



Appendix H **Community Engagement Plan**

CALLIDE SOLAR POWER STATION COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN

Client: Edify
Energy
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Appendix A Community engagement summary report

1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Community Engagement Plan (CEP) is to identify the communication and engagement needs and associated activities for the Callide Solar Power Station (the Project), including a communication action plan to support the Development Approval application. The project is currently in the feasibility (planning) stage.

The intention of this plan is to outline the communication and engagement activities for key stakeholders and the broader community, in particular the Mount Murchison, Biloela and Callide communities. The communication and engagement activities will be required from roughly mid-2022 until mid-2023, however the focus of this CEP is on the neighbouring landowners and the first phase of broad public engagement for the project.

This plan shall:

- Successfully consider and manage community expectations as integral to the successful delivery of the project.
- Ensure all activities are co-ordinated and drive best practice project outcomes.
- Inform affected stakeholders, such as the local community about the project.
- Provide a delivery strategy which enables the open and proactive management of issues and communications.

The purpose of the plan is to ensure a consistent approach is taken to the development of a proactive CEP before community engagement activities are implemented.

The CEP is living document and will be updated as the project progresses.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 Edify Energy

Edify Energy is an Australian renewable energy development and investment company. They specialise in large-scale renewable energy, particularly solar projects, across their entire lifecycle including development, financing, construction management and asset management.

A leading renewable energy development and storage investment company, Edify Energy deliver world class energy assets that not only have a positive impact on the environment but also create sustainable value. Through a diverse and rapidly expanding portfolio, Edify Energy is helping to accelerate the transition to a sustainable energy future. Edify Energy currently provide more than 770 MW of renewable energy through large-scale solar and energy storage.

Spread over seven sites, Edify Energy currently produce enough electricity to power over 280,000 Australian homes – nearly 3% of all homes in the country. Edify Energy has delivered more than \$1.5 billion of investment to create new Australian energy infrastructure.

Edify Energy is a member of the Clean Energy Council and is committed to honouring the Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects. The charter is a voluntary set of commitments for Clean Energy Council members designed to clearly communicate the standards that the signatories will uphold in the development of current and new clean energy projects.

The Charter outlines a commitment by signatories to engage respectfully with the communities in which they plan and operate projects, to be sensitive to environmental and cultural values and to make a positive contribution to the regions in which they operate.

2.2 Queensland renewables target

The Queensland Government has set a target of 80 per cent renewable energy by 2035, with an interim target of 50 per cent renewable energy by 2030. More than 20 per cent of Queensland's electricity is already supplied by renewable energy sources, but for this target to be achieved without compromising the grid's ability to deliver affordable, reliable and secure energy, network upgrades will be required.

As part of its COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan, the Queensland Government has also committed \$145 million to establish three (3) Queensland Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) in northern, central and southern Queensland to:

- foster jobs and growth as part of COVID-19 economic recovery
- help Queensland reach 50% renewables by 2030.

The Queensland REZs allow for strategic network investments in areas of high renewable energy potential. This unlocks areas of high investor interest, streamlines the development of new projects, and supports cost-effective, grid-connected renewable energy that benefits local communities and industries alike by keeping downward pressure on electricity prices.

Geographically, the project is located within the Central Renewable Energy Zone and provides an opportunity to support the economic outcomes of Queensland Government's renewables initiatives. These opportunities would be explored further as the project progresses.

Scope

The project is anticipated to have up to 200MW solar generating capacity and 200MW/800MWh battery energy storage system (BESS). This will require a project development footprint of up to 406ha.

The subject site was identified and chosen for the project due to the traversing High Voltage Transmission line and relatively flat landscape.

The project will consist of these elements:

- Solar farm consisting of 'array blocks' typically of 3MVA and 6MVA;

- Site office and car park;
- Access and perimeter tracks;
- Buildings including Operations and Maintenance
- High Voltage Substation
- Battery Energy Storage System;

2.3 Solar Energy

Solar panel technology utilises semiconductor material designed to absorb and convert sunlight into electricity. The panels will be mounted on tilt trackers (tilt from -55 to +55 degrees) to collect and convert solar energy into electricity. The panels provide energy in the form of direct current, which must be converted to alternative current via a solar inverter. Groups of solar panels are connected to each inverter and the inverters are linked together to collect the energy generated by the solar field. Underground or overhead lines are run from each inverter station to the facility substation where voltage is increased to match the voltage of the transmission network.

The project features an option to incorporate batteries into the facility to allow storage of power on site, which will likely store sufficient power to enable power to be distributed to the network outside of sunlight hours, likely during the evening and morning peak times. The exact detail on the size and volume of the battery houses are unknown at this time as battery technology is an evolving technology with the size and capacity of the batteries changing at rapid rate.

2.4 Site context

The proposed project development site is located at Mt Murchison, approximately 8km northeast of Biloela.

