

Overview

Leading Australian solar developer, FRV Services Australia (FRV), is looking to develop a utility-scale solar farm at Ravenswood, approximately 14km north of Castlemaine in Victoria.

The proposed solar farm will consist of approximately 185,000 solar panels installed across the approximately 306-hectare site. The solar farm will have a 63-megawatt (MW AC) capacity of clean, renewable energy – enough to power approx. 40,000 average Victorian homes.

Ravenswood Solar Farm will also include a 20WMhr Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).

The project is currently in the planning stage. Adjacent residents will be notified when a Planning Application is available through the Mount Alexander Shire Council, expected to be in the first half of 2019.

Community engagement is an important part of our approach as it allows us to understand stakeholders' views and expectations.

Consultation with residents and stakeholders is underway and will be ongoing as the development progresses.

The Site

With an abundance of natural sunlight, this area is particularly well-suited to the generation of solar energy.

If approved, the Ravenswood Solar Farm will be built on private land located off the Midland Highway (A79), approximately 14km north of the Castlemaine township.

The site is extensively cleared and used for grazing. The surrounding land is largely rural, with a few nearby residential dwellings.



The Solar Farm

The Ravenswood Solar Farm will use the latest in solar energy generation technology. Solar panels similar to those on household rooftops will be installed on tracking systems that allow them to rotate and follow the sun. This enables them to capture the maximum amount of energy possible, increasing the efficiency and output of the solar farm.

Design and layout of the Ravenswood solar farm will be in accordance with local planning laws and will specifically aim to minimise any environmental or neighbour impacts.

Visual appearance

Typically, solar farm developments are relatively unobtrusive as they are low profile. Solar panels will be installed at the same height or lower than other existing features in the landscape and vegetation screens will be planted to protect the amenity of nearby residents.

There are not expected to be any glint or glare hazards created by the solar panels.

The solar farm will be connection to the electricity network via the existing 66kV Bendigo to Castlemaine Powerline which runs along the eastern boundary of the site.

About FRV

FRV Services Australia Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of Fotowatio Renewable Ventures, (FRV).

FRV is a leading global developer of renewable energy solutions for a cleaner and more sustainable future.

Since entering the Australian market in 2010, FRV has initiated multiple large-scale solar farm developments in NSW, Victoria, South Australia and QLD. This includes the Royalla Solar Farm near Canberra that was the winner of the first ever solar ACT government auction.

Environment

FRV is committed to environmentally sensitive development and the protection of local flora and fauna. We have completed a detailed ecological assessment of the site and will design the solar farm to minimize environmental impact. Construction and operation of the Ravenswood Solar Farm will be designed around existing waterways to ensure minimal impact on water flows in the area.

Community Value

Construction of the Ravenswood Solar Farm will provide a significant boost to the regional economy.

It is expected the solar farm will create up to 150 new jobs during the construction phase.

The solar farm will also create a new, sustainable industry that assist in activating and growing a viable new local industry.



FRV's trackrecord includes:

- A trusted reputation as a leader in our field with a proven track record of over 10 years successfully delivering renewable energy solutions
- A respected international team with more than 130 highly qualified professionals from all over the world.
- Development and construction of 1 GW dc of installed power for the generation of sustainable and clean energy
- Successful project financing of more than US\$ 3 billion with more than 20 of the world's leading financial institutions

