

Aurora Green

Community Update

August 2025

Aurora Green is a proposed offshore wind farm in Gippsland which would have a generating capacity of up to 3GW, located 25km+ offshore to minimise visual impact.



Acknowledgement of Country

We would like to acknowledge the Gunaikurnai people as the Traditional Custodians of the land and sea on which the proposed Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project is located, and recognise their continuing connection to land, sea, culture and community.

We pay respect to Elders past and present.

 **Iberdrola**
Australia

Project overview

Welcome to the first edition of the Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project Community Update.

Aurora Green is an offshore wind project up to 3GW being developed by Iberdrola Australia in Gippsland, located at least 25km from the coast to minimise visual impact.

The project is proposed between Seaspray/The Honeysuckles and Woodside Beach within the Gippsland Offshore Wind Zone Area - Australia's first declared offshore wind area.

Aurora Green has the potential to provide clean energy to up to 2.25 million households.

If built to full capacity across three phases, Aurora Green would consist of up to 150 wind turbines, each with a generating capacity of around 20MW.

Iberdrola Australia is in the early stages of planning for this project and the type of turbine

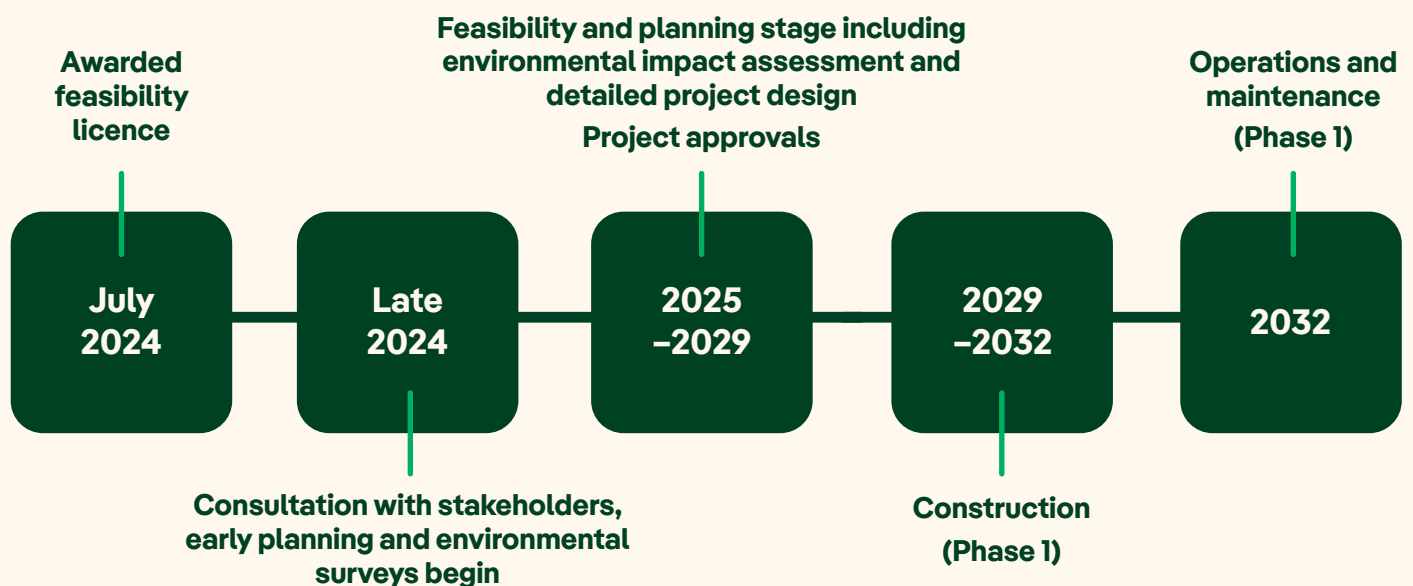
foundation to be used will be determined once we have undertaken appropriate studies of the seabed and metocean conditions (wind, wave and climate conditions).

Those studies, as well as other marine environment studies, are currently being undertaken.

