

# Media Release

**The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP**  
Minister for Climate Action  
Minister for Energy and Resources  
Minister for the State Electricity Commission



Saturday, 15 February 2025

## **BATTERY BUILDER LOCKED IN FOR SEC RENEWABLE ENERGY PARK**

The Allan Labor government is one step closer to completing the first 100 per cent publicly owned renewable energy project in Australia, which will help lower energy bills and create hundreds of jobs in Horsham.

Minister for the State Electricity Commission Lily D'Ambrosio announced Energy Vault as the contractor to deliver the 100-megawatt, two-hour battery energy storage system (BESS) component for the SEC Renewable Energy Park.

The battery will store energy from the project's 119-megawatt solar farm which can generate around 242,000 megawatt hours of renewable energy a year – enough to power 51,000 homes.

The battery will store cheap renewable energy from the solar farm and pump it into the electric grid at times of peak demand – helping to lower power prices. The battery also enables an additional 180 megawatts of new renewables to be connected to the grid.

Preconstruction works have begun on site in Horsham, with the project on track to for completion in 2027. The project will create around 246 jobs over the construction period, including 20 roles for apprentices, trainees, and cadets.

There SEC will also deliver direct benefits for the local community, via a community benefits fund. The SEC will work with the community to invest \$42,000 a year back into the local area during the project's construction, and a further \$70,000 every year once the project is operational.

The development comes as the SEC's first investment project, the Melbourne Renewable Energy Hub prepares to plug into Victoria's electricity grid later this year. The 600-megawatt big battery near Melton will store enough renewable energy to power 200,000 homes during peak periods.

All profits made by the SEC will be reinvested back into Victoria and help to deliver more renewable energy projects and help Victorians save money on their energy bills.

### **Quotes attributable to the Minister for the State Electricity Commission Lily D'Ambrosio**

*"Building more renewable energy will make sure Victoria can continue to have the lowest wholesale energy prices in the market, push down energy bills and create good local jobs."*

*"We're excited to partner with Energy Vault to help deliver the battery for our first 100 percent publicly owned renewable energy project."*

### **Quote attributable to Member for Western Victoria Jacinta Ermacora**

*"The SEC Renewable Energy Park will deliver cheaper power for all of Victoria and create lots of great new jobs in Horsham."*

### **Quote attributable to Energy Vault Chairman and CEO Robert Piconi**

*"This publicly-owned project is well-aligned with our mission to accelerate the clean energy transition through sustainable and efficient energy storage solutions and will play a pivotal role in ensuring the availability of renewable energy."*

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