Robertstown Solar is proposed to be an integrated but separately operated Photovoltaic Energy Generation System (PVS) of approximately 500MW (AC) generation capacity and a 250MW/1,000MWh Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) that will feed into the National Electricity Market via ElectraNet’s Robertstown Substation.

LOCATION

Robertstown Solar is to be developed on approximately 1,800 hectares of agricultural land in the districts of Bright and Geranium Plains, South Australia. The site is situated approximately 5 kilometres north-east of Robertstown and 115 kilometres north-east of Adelaide. The Project is within the Local Government Area of the Regional Council of Goyder.

PROJECT WORKS

HOW ROBERTSTOWN SOLAR WORKS

Robertstown Solar is a large-scale utility power plant that creates energy from the sunlight via photovoltaic (PV) cells most likely to be mounted on sun tracking systems.

Tracking solar panel systems follow the sun’s movement throughout the day for maximum collection. At the end of the day the panels track back to the east ready for the next operation.

The DC electricity that is created by sun through the cells is fed through cables to a series of invertors where the electricity is converted to AC and increased in voltage. The invertors are connected through underground cables to a switching yard and by overhead transmission lines to the Robertstown Substation for connection to the South Australian electrical grid.

Battery storage is proposed as part of Robertstown Solar and will provide additional power system security for South Australia’s grid.

During the operational phase, regular inspections, panel cleaning, componentry servicing and site maintenance are required. Additional infrastructure includes internal access tracks, offices, workshop sheds, fence lines and drainage.

Solar farms typically have a minor physical disturbance footprint. As such, investigations into co-agriculture opportunities are underway to ascertain opportunities within Robertstown Solar for other forms of traditional agriculture such as sheep grazing and apiculture to co-exist with the solar operations.

Figure 1 – Robertstown Solar Project Area (Source: Google Earth Pro, 2018).
KEY PROJECT STATISTICS

PROJECT STATUS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9 MONTHS</th>
<th>6-18 MONTHS</th>
<th>12-24 MONTHS</th>
<th>30 YEARS +</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site selection &amp; feasibility</td>
<td>Project approval</td>
<td>Pre-construction</td>
<td>Construction, operation &amp; decommission</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

Robertstown Solar’s local community social contribution includes:

- Local Community Fund
- ~275 equivalent full-time construction jobs including a component from the regional workforce

Robertstown Solar 500 MW generating capacity is equivalent to:

- Powering 144,000 homes each year for 30 years
- 326,500 cars off the road
- Reducing 815,000 tonnes of GHG emissions each year for 30 years
- Planting 116,500 trees

CONTACT INFORMATION

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