Aurora Green's Gippsland-based engagement team has also been busy meeting with community members and stakeholders.

Read on to find out what we've been up to.

Proposed Project Timeline



Environmental studies

Marine environment surveys

We're taking to both the skies and the water in and around the Aurora Green feasibility licence area as our marine environment surveys get underway.

The first of our visual aerial survey flights to observe marine mammals (whales, dolphins and seals) took off at the beginning of May. These will continue approximately twice a month over the next 24 months. We've also deployed passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) equipment to record underwater sounds.

Above the water, we will undertake two types of bird surveys - digital aerial surveys (DAS) and vessel-based surveys - during the next two years. Later this year we will kick off fish and seabed habitat surveys.

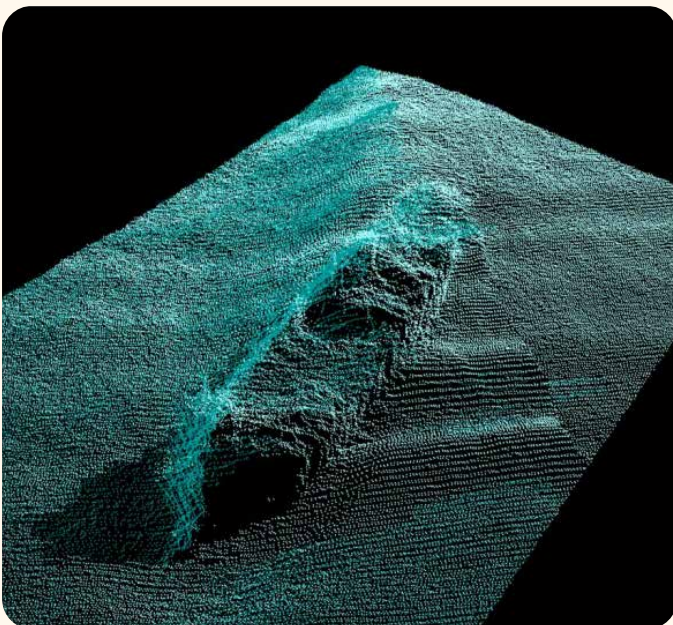
To read more about how we are conserving marine flora and fauna at our offshore wind farms globally, visit www.iberdrola.com/about-us/what-we-do/offshore-wind-energy/marine-life-biodiversity-protection

Recently we had our feasibility licence management plan approved by the Offshore Infrastructure Regulator (OIR). This will allow us to place equipment in our licence area to collect information about wind, waves, currents, water levels, meteorological and oceanographic data.



Photo courtesy of Fathom Pacific

Uncovering a maritime mystery



A 3D point cloud image of one of the shipwrecks

We recently wrapped up our geophysical surveys of our proposed Aurora Green site off the Ninety Mile Beach.

During the surveys our crew made some exciting discoveries, including two shipwrecks which may have been previously uncharted.

One of these shipwrecks is believed to possibly be the City of Hobart, an iron steamer which sank off the coast on 24 July 1877. The second shipwreck remains unidentified and would require more analysis by maritime archaeologists.

We're working with Commonwealth and Victorian heritage teams to determine the identity of the ships, which are likely to be protected under the Commonwealth's Underwater Cultural Heritage Act 2018.

Iberdrola Australia in the Gippsland Community

Landmark agreement with GLaWAC

Iberdrola Australia signed an historic Engagement Agreement with Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) in March 2025, and we're proud to have been the first offshore wind developer in Australia to achieve this.

The agreement ensures Gunaikurnai people are actively involved in discussions on the feasibility of the proposed Aurora Green Offshore Wind

Farm, located in Gunaikurnai Sea Country. It provides initial resourcing for GLaWAC to advocate for the Gunaikurnai community's rights, values, and aspirations throughout the feasibility stage.

To learn more about the agreement, visit www.iberdrola.com.au/our-assets/aurora-green/news-and-events/glawac-landmark-agreement

Learning On Country with Gunaikurnai

The Aurora Green team and our consultants from Environmental Resources Management (ERM) took part in On Country cultural awareness training through Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) in July.

