

Aurora Green

Community Update

December 2025



Project update

Environmental studies are well underway for our Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project, with the launch of ocean monitoring equipment (pictured above) as well as continuing mammal and bird surveys.

We recently submitted important environmental referrals to the Commonwealth and Victorian governments and have visited several ports to understand how they can support the construction, operations and maintenance of Aurora Green.

Our local engagement team has also been out and about in Gippsland in the last few months to hear more from the community.

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

Aurora Green is a proposed offshore wind farm up to 3GW being developed by Iberdrola Australia in Gippsland, located 25km+ from the coast between Seaspray/ The Honeysuckles and Woodside Beach to minimise visual impact.

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

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.



Environmental studies

Understanding the waters off Gippsland

The Gippsland coast combines some of the best offshore wind in the world and a relatively shallow seabed. To understand more about it, we sent out a floating light, detection and ranging (LiDAR) buoy and metocean measuring unit in September.

Adhering to all the relevant national regulations including health and safety, the unit was carefully loaded onto a vessel at Port Anthony and then towed to the Aurora Green project area.

We worked with local commercial fishers to understand where best to place the equipment. It will spend the next 12-24 months in the water, collecting important data on wind, waves and currents, as well as on the atmosphere and ocean.

This information we gather is crucial, helping us best design the project so that when our turbines are in the water, they're spinning efficiently to provide clean energy for many years to come.

We're already starting to receive information from the equipment, and we can confirm - it's pretty windy out there!

The monitoring equipment is pictured above and below on its way out to the Aurora Green project area.



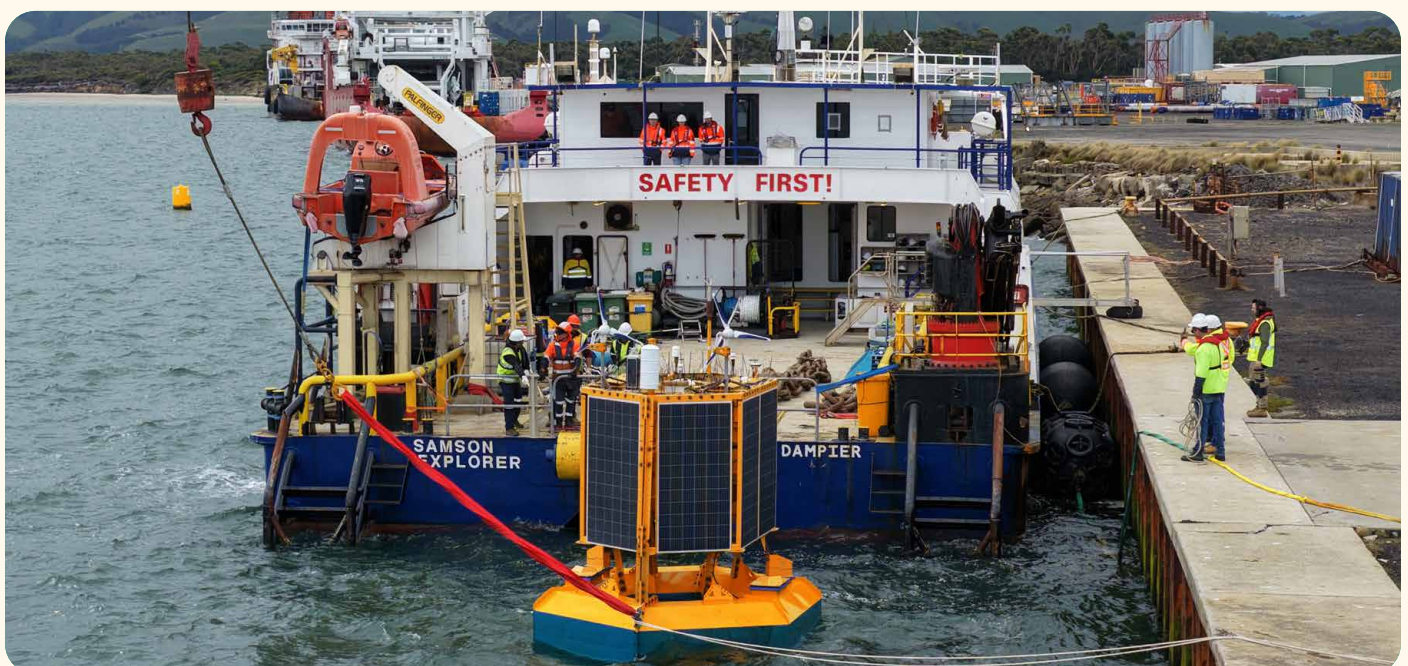
Environmental referrals lodged

The Aurora Green project took some important environmental steps in October and November. We lodged our Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (EPBC) Act referral to the Commonwealth government and our environment effects statement (EES) draft referral to the Victorian government.