The development footprint is made up from multiple land parcels, with a single landowner. The total land area is approximately 515ha (refer to Figure 1 below). The land parcels are:

- Lot 28 on RN519 – 120.98ha
- Lot 3 on RP608599 – 99.58ha
- Lot 2 on RP619032 – 151.5ha
- Lot 154 on SP126053 – 143.3ha

It is expected that the solar power station may comprise up to approximately 406ha of the total land. From initial desktop analysis, some land constraints and exclusion areas have been identified, which would be submitted to further assessment.

A development application will be required to facilitate the project. On 20 July 2022, Banana Shire Council approved a request for a development application to be lodged under their superseded planning scheme, being the *2005 Banana Planning Scheme*. The superseded scheme better contemplates the co-existence of the desired land uses. Accordingly, the development application will seek:

- Development Permit for Material Change of Use for Public Facility – Other (Solar PV & Battery Energy Storage System facility)
- Development Permit for Material Change of Use for Animal Husbandry.

Under the *2005 Banana Planning Scheme*, the subject site is located within the Rural Zone. In accordance with the Tables of Assessment, the proposal is subject to Impact Assessment.

PLAN

The site is adjacent the nearby CS Energy Power Station and a 132kv transmission lines runs through it. The Moura System rail line is also located parallel to the northern boundary which services the nearby Callide coal mine.

There are adjoining properties (with dwellings) which overlook the subject site.

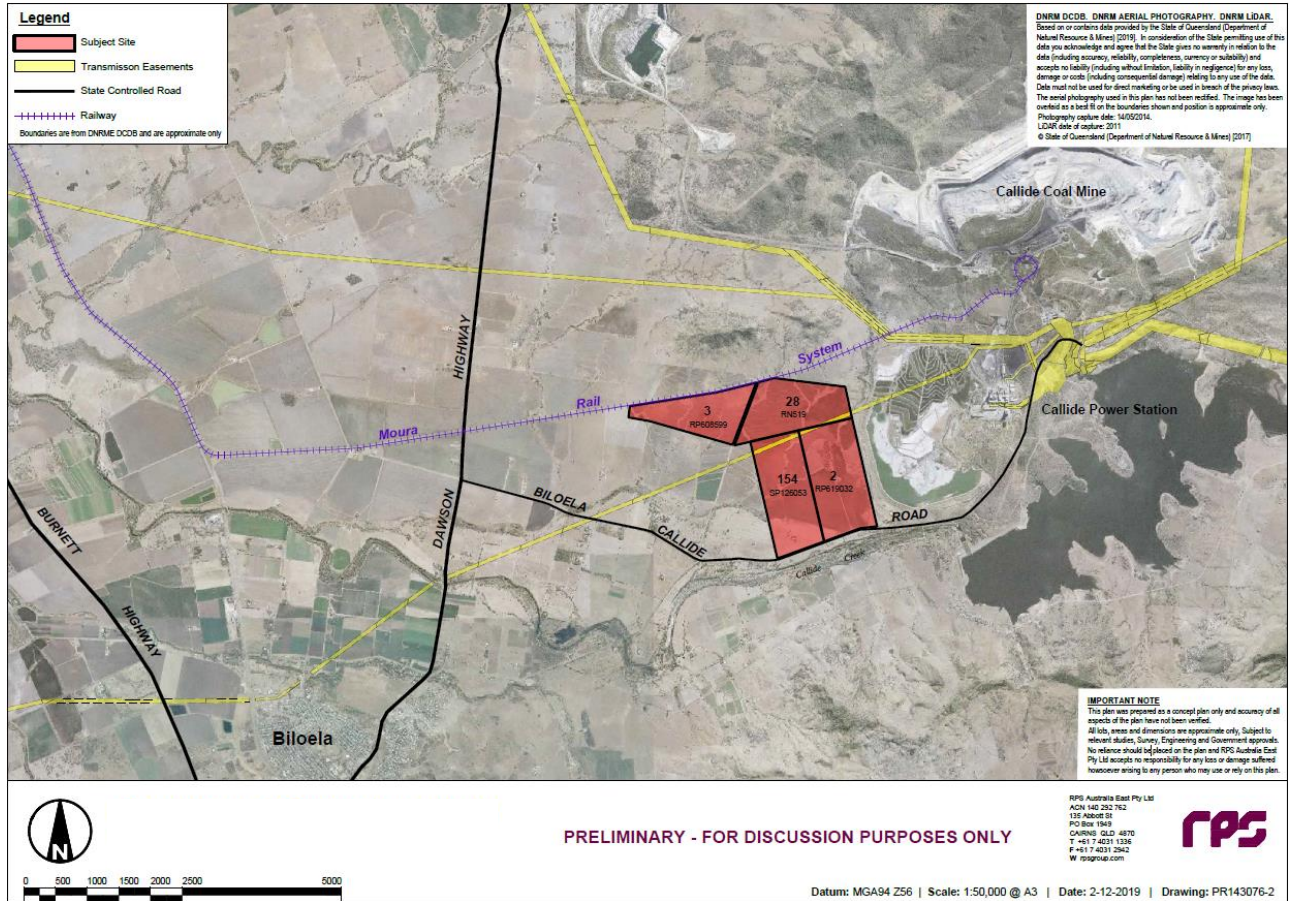


Figure 1: Preliminary site – map showing lots and location

2.5 Local context

The Banana Shire covers a total area of 28,610 km² and accounts for 1.6 per cent of the land area of Queensland.