We started at Krowathunkooloong Keeping Place in Bairnsdale to understand and appreciate the living culture of the Gunaikurnai people, then visited the Aboriginal scarred tree in Howitt Park on the banks of the Mitchell River where we learned about the practice of removing bark from the trees to make canoes.

The team then spent the afternoon at GLaWAC's headquarters in Kalimna West for lunch followed by videos and a discussion led by Gunnai man Wayne Thorpe, who shared his knowledge and stories.

The training was a powerful experience, deepening our understanding of the rich history, culture, and continuing connection the Gunaikurnai people have to Country. It challenged us to think differently – to see the Land and Sea through the eyes of Traditional Custodians and reflect on how we can embed respect and cultural awareness into every stage of our Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project.



A brighter future for Federation Uni students

A huge congratulations to our first eight scholarship recipients from Federation University's Gippsland Campus.

The scholarships are part of a \$500,000 commitment over the next 10 years made by Iberdrola Australia to support the Gippsland community as it plays a key role in Australia's clean energy future.

The Gippsland students awarded the scholarships in May were Nicholas Johnson - Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Brooke

Campbell - Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Antony Giglio - Bachelor of Information Technology, Charlie Trembath - Bachelor of Engineering (Honours), Jessica Scott-Smith - Bachelor of Science, Karen Drake - Bachelor of Arts, Simon Lea - Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) and Harley Griffiths - Bachelor of Science.

To learn more about careers at Iberdrola Australia follow us on LinkedIn at www.linkedin.com/company/iberdrola-au/



Supporting the Gippsland New Energy Conference

The Gippsland New Energy Conference (GNEC) is back this year and we're thrilled to be a Gold Sponsor!

We're especially excited to be the major sponsor of Industry Capability Network (ICN) Victoria's Suppliers Breakfast on the opening morning of the conference, where businesses will get the opportunity to network and hear about real local project opportunities and practical support.

GNEC 2025 is shaping up to be the biggest yet when it takes place on 9-11 September in Traralgon and Churchill, where we'll join leading government officials, industry pioneers and community advocates to continue helping shape the shift to renewable energy.

We've been a major GNEC sponsor for the last few years, supporting the Community Day in 2023 and as a platinum sponsor in 2024 - several members of the Aurora Green team have presented at the conference in the past and we'll have some speakers again this year.

The main conference will run on Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 September in Traralgon. On Thursday 11 September there will also be a New Energy Jobs Youth Summit in Korumburra and a Technical Symposium at Federation University presented by the Australian Centre for Offshore Wind Energy (ACOWE).

Find out more about the conference at www.gnec.com.au

Community funds: Adding a splash of colour to Yarram

Yarram's Commercial Road burst into vibrant colours early this year as part of the Chalk Art Festival and we were lucky enough to see the art come to life before our eyes!

Iberdrola Australia was a key sponsor of the event, which brought talented local and international artists together as they coloured the pavements with chalk art. Tourists and locals wandered through the streets watching the artists at work.

The Aurora Green team is always on the lookout for ways we can support our communities - head to our Community Funds and Sponsorship page at www.iberdrola.com.au/for-communities/community-funds-and-sponsorships for more details and fill out an application form.



Some of the vibrant art from international and local artists



Women powering change

You might have seen a familiar face as part of the Clean Energy Council's 'Women Powering Change' campaign supported by the Victorian Government.

Gippslander Renee Kurowski (Iberdrola Australia's Senior Manager Stakeholder Engagement for Offshore Wind) shared her story as part of the campaign which encourages women and girls to consider clean energy as a future career option.

The campaign generated over 1.1 million impressions and many of those who viewed the video also connected to further resources! To view the video featuring Renee visit the Clean Energy Council's website at cleanenergycouncil.org.au/working-in-clean-energy/diversity-in-renewables/women-powering-change

Our energy future is in good hands

We were excited to see Gippsland's future engineers and tech workers in action at the Gippsland Science and Engineering Challenge in Sale in June.