These referrals kick off a formal process to make sure every aspect of Aurora Green is carefully assessed for its potential environmental impacts.

The Commonwealth government has informed us that the project will be a controlled action, meaning it will need to be assessed and approved under the EPBC Act.

Keep an eye on our website for updates on the environmental approvals process, including opportunities for public exhibition/consultation.





Keeping nature in mind along the Gippsland coast

We recently brought together a bunch of scientists and academics from a number of Australia’s leading universities for a nature positive workshop to share some of the fascinating work they’re doing in Bass Strait, where the Aurora Green site is located.

They shared plenty of ideas and stories with our offshore wind team about improving the local environment for Gippsland’s birds, fish, sea plants and soils.

It’s all part of Iberdrola Australia’s aim to conserve or enhance the natural ecosystems at our project sites and work towards ensuring the Aurora Green project leaves Gippsland’s coastal and marine environment in good shape.

Nature positive initiatives we are working on around Australia include a project to bring back the Glossy Black and Gang Gang Cockatoos, as well as habitat improvement projects for the Squirrel Glider and Spotted Tail Quoll.



You can read all about some of Iberdrola Australia’s current and future nature positive initiatives in our 2024 Sustainability Report at www.iberdrola.com.au/about-us/our-business-value-drivers.

Powering up ports for offshore wind

Building an offshore wind project of up to 3GW capacity will be a large and complex task.

Our experience overseas and our understanding of the ports here in Victoria tell us that more than one port will need to play a role across construction, operations and maintenance.

So, we hit the road - and the docks - in recent months to tour Geelong Port, the proposed Victorian Renewable Energy Terminal at Port of Hastings, and Port of Bell Bay.

We've learned more about how these ports could support the construction and long-term operation of Aurora Green.

Offshore wind turbines, foundations and cables are large-scale so we will need appropriate industrial port facilities for assembly and loading before the equipment is sent offshore to our site.

Once Aurora Green is generating clean energy to power homes and businesses, we expect to base our operations and maintenance here in Gippsland. That's where the smaller, local ports will play an important role.



Iberdrola Australia in the Gippsland community

Young voices have their say at GNEC

When Stratford student Ellie MacGregor first attended the Gippsland New Energy Conference (GNEC) in 2022, little did she imagine she would be later returning to GNEC this year as an Iberdrola Australia scholarship recipient to speak on a panel about young voices in the energy transition.

Ellie had initially planned to be an architect but after attending her first GNEC, decided to pursue a career in offshore wind in Gippsland.

Iberdrola Australia CEO Ross Rolfe heard Ellie speak at GNEC 2023 and approached her to discuss further opportunities in the industry. This led to her receiving an Iberdrola Australia scholarship to study engineering at Monash University.

Ellie returned this year to speak on a panel at GNEC 2025 about young people in the energy transition and career opportunities here in Gippsland.

Iberdrola Australia was a major sponsor of this year's GNEC, which was a huge success attended by over 1000 people in Traralgon in September.

Several Aurora Green team members participated in or facilitated panels and presentations across the two days, including our Engineering Manager Jim Rijks, who started his career with Iberdrola as a Masters scholarship recipient followed by a Graduate Development Program.



Ellie MacGregor is pictured above (middle) at the GNEC panel in September.



Connecting with local businesses

To kick off GNEC, we presented at the ICN Victoria Supply Chain Breakfast to a packed room of interested local businesses and suppliers.

The breakfast was part of our ongoing efforts to connect with local goods and services providers we may be able to work with as part of Aurora Green.

Iberdrola Australia's Executive Manager Engagement and Social License, Nicola Pero, spoke about some of our other projects around Australia and how our Aurora Green project is already engaging Gippsland businesses during the early feasibility stage, such as the design and printing of promotional materials.