Banana Shire is a major regional service hub – and provides a range of community and business services within and outside the borders of the shire. Strengths within the shire include a strong agricultural base, stable government sector, growing resources sector and service sectors of health and education, retail trade and tourism.

Banana Shire is strategically located on the Brisbane & Melbourne freight route via the Burnett and Leichhardt Highways, is connected to the port city of Gladstone via the Dawson Highway and to Brisbane via the Burnett Highway and through regular commercial air services.

As at June 2020

Population	14,065 people
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48.6% male and 51.4% female
4.0% identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
51.6% of people over the age of 25 years
15.7% of people over the age of 65 years
38.6 is the median age
46.3% with highest level of school as Year 11 or 12
49.3% of people hold a non-school qualification (24.4% engineering related)
9.6% have a university qualification

Family Composition

42.3% of households are couples with no children
46% of households are couples with children
\$714pw is median total personal income
\$300pw is median rent for a 3bedroom house
\$37, 128 median total personal income
21.3% earn an income between \$52k – 104k per year
11.2% earn an income of more than \$104k per year

Dwelling Composition

92.7% occupied private dwellings

Accessibility

96% of households reported one or more vehicles
76.8% have internet access
3.7% of people need assistance with a profound or severe disability

Owners vs Renters

34.1% of households either fully own or mortgage their home
32.9% renters

Languages spoken at home

95% are identified as English speaking only.
The other top languages spoken at home are 0.8% Vietnamese, 0.8% South East Asian languages and 0.4% Chinese

3 KEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Topic	Issues	Opportunities
Land Classification	The proposed land is currently classified as Agricultural land class A (ALC A) & Strategic Cropping Land (SCL) and therefore there is a risk that utilising this land for other purposes (including solar farm) will result in a loss of agricultural production and quality agricultural land in the area.	The co-use project will seek to continue an agricultural use of the land, in the form of sheep grazing (for sheep meat production).
Perceived impacts to industry	The Banana Shire Council's majority economic industry is mining/coal. The site is located nearby the Callide Power Station and Callide Mine. Introducing more renewables projects to the area may be seen as a threat to these industries.	<p>The project does not seek to displace or replace any existing coal-fired energy generators.</p> <p>Fossil fuel and renewable generators already co-exist in the energy system. Renewable energy projects, like Callide Solar Power Station, in the area will support grid frequency and provide dispatchable energy. This helps to achieve balanced power and frequency, creating a more stable market with reduced costs for consumers.</p>
Impacts to neighbouring properties	There may be concerns from the community of the project impacting the neighbouring land value. There may also be concerns that the solar panels will create visual nuisance and glint and glare.	<p>The project will be subject to planning and environment assessments to mitigate any identified impacts to neighbouring properties and residents.</p> <p>There is no reliable research or evidence showing a correlation between declining real estate values and proximity to renewable projects.</p> <p>A Landscape and Visual Character Impact Assessment (LCVIA) has been completed for the planning application, and involved discussions with the neighbours considered as sensitive visual receptors to the site.</p> <p>Neighbouring property owners will continue to be consulted so they are aware of any possible changes to their visual amenity.</p>
Perceived environmental impacts	There will be concerns from the community about potential environmental risks that the solar panel site may introduce such as increased fire risk and chemical/metal contamination and spreading through run off to other agricultural land.	<p>PV panel materials are enclosed and do not mix with water or vaporise into the air. The panels are made of tempered glass. There is little to no risk of chemical releases to the environment during normal use.</p> <p>The project will include cleared zones around the perimeter of the site to prevent fire propagation. Local and State fire agencies will review fire and emergency plans for the project, and additional design features such as water tanks, emergency access gates will be allowed for.</p>

4 PROJECT TIMEFRAMES AND KEY MILESTONES

Timing	Project Phase	Details	Progress
2020 – mid 2021	Site selection	Desktop research of social context of a community, identification, and mapping of stakeholders and first consultations with key members of the community such as councils and involved landowners.	Complete
Mid 2021 – mid-2022	Feasibility	Further desktop analysis of site, environment and continued engagement with landholders and Council.	Complete
Mid 2022	Feasibility	Develop Community Engagement Plan and undertake the next phase of neighbouring landowner engagement	Complete
Mid 2022	Feasibility	Submit request to Council to assess DA under superseded planning scheme.	Complete
Mid 2022	Feasibility	Council approval to assess DA under under superseded planning scheme	Complete
Late 2022	Planning and approvals	Visual impact assessment Submit DA application	Complete In progress
From early 2023	Planning and approvals	DA process Assessment of application Referral Information request (if required) Public notification Decision	-
Mid 2023	Planning and approvals	Undertake broader community engagement activities Develop Community Engagement Summary Report	-
TBD	Construction	-	-
TBD	Commissioning and operations	-	-

