

Bundaberg Regional Battery Community Consultation FAQs

Iberdrola Australia held consultation sessions on 14–15 August 2025 at the Gin Gin Community Hub to discuss the proposed Bundaberg Regional Battery. Over 100 community members attended across several sessions.

We appreciate the community's engagement, thoughtful questions, and valuable feedback. In response, we committed to a mail-out addressing commonly asked questions and providing the Project team's responses.



Where is the Project located?

The Battery is proposed 20 km north-west of the Gin Gin town on the corner of Monduran Dam Road and the Bruce Highway. The site is a portion of a privately owned 640 ha grazing property which Iberdrola Australia would lease if the Project proceeds. Scan the QR code for the site location.



How big is the Project?

The Battery will have a capacity of up to **500 MW**.



Will there be any cost to local residents?

No. The Project is **privately funded** and there will be no cost or charges to the community.



Will Gin Gin or nearby towns need to evacuate in an emergency?

The safe stand-back distance in the event of a fire at the Battery is 20 metres. There is no evacuation risk to Gin Gin or nearby towns if a battery was to catch fire.



Why build a battery here?

The Battery will:

- Store excess energy (e.g. from rooftop solar during the day)
- Release energy when demand is high (e.g. evenings)
- Help stabilise the grid and reduce short-term outages

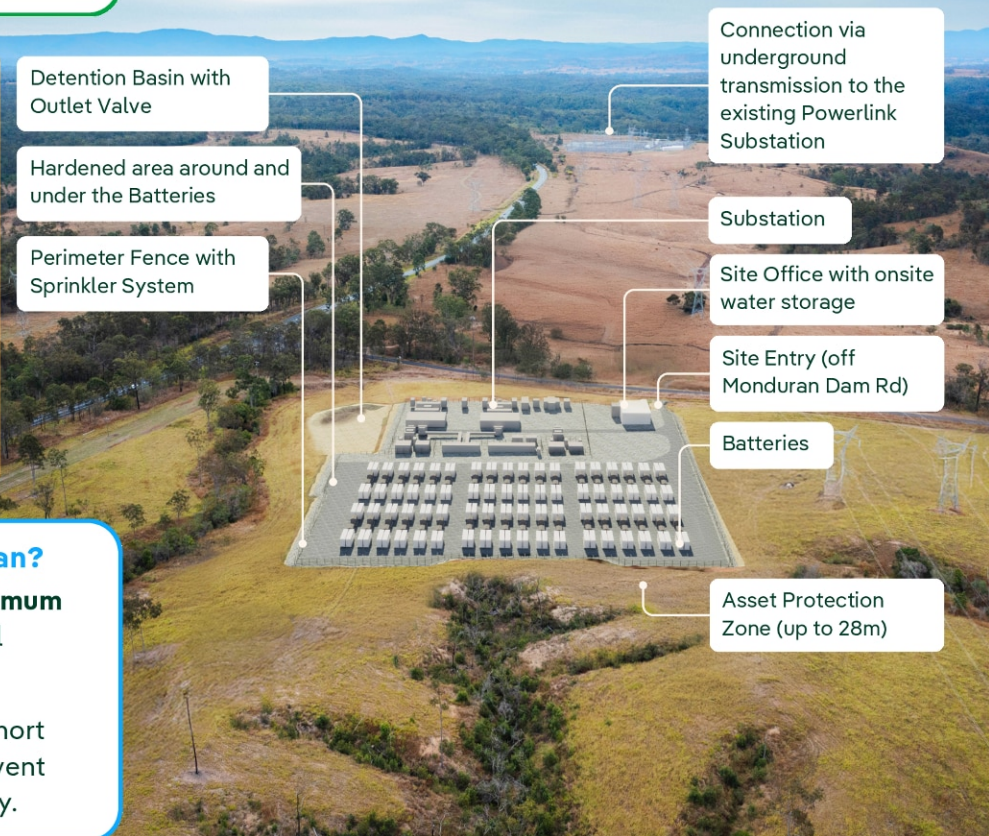
The site has been selected due to its proximity to the existing substation.



What does "2-hour battery" mean?

"2 hours" refers to the Battery's **maximum output duration**. At half output it will discharge power for 4 hours.

Peak output is typically needed for short periods (30–60 mins), helping to prevent outages caused by network instability.



What about fire risks?

The Battery uses **Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFePO₄)** chemistry, which is safer than batteries used in scooters or household devices. We have consulted with the **Queensland Fire Department** and the **Gin Gin QFD Auxiliary Captain**. Their feedback has been incorporated into the Fire Safety Study and Emergency Response Plan.

In the unlikely event of a fire:

- Water will not be used to extinguish it
- Emergency responders can safely stand **within 20 m** of an affected battery
- Sprinklers will be installed on the perimeter fence to saturate the ground if there is a threat of bushfire outside the Battery

The site will be monitored **24/7** (like all our operating assets) and a local supervisor will be onsite during business hours.

Will it affect prime agricultural land?

No. The 4 ha site is cleared **grazing land**. It is mapped as a low fertility soil (category C2).

Is this a pilot Project?

No. Iberdrola Australia already owns and operates batteries in NSW and SA and is constructing another in NSW and near Clarke Creek in QLD. Over **20 similar batteries** are in operation across Australia.

What happens after 20 years?

The Battery is expected to operate for 20 years. Before the end of its life, a **Decommissioning Management Plan** will be submitted to Council. Iberdrola Australia will remove and recycle Battery components, and the site will be restored to its original condition at no cost to the landowner.

What are the benefits to the Gin Gin community and surrounding region hosting the Project?

We have met with a range of community organisations to identify ways in which we can invest in the local community. So far, we have connected with the fishing competition organisers (MASA), Gin Gin RSL and the Emergency Cadets to identify ways in which we can work with them over the long term. If approved, Iberdrola Australia will set up a community fund which will make funds available for groups to seek funding each year over the life of the Project.

What's next?

Iberdrola Australia submitted its development application in July 2024. We paused the **planning process** to address concerns raised by Council at its April meeting. Specialist reports to address the issues and risks identified by Council were commissioned and will be provided to Council to assist in making a decision about the planning application. All this information will be publicly available on the Council's website.

Will Lake Monduran be affected?

No. The Battery will be:

- Located **2 km from the lake** and **4 km upstream**
- Contain **lithium in a solid state**
- Built on an **asphalt base** to prevent seepage
- Supported by a **2 ML lined stormwater detention basin**, almost double the size needed for a 1 in 100 year rain event

Water release is controlled by a valve, which can be shut off in the case of a suspected contamination event. **Sunwater**, the owner of Lake Monduran, has reviewed the plans and has **no concerns**.

If you have any further questions please reach out via:



Visit our website:
www.iberdrola.com.au



Email the Project Team:
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Call the Project Team:
1800 917 372

Acknowledgement of Country

Iberdrola Australia acknowledges the Traditional Owners, the Bailai, Gurang, Gooreng Gooreng and Taribelang Bunda Peoples, and their continuing values, culture and connection to land, waters and sky. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