Aurora Green at GWEC's APAC Summit

GNEC wasn't the only major conference we were part of in September - we also played a role in Global Wind Energy Council's (GWEC) APAC Summit in Melbourne.

Aurora Green team members spoke at the conference, and we shared a space with other Gippsland offshore wind developers to showcase our project to developers and suppliers from around the world.



To learn more or register your interest in opportunities with Iberdrola Australia on the Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project visit gateway.icn.org.au/projects/9310 or scan the QR code.



Volunteer Week

Many people in our community are doing it tough at the moment, so we were more than happy to lend a hand packing meals at Morwell's Foodbank Warehouse during Iberdrola's International Volunteer Week in October.

Our Gippsland-based engagement team were joined by other Aurora Green and Iberdrola Australia team members to pack food items such as fresh vegetables for distribution to charity partners across the region.

We managed to pack the equivalent of 4400 meals and got to meet other volunteers and staff at the warehouse who are doing an incredible job to make sure the food is going to those who need it most.

Check out some of the work Foodbank is doing in Victoria and around Australia at foodbank.org.au

Iberdrola Australia staff participated in other Volunteer Week activities across the country, including habitat restoration and garden maintenance at Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary in Brisbane, a canoe-based clean-up of Yarra River in Melbourne and removing weeds from waterways in the Riverina region, New South Wales.



Building our future workforce

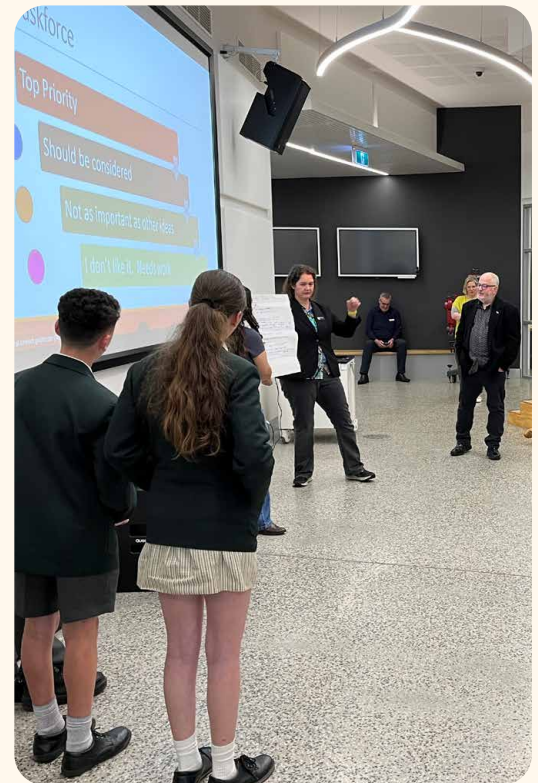
We joined local students, educators, industry leaders and other community members in October to talk about the future of work and the shift from traditional power generation to a clean energy industry in Gippsland.

The Let's Talk About Clean Energy school-industry roundtable was a great way for us to chat with teachers, careers staff, other industry professionals and most importantly, hear from the students who will be part of our future workforce.

The roundtable discussed skills and training young people will need, as well as some of the challenges faced. The group brainstormed great ways we can all collaborate to make sure young Gippslanders are involved in the shift towards clean energy here in our region.

The roundtable was organised by Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) along with the Department of Education and South Gippsland LLEN.

Visit iberdrola.com.au/careers to learn more about scholarship and graduate programs within Iberdrola Australia.



Energy roundtable

Iberdrola Australia participated in an energy industry roundtable with the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner Tony Mahar as part of his visit to Gippsland in October.

The Commissioner's role is to provide independent, trusted advice to government, industry and communities on energy infrastructure developments across Australia, as well as helping communities with complaints and enquiries.

The roundtable was organised by Committee for Gippsland and facilitated our discussion with Mr Mahar on opportunities and challenges around the region's shift to clean energy.

Federation Uni scholarships open soon

Applications open on 5 January 2026 for the next round of Iberdrola Australia Foundation Scholarships for students at Federation University's Gippsland campus.

The eight scholarships are part of our \$500,000 commitment over 10 years to support the Gippsland community.

Visit federation.smapply.io/prog/2026_foundation_-_iberdrola_australia_scholarships/ for eligibility requirements and more info on how to apply. Applications close on 1 March 2026.