5 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

5.1 Communication aims and objectives

The key objectives of the communication and engagement for this project are to:

- Provide regular information targeted to key stakeholder groups
- Develop awareness of the project and project progress amongst the local community and stakeholders
- Develop communication strategy to debunk false beliefs about solar farms
- Develop communication strategy to communicate benefits of solar farm, and co-use (agrisolar), to the community.
- Engage early with directly affected property/landholders
- Understand the interests and needs of community members and stakeholders
- To pre-empt issues and concerns with early targeted communication and sustained engagement
- Provide clear direction to stakeholders on the level of engagement, when and why
- Ensure community and stakeholder feedback is continuously fed into communication and engagement
- To be transparent in all that we do
- To encourage participation from communities and other stakeholders
- To listen to feedback, investigate suggestions and report back
- To engage in a manner that is collaborative, innovative, adaptive and sustainable
- To increase stakeholder understanding of the project and its objectives
- To ensure that community and stakeholder enquiries about the project are managed and resolved effectively
- To ensure that all information released is accurate and consistent with the project strategy and objectives
- To ensure that project information is distributed in an effective and timely manner, and
- To ensure that property owners are appropriately communicated with at required times.

5.2 Overview of consultation to date

In the preparations and assessments of the feasibility of the project, extensive consultation has been undertaken with the owner of the land parcels where the project is being proposed. The landowner initially conducted some engagement with neighbouring property owners and presented the concept of the project to Council. Edify Energy continue to engage directly with the landowner of the proposed site however since 2020, have lead stakeholder and community consultation for the project, and will continue to do so.

In January 2020, representatives from Edify Energy and RPS (consulting firm engaged by Edify Energy to complete project planning works) met with approximately six adjacent landowners about the concept for project, the opportunities it provides and the anticipated scope.

They also undertook some initial engagement with representatives from Banana Shire Council, to better understand the needs and values of the Shire and further realise the potential benefits the project could bring.

In May 2022, the project team undertook targeted engagement activities with neighbours within 1.5km of the project site and a follow up meeting with Banana Shire Council.

Further targeted engagement with neighbours of the project land was completed in October 2022, with house visits by the visual impact consultants to understand and collect viewpoints towards the project site from locations deemed to be sensitive receivers.

PLAN

To date, there has not been any broad community engagement activities for this project as it is still in the early planning/feasibility stage. Edify Energy plan to commence broader community consultation in early 2023.

See **Appendix A** for a full summary of Edify Energy's consultation to date.

6 COMMUNICATION APPROACH

The communication and consultation approach will be guided by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum for public participation.

The level of public participation required for this phase of the project (Feasibility) will be at the ‘Consult’ level on the IAP2 spectrum. This is based on the level of public impact from the project and the scope for community input to the project.

By engaging the community and stakeholders at the ‘Consult’ level, Edify Energy will work with stakeholders and the community to obtain feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions at appropriate stages of project development and will provide feedback on how the input was considered in the decision-making process.

At the same time, discussions and meetings with stakeholders will take place to proactively address issues.

A range of consultation and communication tools will be used to inform and receive input from stakeholders and the community throughout the project, which may change as the project progresses.

		INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION				
		INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL		To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
	PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

Figure 2: IAP2 public participation spectrum

6.1 Communication tools

By key project stages:

Feasibility – Planning and Approvals

- Meetings with key stakeholder groups
- Letters and emails for adjacent residents and businesses
- One-on-one meetings with affected property owners adjacent to the site
- Public information sessions at times that are accessible to the community and businesses to provide opportunities to identify and discuss potential concerns of the project at critical milestones
- Use of a mix of traditional and new media, including print and digital (social media).

- Dedicated project webpage and shortened website link for use on materials
- Accessible and timely project information, maps, images and project updates available on the Edify Energy website
- Electronic contact mechanisms including email and a project contact /community line to encourage and manage stakeholder feedback
- Traffic alerts and VMS signage during survey and geotechnical works (if required).