This fun event brought together over 150 students from Wellington Shire schools to get hands-on with all kinds of STEM challenges making wind turbines, building bridges and even powering a city! The challenge was all about getting kids excited about science, technology, engineering and maths and putting their creative minds to the test.

Congratulations go to Gippsland Grammar which won its way through to the state finals in September.

Aurora Green team members volunteered at the challenge and were ultra impressed by some of the wind turbine designs - we're sure some of these students will be part of the energy industry in the future.



Students from all over Wellington Shire put their science, tech and engineering skills to the test.

Connecting Gippsland and international students

We partnered with Gippsland Tech School the last couple of years to help with the Global Design Challenge.

The 2024 challenge linked Gippsland students with students from Hong Kong to collaborate and come up with practical STEM solutions to a real-world problem.

The program helped students develop STEM capabilities using contemporary technologies and practices.

We've also supported the New Energy Technology program and Jobs of the Future through Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network.

Gippsland Offshore Wind Days

Our Gippsland based engagement team has been out and about speaking with community members and stakeholders about our proposed Aurora Green project.

We were at the Gippsland Offshore Wind Days drop-in sessions at Seaspray, Foster and Traralgon as well as the Yarram Agricultural Show last November, at Golden Beach, Port Albert and the Wellington Sustainability Festival in March, and at Toora, Woodside and Loch Sport in July.

These sessions have allowed us to hear from community members about their thoughts on the Aurora Green project and offshore wind industry in general. In our What We Heard section on the following pages, you will find some of the more common feedback we've heard and what we're doing to address it.



What We Heard

Visual impact

Preference for visual impact to be kept to a minimum

Our proposed Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project is located at least 25km offshore between Seaspray/The Honeysuckles and Woodside Beach to minimise visual impact from land. It will be situated at least 33km from Golden Beach.

A preliminary landscape and visual impact appraisal has been completed for the project, including an assessment of the magnitude of visibility. This assessment anticipates that while Aurora Green's turbines will be visible from some sections of the Ninety Mile Beach, they will play a minor role in the view due to their great distance offshore.

Who is Iberdrola and Iberdrola Australia?

Interest in learning more about Iberdrola's experience building offshore wind farms overseas and about its operations in Australia

The Iberdrola Group is a pioneer in developing the offshore wind industry across many markets, including in the US, the UK and Europe, with 2.38GW in operation at the end of 2024 and plans to increase offshore wind capacity to 6.5GW by 2030. To learn more about our offshore wind projects globally visit www.iberdrola.com/about-us/what-we-do/offshore-wind-energy

Iberdrola Australia joined the Iberdrola global group in 2020 having previously operated in Australia for twenty years as Infigen Energy. We operate one of the largest renewable energy fleets in the country, with over 2.5GW installed capacity including onshore wind farms, solar farms, grid-scale batteries, fast-start gas peakers for firming capacity. Beyond generation and storage, our capabilities include energy efficiency upgrades, smart energy solutions, green hydrogen technologies, offshore wind development, and transmission infrastructure. For a visual overview of our footprint, please view our asset map available www.iberdrola.com.au/our-assets/asset-map. For more about our sustainable priorities read our Sustainability Reports at www.iberdrola.com.au/about-us/our-business-value-drivers.

Community investment

There is a need for communities hosting offshore wind projects to benefit from them

We are still in the process of understanding how we will frame our community benefits program for the Aurora Green project, as well as how it may have to interact with the Victorian government's own plans for its Renewable Energy Zone Community Energy Fund. Our local engagement team is meeting with community groups and stakeholders to understand any opportunities we may have to support them.

In the meantime, Gippsland local community sponsorship requests with a maximum of up to \$5,000 per application can be submitted throughout the year for 2025 and 2026. To submit an application visit: www.iberdrola.com.au/for-communities/community-funds-and-sponsorships

Environment

Concerns around environmental impacts, particularly on mammals such as whales and dolphins

The Aurora Green project will need to undergo environmental assessments which will evaluate measures to avoid, minimise and mitigate the potential impact on marine mammals.

