject to obtaining the necessary approvals, Avenis Energy would commence construction. Construction is expected to take approximately 12-18 months.

Provide your feedback

Community drop-in session

We are inviting the community to learn more about the proposal and provide feedback at a community drop-in session.

- **When:** Thursday, 23 April 2026, 4 - 7pm
- **Where:** Warrenheip Memorial Hall, 535 Ti Tree Rd, Warrenheip

Have your Say - Community Feedback Survey

Community feedback is important to the development of the Warrenheip BESS.

Your feedback will help us to shape the proposal. To access the survey, scan the QR code. The survey will close at 5pm on 3 May 2026, visit the website, or contact us for a hard copy to be mailed to you.

Contact us

Community engagement is an important part of the development application and allows us to understand any concerns the community may have. If you would like to learn more about Warrenheip BESS, we encourage you to contact us at:

warrenheip@avenisenergy.com.au

1800 271 009

avenisenergy.com.au/projects/warrenheip

About Avenis Energy

Avenis Energy is dedicated to developing large-scale renewable energy projects that deliver clean, green energy into the transmission network, reducing reliance on fossil fuels and helping minimise the impacts of climate change. Avenis prides itself on working closely with landowners, near neighbours, key stakeholders and the wider communities where our projects are proposed.

The Avenis team has significant experience in the renewable energy sector across all elements of the development cycle, from site selection, planning and permitting to engineering, construction and operation. The team has been working together since 2018 and is solely dedicated to the Australian market, with a proven track record of developing high quality community sensitive projects.

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