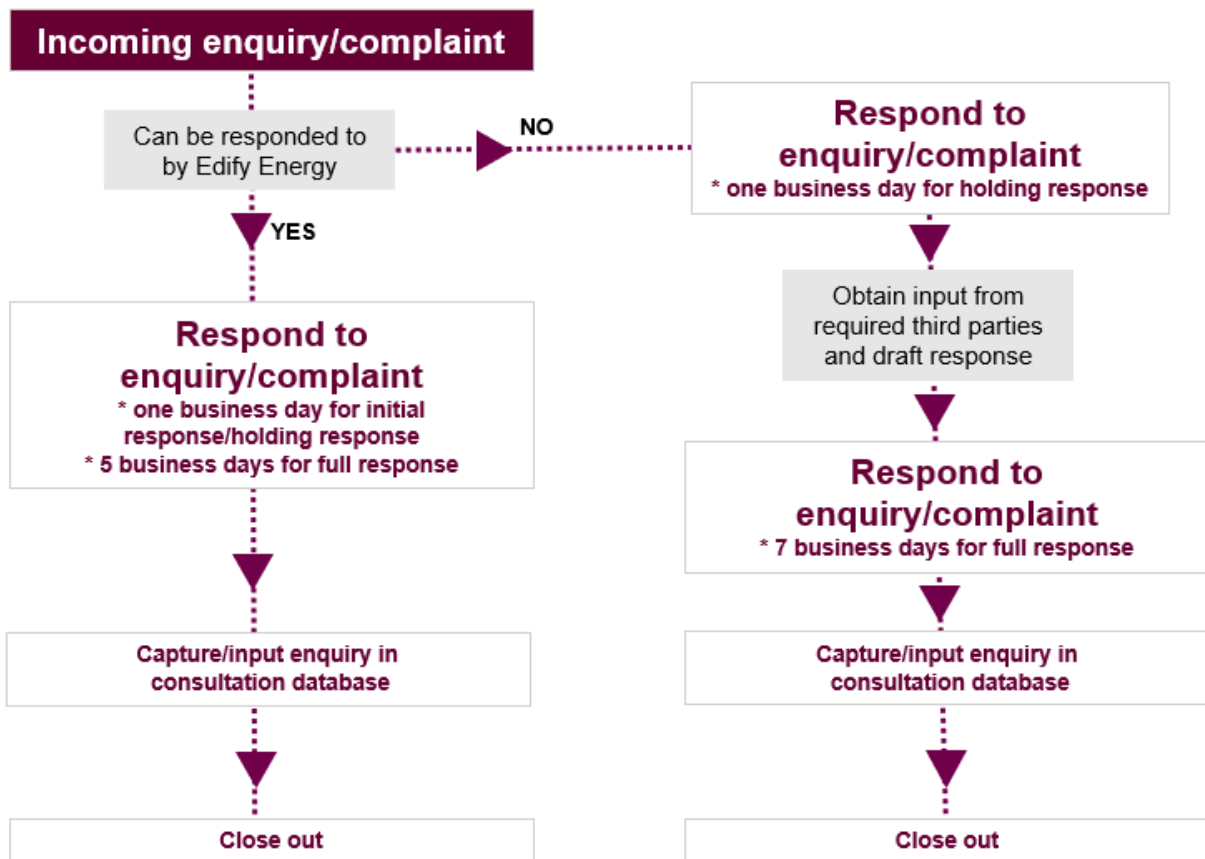
Construction - Operations

TBD

6.2 Media

The project will identify a point of contact in the popular regional newspaper and news sites and as broader engagement program commences, provide them with initial project information, impacts, benefits and opportunities and work with the journalist to promote engagement and project benefits. It is important to engage the media and maintain a professional working relationship to ensure accurate information is projected to the community.

6.3 Enquiry and complaint flowcharts



6.4 Recording feedback mechanisms

All communication materials will have contact details for the project included on them. This will be in the form of phone number, email address and/or website.

PLAN

For any enquiries, complaints or feedback received by the project, the following information will be captured and recorded:

- Stakeholder name
- Date of interaction
- Stakeholder contact details
- Stakeholder role and organisation (if applicable)
- Type of engagement (in-person, email, phone, etc.)
- Interest in project
- Detail of stakeholder enquiry
- Project response (including team member name)
- Date of response

7 STAKEHOLDERS

7.1 Stakeholder identification and targeted activities

The table below identifies stakeholders that have an interest in the ongoing project development and delivery. These stakeholders may either be impacted by the project or may influence or become advocates for the project.

