# Boulia Solar Farm and Battery Project Update

June 2025

## Boulia's energy transition is taking shape

### What a difference a couple of months can make

The team constructing the solar array for the Boulia Solar Farm and Battery have made some significant progress since our last project update.

Not only has the recent rain transformed the Boulia site but so too has the construction of the solar farm. The site which was a blank canvas only a few short months ago has been transformed into a shining example of the energy transition – see figures 1 to 3.

**Fig 1 – Before the site before construction commenced.**

Over 3,000 solar panels, or 1.7MW of solar has been installed and when the facility is complete, the energy generated at the solar farm will reduce the amount of diesel generation required to power the town, reducing diesel costs and emissions, and limiting the impact on the environment.

**Fig 2 – Looking back over the site towards Boulia township.**

**Fig 3 – The solar farm will help to reduce around 360,000 litres of diesel each year as it generates, clean, green energy for the township.**

## Next steps

With the construction of the solar array now complete, the project team has shifted their focus to the battery facility.

Delivering advanced energy solutions like solar farms and network batteries, that can operate seamlessly on our isolated networks, is a highly technical endeavour that requires the expertise of many specialist teams.

Ergon's teams of specialists are now deep into the detailed design phase of the battery project. Their task is to integrate the renewable energy generated by the solar array and stored in the battery, with the local power station and electricity network.

This will involve integrating equipment like the distribution boards – see figure 4 – and specialised communications, control and protection systems with the existing network. This will allow Boulia's electricity needs to be seamlessly powered by the solar farm - with excess energy being stored in the battery until it's needed - or by the diesel generators at Boulia Power Station when the sun isn't shining, or demand exceeds the solar supply.

**Fig 4 – Cabinets housing the distribution boards that will connect the solar farm into the network.**

Boulia's battery will be produced by the same supplier that has built the battery for the Bedourie isolated network. This battery was recently delivered to Ergon's Microgrid and Integrated System Test (MIST) facility in Cairns – see figure 5 - where it will undergo rigorous testing to ensure it is ready to be integrated into our isolated network at Bedourie.

**Fig 5 – The Bedourie battery arrives at Ergon's MIST facility in Cairns for isolated network integration testing.**

The Boulia project is set to benefit from the learnings obtained through the Bedourie integration testing at the MIST, streamlining the deployment and commissioning of Boulia's battery.

The team is planning to deliver Boulia's battery directly to site once it is built and undergone factory acceptance testing. The battery will be located adjacent to the solar array on the 'town side' of the site – see highlighted area in figure 6.


**Fig 6 – Location where the battery facility will be constructed in the next stage of the project.**

## Getting in touch with us

To keep up to date on the project, visit our project website Boulia solar farm & battery project | Ergon Energy or scan the QR code.

**Project website QR code.**

You can also contact our Senior Community Engagement Advisor, Kate Austin on 1300 653 055 or email us at: NetworkProjectEngagement@energyq.com.au