

# **Community News**

December 2023

We're keen to keep you informed on what's happening with Wollar Solar Farm. To receive future newsletters via email, please visit wollarsolar.com.au. You can unsubscribe at any time by emailing info@wollarsolar.com.au.

#### **Wollar Solar Farm**

The solar farm is located on the western side of Barigan Road approximately 7km south of Wollar and 55km north-east of Mudgee. When completed, Wollar Solar Farm will consist of almost 660,000 solar panels and will have the ability to generate up to 290MW, which is enough energy to power approximately 104,926 homes every year.

### **Project update**

Summer on a solar farm is a fantastic time of year as electricity generation is normally at its strongest. Under construction however, our contractors are working up a large sweat as construction continues to progress. It is also a good reminder to stay hydrated, apply and re-apply sunscreen and make sure you've got a good, wide-brimmed hat on when you're outside!

Our piling team is now half finished with approximately 23,000 steel piles successfully installed. The Mechanical installation teams are now working behind them to complete the remainder of each tracking system and fix on the PV modules. We hit a large milestone at the end of November, with all major earthworks being completed!

With major earthworks done, our team has turned its attention to electrical trenching works. This involves excavating trenches along the edges of the solar farm blocks to lay low voltage electrical cables and high voltage feeder cables. Some of these cables are hundreds of metres long and come in drums that weigh more than 12 tonnes! Trenches are then backfilled with 'thermal sand', which helps regulate cable temperature before being topped with the original topsoil so that the existing vegetation is maintained.

In early 2024 we expect to hit another exciting milestone, the installation of our permanent 'Operations & Maintenance' building. The building is constructed in Adelaide and will be delivered to site in the early stages of 2024. Once delivery is completed the building will be commissioned and tested ahead of the solar farm producing electricity later in the year.

### Merry Christmas from Wollar Solar

Everyone at Wollar Solar Farm would like to wish you and your family a safe, merry holiday period and a happy new year. During the festive season, our office will be closed from 23 December 2023 to 7 January 2024 inclusive. Construction will also slow down during this period to a much smaller workforce.

You can still contact us and we will respond to your emails after we return on 8 January 2023. If you need more immediate assistance, please phone our toll-free number on 1800 700 743 (leave a message and we'll call you back). If there is an emergency, please dial 000.

### Magnificent Mudgee Business Award

Earlier this month, Wollar Solar attended the Magnificent Mudgee Business Awards. Wollar Solar Project Manager Stuart Miller attended the ceremony and presented the 2023 Health, Wellbeing and Lifestyle Awards. Congratulations to K + Co Hair Lounge for taking out the award and to runner-up, Therapy by Krystal. The Awards event was held at the Lowe Family Wine Co.



#### **Project timeline**

Progress onsite	Anticipated completion
Onsite roadworks	Q1 2024
Other civil works	Q1 2024
Installation of steel framing (trackers)	Q2 2024
Installation PV panels	Q2 2024
Commissioning	Q3 2024
First electricity generated	Q2 2024
Completion	Q3 2024
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Typical hours of construction are Monday to Friday between 7am – 6pm and Saturday between 8am –1pm.









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### Wollar Solar Supports Riding for the Disabled Association's 2023 Awards

ON 29 November, the Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) in Mudgee held an enjoyable and highly successful 2023 presentation day. As part of the first round of Wollar Solar Farm's Sponsorship Program, funds were provided to the RDA Mudgee to assist with the trophies, certificates and catering for the 2023 awards ceremony. Stories were shared and memories were made as RDA coaches, volunteers, teachers, families and of course the amazing riders enjoyed celebrating their achievements of the past year.

Wollar Solar Farm Project Manager, Mr Stuart Miller attended the event and helped to present some of the trophies and certificates to riders, noting Wollar Solar was proud to ave played a part in making the day a success.



"There was an amazing buzz amongst the community and we are very proud to have been able to help bring the RDA's vision of such a great awards ceremony to life," Mr Miller said. "It was wonderful to see the joy and excitement the day brought to the community." The event sponsorship was awarded to RDA Mudgee in Round One of the Wollar Sponsorship Program. Round Two is now open for applications. Visit here for more information.

#### **Grow it. Support it.**

Last month, the Wollar Solar Farm team channelled Tom Selleck and grew out their best moustaches to raise awareness for men's health as part of Movember. Forgoing the razor for the month of November is all part of starting conversations about the importance of healthier men and a healthier world. Wollar Solar raised \$1,050 for all the dads, brothers, sons and mates in their lives. Well done team!

### Sponsorship Program - ROUND 2 OPEN

Applications for Round 2 opened on 1 November 2023 and will close on 31 January 2024. Applications must be submitted online or via email. Our Sponsorship Program is one of the ways we support organisations and initiatives that benefit our local communities and their future generations. We encourage sponsorship applications from a wide variety of community based activities, events, initiatives and projects. If organisations, individuals or community groups require assistance with their submission, please contact info@wollarsolar.com.au or call 1800 700 743.

# Wollar Solar supports Mudgee's most vulnerable this holiday season

Wollar Solar proudly supported Barnardos earlier this month, donating \$1,000 in groceries and toys for victims of domestic violence who have fled a violent relationship. St Vincent de Paul also received \$200 worth of groceries to help contribute to the 186 families in the region who need assistance this Christmas.

The groceries and toys were donated by site staff from Austona Trade, Coates Hire, Solar Farm Constructions and Wollar Solar.







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#### **Captions**

- 1. A sea of trackers, ready to have solar panels fitted
- 2. Couple of our neighbours enjoying the serenity of farm life
- 3. Looking from the western paddocks back to our main materials laydown area
- 4. A section of the 50,000 piles being installed on the project
- 5. An example of the solar panels installed in a stow position, to best protect themselves against high winds and other weather conditions

We acknowledge the Wiradjuri people as the Traditional Custodians of the lands upon which the Wollar Solar Farm operates and their continuing connection to Country.

We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and to Elders past, present and emerging.