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder	Key issues/interest	Method of engagement
Federal government representatives as at 16 Nov 2022 <i>Moderate to High Interest</i>	Federal Member for Flynn Colin Boyce MP	Impact to residents, businesses, local community Changes to local amenity Environmental impact Community backlash to project Renewables targets	Ensure relevant government representatives are informed and across project planning and delivery. Provide briefing if requested
State government <i>High Interest</i>	State Member for Callide Mr Bryson Head MP Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement Mick de Brenni MP Assistant Minister for Hydrogen Development and the 50% Renewable Energy Target by 2030 Lance McCallum MP	Ensuring project aligns with any relevant QLD strategies Ensure project is optimised and shows value for money Identification of key risks and relevant management measures Alignment with planning for Central QREZ objectives	Ensure government representatives are informed and across project planning and delivery Provide briefings and engagement materials
Local government <i>High Interest</i>	CEO, Banana Shire Council Tom Upton Mayor, Banana Shire Council Neville Ferrier Director, Council Services Banana Shire Council Chris Welch Division 3 Cr Phillip Casey	Impact to residents, business, and traffic in the vicinity of the project Short- and long-term impacts on surrounding properties and businesses Impacts to Council assets – roads or land Environmental impacts Jobs and local content Implications to the community and any backlash if not addressed sufficiently Alignment with Banana Shire Community Plan 2017-2027 Community Benefit Funds	Ensure Councillors and Elected Representatives are informed and across project planning and delivery Ensure adequate information is provided if a briefing is requested Regular meetings with Council inform, engage and address any project issues or upcoming construction activities Share project information – emails, letters FAQs, information sheets Provide methods to contact project team
Residents and landholders <i>Moderate to High Interest</i>	Property owner/s Gangulu People Adjacent landowners Biloela community Callide community Mt Murchison community	Any impacts on land values Environmental impacts Impact to agricultural lands in the region Any early works that may be required Construction or traffic impacts Short- and long-term impacts on property Access to renewable energy Electricity prices Agrisolar Areas of cultural significance	Meet with directly affected property owners Share project information – emails, letters, FAQs, information sheets Community information sessions Provide methods to contact project team to ask project questions Build professional rapport and ensure ongoing meetings and communications on project developments and activities Operational tools – VMS signage and general traffic alerts

PLAN

		Findings of any artifacts of cultural significance Community support/sponsorship	
Freight <i>Low interest</i>	Moura Rail Line Road Users Power Station Traffic Heavy Haulage Trucks General road users - cars	Road safety in the vicinity of the project Impacts to land surrounding rail lines Access arrangements or detours required Impacted travel times	Ensure information is available on website and via relevant platforms Operational tools – VMS signage and general traffic alerts Provide methods to contact project team to ask project questions
Business and industry <i>High Interest</i>	Callide Power Station Callide Dam / Sunwater Callide mine Capricornia Chamber of Commerce Biloela Enterprise Agricultural industry	Impacts to business operations during work activities Employment opportunities Construction activities in general Agrisolar	Share project information – emails, letters FAQs, information sheets Invitation to community information sessions Provide methods to contact project team to ask project questions Provide briefing if requested
Utilities/services <i>Medium Interest</i>	CS Energy Sunwater Powerlink QLD	Impacts to business operations during work activities Construction activities in general	Share project information – emails, letters FAQs, information sheets Provide methods to contact project team to ask project questions Provide briefing if requested
Emergency Services <i>Low Interest</i>	Rural Fire Service QLD Ambulance	Project accessibility Road access Heavy haulage routes Fire risk from project	Provide briefing if requested Provide opportunities to comment and ask project related questions
Interest groups <i>High Interest</i>	Healthy Soils Inc Callide Valley (Landcare)	Impacts to land surrounding work activities	Share project information – emails, letters FAQs, information sheets Provide briefing if requested Invitation to community information sessions Provide methods to contact project team to ask project questions
Local media <i>Medium Interest</i>	Central Telegraph CQ Extra Gladstone Observer Rockhampton Morning Bulletin ABC Capricornia Rebel FM Breeze FM (Rockhampton based TV) Win News Central Queensland 7News Central Queensland	Project interest stories / controversial project views Key project milestones Commencement of project Local content and benefits Project completion Jobs and local content	Provide a media kit and provide media briefing Include speaking notes, approved statements Provide methods to contact project team to ask project questions

8 EVALUATION

To ensure the ongoing effectiveness of the community and stakeholder engagement, activities will be monitored and evaluated against the communication objectives and desired project outcomes:

Participation: Did stakeholders and the community have an opportunity to participate? Was participation offered in an adequate and timely way?

Transparency: Was the information available and clear to all parties? Were participants told what was negotiable and non-negotiable?

Integrity: Was the consultation process fair, trustworthy and respectful to all parties?

Accountability: Was the process accountable, genuine and equitable?

Cost-effectiveness: Was the consultation activity the most effective option representing value for money?

Certainty: Has the community been told what the consultation process is, how their input will be used and what the next steps are?

A range of evaluation methods may be used which could include:

- Monitoring, analysis and reporting of stakeholder contacts/enquiries, including complaints from the stakeholder engagement database
- Feedback forms provided at information sessions
- Informal discussions with participants following consultation activities
- Value judgments on how community feedback has been considered
- Website and social media analytics
- Along with considering individual comments from the above methods, effectiveness of the consultation process can be measured by considering:
 - The number of participants over the duration of the project and/or in comparison to similar projects
 - Whether participation increased over the period of the project
 - The level of dialogue
 - The tone of feedback and media coverage
 - Whether the project was refined through participation.

Appendix A

Community engagement summary report

November 2022

Introduction

This document is a summary of consultation activities undertaken as part of the Callide AgriSolar Station project between January 2020 and 10 November 2022.

The overall aim of consultation for the project was to engage with key stakeholders, including neighbouring landowners and residents to better understand and appreciate the range of views and experiences in relation to the project concept.