Gippsland Offshore Wind Days - Local voices shaping our project

We visited Seaspray and Port Welshpool for the latest Gippsland Offshore Wind Days info sessions, where we heard from people with their thoughts on the Aurora Green project and the emerging Gippsland offshore wind industry in general.

Community feedback we receive helps to inform the design of our project, so we encourage anyone to connect with us by emailing offshorewind@iberdrola.com.au or completing our community feedback survey on our website by scanning the QR code on the back page.

Our engagement team is made up of two Gippslanders - Renee and Gary - who have lived most of their lives in this region. Both come from families who have long worked in the local power industry and want to make sure Gippsland remains Victoria's energy producing powerhouse into the future.

Check out our 'What We Heard' section to find out more about community feedback at the November engagement sessions and what we're doing to address it.

What We Heard

Interest in the project timeline including current status and next steps

Aurora Green is in the feasibility stage of development, with stakeholder engagement, technical and environmental surveys underway. Milestones to November 2025 include:

- Ongoing engagement and consultation with stakeholders, communities and Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC)
- Completed geophysical survey of the feasibility licence area (in Commonwealth waters) - April 2025
- Started baseline environmental surveys including noise monitoring, mammals and bird surveys (two-year data collection) - May 2025
- Obtained approval of Feasibility Licence Management Plan under the OEI Act - May 2025
- Deployed Floating LiDAR and metocean equipment to measure wind and ocean conditions - September 2025
- Submitted EPBC and EES draft referral to Commonwealth and Victorian governments, determined by Commonwealth government that our project will be a controlled action and will need to be assessed for approval under the EPBC Act – October-November 2025

Next steps for the project are:

- Continuing engagement and consultation
- Continuing environmental surveys for baseline data collection (offshore and onshore)
- Progressing the engineering and design process (including, but not limited to, production profile, foundation design, and cable routing)
- Identification of cultural values

All these activities form part of the process we will need to undertake for project approvals over the next approximately three to four years.

Interest in where turbines will be located within the Aurora Green licence area

Aurora Green will include up to 150 wind turbines that will be built over three phases. We are currently conducting environmental studies which will help determine the final layout of our turbines across the three phases of our proposed project. We will also need to carry out detailed geotechnical studies to further understand the seabed and refine our wind farm layout. We expect to have the final design of the first phase of Aurora Green completed in 2028. We understand the community's interest in the wind farm layout and will continue to engage throughout the design development process.

Interest in seeing images showing the cumulative visual impact of all proposed Gippsland offshore wind projects including Aurora Green

There are currently 9 feasibility licences in the Gippsland declared offshore wind area representing more than 18GW of generation capacity, of which Aurora Green (up to 3 GW) is one. None currently have permission to construct. The Victorian Government has a total generation target of 9GW by 2040. Images showing the visual impact of Aurora Green alongside other projects would therefore not be an accurate representation of future development off our coast. We can share the draft visual impact assessment images of our own Aurora Green project and have been doing so.

Iberdrola Australia will need to undertake visual and environmental impact assessments for Aurora Green as part of required approvals prior to construction. At various stages during the approvals process, there will be opportunities for consultation, during which the community can make public submissions relating to the project.

Interest in the planned size of the turbines which will be used for Aurora Green

We are still in the process of designing our project, including the details around turbines' generating capacity and size. The exact height of each turbine will also be determined by the depth of the seabed, as well as the technology available at the time of construction. Current heights for 15-25MW offshore wind turbines range from approximately 260 to 340 metres from the tip of the blade extended at its greatest vertical height to the surface level of the ocean.

Concerns nearby residents will be able to hear or feel pile-driving activities

Iberdrola Australia will need to comply with relevant noise and vibration guidance for our underwater activities during construction and operation of our project. While there are currently no Victorian or national underwater noise guidelines for piling, we expect national guidelines to be released prior to us building Aurora Green.

We will be required to assess the impacts of the project under both the EPBC Act (Commonwealth) and the Environment Effects Act (Victoria). Any potential impacts of noise and vibration from construction activities on the environment will need to be assessed, and mitigation measures identified, via these processes.

Concerns nearby residents will be able to hear wind turbines in operation

We will need to consider potential noise impacts during environmental assessment and approvals. While offshore wind turbines are much larger than onshore turbines, they are unlikely to be heard from land over the background ocean noise such as wind and waves. Aurora Green is 25km from shore at its closest point.



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](https://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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