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Iberdrola Australia to build the 245MW Avonlie Solar Farm in NSW

Iberdrola Australia is pleased to announce that it has committed to building the Avonlie Solar Farm, a 245MW(DC) solar project near Wagga Wagga, New South Wales. The project is expected to generate approximately 500 gigawatt hours of electricity per year, equivalent to powering more than 80,000 Australian households and avoiding over 1570,000 tonnes of carbon per year.

Construction works will include the installation of more that 450,000 solar panels and related balance of plant. Construction is expected to begin this quarter, with energisation expected before the end of 2022. The project will create more than 230 full time jobs during construction and many direct and indirect jobs during its estimated operational life of 35 years.

As Australia’s ageing and unreliable coal fired power plants inexorably approach retirement, the National Electricity Market will require significant investment in replacement capacity. Iberdrola Australia’s decision to proceed with the construction of Avonlie Solar Farm is another demonstration of Iberdrola’s long-term commitment to meeting that market need. Over the last two years, Iberdrola has achieved Final Investment Decision at the 245MW Avonlie Solar Farm in New South Wales, the 320MW Port Augusta Renewable Energy Park in South Australia, and the 50MW/75MWh Wallgrove Grid Battery in NSW. Together, these projects reflect almost A$1bn of capital commitments, adding approximately 600MW of low-cost, reliable renewable capacity to the National Electricity Market.

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Iberdrola Australia, Ross Rolfe, AO, said:

“At Iberdrola Australia our strategy is to put customers at the centre of the energy transition. We are seeing a rapidly growing number of commercial and industrial customers adopting Net Zero targets and transitioning to one hundred per cent renewable electricity contracts. At Iberdrola Australia we invest not only in low cost renewables – like the 245MW Avonlie Solar farm – but also flexible, fast start firming capacity, ensuring the electricity system remains reliable as renewable penetration grows. This optimised portfolio enables us to provide our growing customer base with long-term electricity contracts that are at once reliable, affordable and clean.”

“We are pleased to be contributing to economic development in the regional communities around Wagga Wagga within the Narranda shire Council, creating jobs while preserving our natural environment. At Iberdrola Australia, we take an integrated approach to social, environmental and economic development, creating shared value for all our stakeholders.”

Matt Rebbeck, RES’ CEO in Australia commented:

“We are very pleased to continue our strong global relationship with Iberdrola and are excited to see the project progress with them. We would like to thank the forward-thinking NSW Department for Planning Industry and Environment, Lumea, the local Narrandera Shire Council and the local community who have shown huge support for this project”.

More information on the project can be found at the project site: [www.avonlie-solarfarm.com](http://www.avonlie-solarfarm.com)

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## About Iberdrola Australia

Iberdrola Australia is leading Australia’s transition to a clean future, today. Our strategy is to put customers at the centre of the renewable energy transition by providing them with firm supplies of clean energy. We partner with our customers to help them deliver their sustainability and renewable energy goals. At Iberdrola Australia we operate one of the largest portfolios of renewable energy assets in the country and we have invested in a fleet of flexible, fast-start firming assets that manage intermittency risks. Iberdrola Australia’s customers include manufacturers, universities, councils, food and beverage producers, electric vehicle manufacturers, commercial property operators, industrial utilities, timber processors and large-scale infrastructure assets. More information on our customer offerings is available at: [www.iberdrola.com.au](http://www.iberdrola.com.au)