The feedback and ideas highlighted by stakeholders and the concerns and suggestions for improvement for the project will assist in project planning and the Development Application submission.

About the project

The Callide Solar Power Station would involve the construction and operation of a co-use renewable energy (solar generation and battery storage) and agricultural farm. The project is currently in early planning stages.

Edify Energy plan to develop a project that maximises the land-use, by co-locating around 1000 sheep within the boundary of the solar farm. The solar farm would have the ability to supply electricity for over 100,00 QLD homes and businesses.

The site chosen for the development is located at 551 Biloela-Callide Road and 641 Biloela-Callide Road at Mount Murchison, QLD.

This would be Edify Energy's first agrisolar farm in Queensland.

January 2020 consultation

In January 2020, Edify Energy undertook early targeted engagement with landowners whose properties adjoined or were directly adjacent of the planned agrisolar development site.

What we did:

We coordinated and attended four meetings with five separate landowners where we shared an overview of the project of the early project concept.

The meetings were held on 16 January 2020 with landowners of the below lots (as at January 2020):

- L1-2 RP613688, L3 RP615312 & L1 RP615515 (Cridland)
- L1 RP614627 (Hosking)
- L120 RN1152 & L2 RP608599 (Brown)
- L1 SP126053 (Hall)
- L2 RP615515 (Warry)

We met with a total of 9 people during these meetings.

What we heard:

Of the meetings held during this consultation, 100% (9 out of 9 people) of stakeholders did not raise major concern about the project being developed at the planned site.

However, it is important to note that this was very early engagement, and a lot of further work and project planning was required. We committed to keep landowners informed and meet with them again once we had more detail.

May 2022 consultation

In May 2022, Edify Energy undertook further targeted engagement with landowners who were neighbouring residents within 1.5km of the planned agrisolar development site.

What we did:

A project introduction letter (*Figure 1*) and offer to meet and discuss the project was sent on 10 May to 12 landowners. Along with the letter, we sent each landowner a copy of:

- a) an aerial map of the proposed land (*Figure 2*)
- b) a project information sheet about Edify Energy and the Callide Solar Power Station, and

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- c) a Frequently Asked Questions document that responded to commonly asked questions regarding this project and typical solar and battery developments.

We followed up our letter with a phone call to landowners that we had this information for. We coordinated and attended six meetings with seven separate landowners and provided an update on the project's progress and let landowners know that we were planning to commence the Development Application process. We showed landowners a map with the Preliminary Site Layout (*Figure 3*).

The meetings were held over 18 and 19 May 2022 with landowners of the below lots (as at May 2022):

- L1-2 RP613688, L3 RP615312 & L1 RP615515 (Cridland)
- L1 RP614627 (Hosking)
- L2 RP615515 (Warry)
- L1 RP612153 (Reid)
- L1 RP614162 (Kerr)
- L2 RP612693 & L3 RP614444 (Walton)
- L2 RP612153, L1 RP608599, L4 RP608599, L121 RN847, L122 RN436 (Jensen)

During a doorknock to properties that we had been able to contact via follow up phone call, we were able to also speak with the tenant at L1 RP619032 (Robins).

We also met with and provided a project update to Callide Power Station's General Manager, Mr Ben Hayden.

We met with a total of 16 people during these meetings.

What we heard:

During the meetings, the neighbouring landowners and tenants ask similar questions. The themes of the main questions related to:

- Design – type of fencing, size of the site, fire breaks, impacts to visual amenity, visual nuisance (glare), flooding and dust (in relation to Shorts Road)
- Operations - number of workers, cleaning of panels, management of sheep
- Property – land value, property purchase/leasing

Of the meetings held during this consultation, 75% (12 out of 16 people) of stakeholders did not have major concern about the project being developed at the planned site.

Concern was raised by 6% (1 out of 16) in relation to visual amenity impact and concern was raised by 19% (3 out of 16) was in relation to the specific land parcels chosen and its agricultural value.

October 2022 consultation

In October 2022, Edify Energy engaged consultants to undertake a number on site assessments, including a visual impact assessment from the viewpoint of properties that surround the proposed agrisolar site.

In accordance with the NSW Department of Planning and Environment guidelines (which are typically used to guide visual impact assessments on renewables projects), a total of 29 receptors were identified as warranting a visual impact assessment from their properties.

Visual receptors fall into three main categories:

1. people living at residences near the project site
2. recreational users of Lake Callide and surrounds
3. road users (generally local people, agricultural related traffic and freight) using main roads such as the Biloela-Callide Road and smaller roads such as Shorts Road.

Twenty-five of the 29 receptors were residential receptors. The remaining four receptors were roads.

What we did:

For residential receptors, Edify Energy contacted the landowners to gain permission to undertake the visual impact assessment from a viewpoint close to their dwelling (e.g. balcony/deck). Where landowners couldn't be contacted, or the property couldn't be accessed, a representative viewpoint had to be taken from the property boundary. This was the case for a total of three residential receptors.