We have begun our environmental study work to help us understand the potential impacts to marine life from our proposed project, which includes marine mammal surveys. Once potential impacts are assessed we will share this information as part of the approvals and consultation process.

Concerns around birds and potential collisions with wind turbines

We are undertaking environmental studies to help us understand the movements of birds in the project area and predict the impact our project might have on them. These studies will form part of our environmental assessments.

Concerns about debris from wind farms in the ocean, including liquids such as oils

As part of the design phase, we will undertake a detailed selection process of component manufacturing, which will take into consideration the appropriate materials from both a structural integrity and environmental point of view, to mitigate the potential for debris. We will also have an operations and maintenance strategy to inspect and proactively maintain and repair or replace components when appropriate.

There is a need for us to ensure early planning around end-of-life decommissioning and recycling of components

Energy generation from the Aurora Green wind farm is expected from 2032 and will have an operational life of around 30 years, after which the project will be decommissioned (and the site rehabilitated) or repowered. During the feasibility phase we will explore options associated with decommissioning and rehabilitation, as well as repowering of the site (where new offshore wind turbines could be erected).

The lifespan of a wind turbine is around 25 years, but this can be extended to 30. Most components are recyclable, although the challenge lies in recycling the wind blades efficiently. We are committed to recycling all our wind turbine blades from 2030 and plan to buy blades from recycled material. For more information visit www.iberdrola.com/sustainability/wind-blade-recycling

There is general support for a clean energy industry in Gippsland

Aurora Green is a 3GW offshore wind project which, when fully developed, has the potential to provide clean energy to up to 2.25 million households.

Construction and jobs

Interest in which ports would be used for construction and for operations and maintenance

Iberdrola Australia considers that a multi-port solution will be needed for construction of Aurora Green, with options including but not limited to Port of Hastings, Geelong Port and/or Port of Bell Bay.

For operations and maintenance, our current assumption is that Barry Beach Terminal in South Gippsland will be used.

We are currently engaging with several ports to understand more about their capabilities.

Concerns about whether small towns would have to accommodate an influx of workers

Workers are likely to be accommodated close to the port/s where construction and operations and maintenance will be carried out. We are engaging with communities and authorities within and surrounding our project area to ensure any negative impacts on communities are mitigated.

Interest in local employment opportunities and to use local manufacturing wherever possible

We expect much of the estimated 1800 workers needed for the construction phase of the project to be Victorian based, although we do recognise some specialised jobs and skills will need to be sourced from interstate and internationally.

The project's operations and maintenance will be localised to the Gippsland region. With a high level of technical and professional services available in the Gippsland region, there is a sizeable opportunity to retrain local personnel transitioning from declining sectors.

We are committed to engagement with local suppliers, contractors, manufacturers, and general supply chain resourcing. Supply chain provisioning will occur during the initial feasibility period, followed by construction delivery, with post construction operations and maintenance ongoing needs. We encourage suppliers to register interest now via the ICN Gateway at gateway.icn.org.au/projects/9310, where you will find an overview of the opportunities available, including work packages.

Marine users

Concerns that commercial fishers will not be able to access wind farm areas for fishing

We acknowledge that the site proposed for Aurora Green is located within a commercial fishing region, and that commercial fishers have concerns about potential impacts on their operations. We consider commercial fishers a key stakeholder as we develop Aurora Green and are working with the fishing industry to understand more about their operations and explore co-existence opportunities.

We are working with the Lakes Entrance Fishermans Co-Op, Southeast Trawl Fishing Industry Association and Seafood Industry Victoria on engaging with fishers.

Have your say:

If you would like to have your say about Aurora Green please complete our community feedback survey at:
form.jotform.com/251061454275857
(or scan the QR code) or email offshorewind@iberdrola.com.au



Contact us:

If you have any questions or feedback about the Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project please reach out to us.

www.iberdrola.com.au/our-assets/aurora-green
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