



Newsletter

Pictured: Erected turbines at the WDFW near Eneabba

Warradarge Wind Farm powers up

Bright Energy Investments' Warradarge Wind Farm in Western Australia's Mid-West has produced its first electricity, and has ramped up to 136MW.

The 51-turbine wind farm will ramp up to a total generating capacity of 180MW through a staged commissioning process by the end of October.

Specialist technicians are now busy running commissioning tests on each of the turbines in preparation for the generation and export from the entire wind farm into the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

BEI General Manager, Mr Tom Froud said he was immensely proud that first generation at the wind farm had taken place.

"This is a major milestone for Bright Energy Investments. Warradarge Wind Farm is one of the biggest renewable projects in the state and remains on track to be fully commissioned by the end of October," Mr Froud said.

"Despite some challenges due to the COVID-19, the construction phase of Warradarge is progressing incredibly well, which is reflective of the hard work and dedication of everyone involved in the project."

The wind farm's location- 15km north-east of Warradarge, 15km south-east of Eneabba and 40km south-west of Carnamah- was chosen to take advantage of abundant wind resources of the region and its proximity to the SWIS.

Each turbine weighs 181 tonnes with 67 metre-long blades, has a hub height of 84 metres and height of 151 metres to the top of the blade tip.

At full power, the Warradarge Wind Farm will generate enough renewable energy to supply the equivalent of around 135,000 Western Australian homes.

More than 200 jobs were created during construction of the wind farm, which was completed within 12 months from first mobilisation to site.

About Bright Energy Investments

Bright Energy Investments (BEI) is focussed on the development of large-scale renewable energy projects in Western Australia. Established in April 2018, BEI is an investment vehicle established between WA electricity generator and retailer Synergy, global infrastructure investment fund DIF and industry superannuation giant Cbus, to develop up to 210MW of renewable energy projects. The BEI portfolio currently includes the Greenough River Solar Farm in the state's Mid-West, the Albany Grasmere Wind Farm in the Great Southern Region and the development of the 180MW Warradarge Wind Farm near Eneabba which is expected to be recognised as one of the best renewable energy projects in the country. For more information visit. www.brightenergyinvestments.com.au.

Pictured: juwi's Brian Rafferty, Minister for Energy Bill Johnston and SynergyRED's John Lorenti.



WA Energy Minister Visits Greenough River Solar Farm (GRSF)

The Minister for Energy Bill Johnston has paid a visit to the Greenough River Solar Farm at the end of August, which is running at its full 40MW capacity following the stage two expansion.

The Minister met with representatives of the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractor juwi Renewable Energy and with operation and maintenance contractor First Solar.

"It was great to visit the solar farm as the 30MW expansion comes to fruition," Minister Johnston said.

"The project is an excellent example of the work the WA Government is undertaking, as part of the Bright Energy Investments vehicle, to meet Synergy's large-scale renewable energy target obligations.

"I am especially pleased to hear about the efforts taken to employ locals on the construction project."

The GRSF Stage 2 project passed initial Western Power testing in late-July, closely following the completion of Western Power construction at Warradarge Wind Farm. Both projects represent major achievements for Bright Energy Investments and the Synergy Renewable Energy Developments (SynergyRED) team.

Stage 2 uses single axis tracking, rather than fixed solar panels, and this will see the new expansion generate nearly four times as much electricity as Stage 1, but with only twice the land footprint.

Many Western Australians were employed in the construction of the expanded facilities and local contractors also played an important role in the project.

The first stage of Greenough River Solar Farm, a 10MW facility commissioned in 2012, was Australia's first utility scale solar farm. With the addition of a further 30MW of capacity, it will continue to make a significant contribution to Western Australia's renewable energy generation portfolio.

Albany Grasmere Wind Farm upgrade continues

Upgrades at one of Western Australia's most picturesque wind farms, Albany Grasmere Wind Farm (AGWF), have continued into the month of September.

Albany Grasmere second blade repair campaign was successfully concluded in April, which was ahead of schedule and under budget.

Following on from a blade refurbishment program in 2019 and early 2020, the wind farm is having upgrades to its control systems.

The upgrade is being completed by the wind farm's original equipment manufacturer, Enercon.

While the control system upgrade is continuing well, international travel restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic have delayed implementation, as specialist control technicians from Germany are required to install and commission the upgrade.

BEI is continuing to work through options to complete the upgrade as soon as possible.



Contact us

For more information on BEI and its projects, please visit our website at or contact us

 info@brightenergyinvestments.com.au  www.brightenergyinvestments.com.au