The engaged consultants undertook visual impact assessments from:

APPENDIX A

- 10 residential receptors
- two representative viewpoints (from a cluster of properties at Lake Callide looking towards the development)

Landowners will be provided with a copy of their property's visual impact assessment information in early 2023, during the next round of landowner meetings.

Where to from here

We informed stakeholders and landowners during our engagements, that Edify Energy is progressing with an application to Council to submit for a Development Approval, expected in late 2022.

The next phase of community engagement is expected to occur in early to mid-2023 and will involve re-engaging with the neighbouring community and consulting with the broader community of Biloela and surrounds.

Edify Energy is committed to keeping landowners and the community informed as project planning progresses.

Figure 1 (2 pages) Letter sent to neighbouring landowners within 1.5km of planned site – May 2022

edifyenergy.com

Date: 10 May 2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

Subject: Callide AgriSolar Station – Early Development Planning in Mt Murchison, QLD

I am writing to you in regard to a renewable energy project that Edify Energy is planning in your local community. I hope this letter encourages you to make contact with me and Edify, as we seek to engage further with you and the local community throughout Biloela and Mount Murchison regions.

Company Overview

Edify Energy is an Australian owned Independent Power Producer that has successfully delivered around \$1.5b of solar and battery projects across Australia, spanning seven operational solar projects. This includes the first utility-scale solar projects in Queensland (Collinsville), Victoria's first hybrid solar plus battery project (Kerang) in addition to completing the largest solar farm operating in Australia today (Darlington Point, NSW).

Unlike the vast majority of those in the industry, Edify Energy takes a long-term view of the projects we develop. Not only do we develop, finance and then manage the operational assets under long-term contracts, Edify also seeks to maintain a long-term equity interest in our projects, ensuring that Edify's long-term project view is aligned with that of its landholders, communities and investors. This long-term business model is a distinguishing feature of Edify's investment strategy and should instil confidence that landholders, local stakeholders and the broader community are entering into a credible, long-term partnership.

Our focus on partnership development was strengthened in May 2021, with Edify signing an exciting deal with the *NSW Government* regarding the company's next investment, the Riverina Energy Storage System (300 MWh). Once operational in 2023, the Riverina Battery project will be the largest battery in NSW, providing a flexible and dispatchable generator that supports the reliability and security of the region's power system. This represents a continuation of Edify's investment into regional Australia and we hope to build upon our previous efforts here in Queensland, through the upcoming Callide AgriSolar Station.

Edify's Project – Callide AgriSolar Station

As you may already be aware, we have been progressing with early planning for an 'agrisolar' energy development to be built at Mount Murchison. The Callide AgriSolar Station would involve the construction of a co-use solar and agricultural farm.

We plan on developing and constructing a project that maximises the land-use, by co-locating around 1000 sheep within the boundary of the solar station, which will have the ability to supply electricity for over 100,00 QLD homes and businesses. Edify has already proven this innovative agrisolar arrangement at our Gannawarra Solar and Battery project in Victoria. This project includes 500 merino sheep, that happily graze and live within 60MW of solar generation infrastructure, plus a 50MWh battery energy storage system. We are excited to replicate this success through the proposed Callide AgriSolar Station.

The site chosen for the development is located on four parcels of land adjacent to Biloela-Callide Road, Mount Murchison. The land parcels are:



- Lot 28 on RN519
- Lot 3 on RP608599
- Lot 2 on RP619032
- Lot 154 on SP126053

The street addresses for this land are 641 Biloela-Callide Road & 551 Biloela-Callide Road, Mount Murchison, Queensland. We are conscious that you are landholders in proximity to our project plans and we hope to meet with you during the early planning stage to share the project plans and outline the upcoming specialist investigations. In addition, we wish to engage with you to identify ways in which you can participate throughout the life of the project.

We welcome your feedback and look forward to understanding any comments and potential concerns you may have. Your feedback will allow us to adjust our early plans based on your views and the local community's feedback. To date, we have been unable to gather your direct contact details and hope this letter initiates greater engagement with you and your family.

To provide you with an overview of the project's details, this letter also includes:

- a) An aerial map of the proposed land
- b) An Information Sheet regarding Edify Energy and the Callide AgriSolar Station; and a
- c) Frequently Asked Questions form, in regard to this project and typical solar and battery developments

Summary

Edify Energy welcomes the opportunity to discuss the project with you and the local community in greater detail. My colleagues and I will initially seek to meet you and other nearby landholders between 18th May and 19th May. Our aim is to be flexible and meet with you at your home, office, or even a local café during the day or in the evening hours. We realise the arrival of this letter may not provide much notice for you and the dates offered may not be a convenient time for you, so we can also schedule phone or video calls at alternative times if this is preferable. Please feel free to contact me with your availabilities to meet in person or on a call.

We look forward to working with you and the local community to develop this exciting renewable energy project in the Banana Shire.

Sincerely,

Damien Krauklis
Project Development Manager

M: 0417 358 066

