

Community Newsletter

Edition 1 | June 2025



Welcome to the Marulan Gas Fired Power Station Newsletter

Welcome to the first edition of the Marulan Gas Fired Power Station newsletter — your go-to source for updates, insights, and opportunities to engage with this NSW Critical State Significant Infrastructure project.

In this issue, we dive into why a gas project is being revisited now and how it fits into New South Wales' broader transition to a renewable and reliable energy future. You'll also get to know us, EnergyAustralia, the company behind the project, and our commitment to delivering energy in a responsible and community-minded way.

We provide an overview of the project, its status, and the significant benefits it stands to deliver — from energy

security to regional economic development and local job creation. You'll find a timeline outlining what's ahead and a look back at what we've heard from the Marulan community over the past decade.

Looking to get involved? Learn about upcoming opportunities such as our Community Reference Group, citizen science initiatives, and how to submit an Expression of Interest to host a temporary workers accommodation site.

This newsletter is just the beginning of our ongoing conversation with the community. We're here to keep you informed and involved, every step of the way.

Who we are

EnergyAustralia is one of the country's leading energy companies, supplying electricity and gas to over 1.6 million homes and businesses across Australia. We also own and operate a range of energy generation sites—including batteries, coal, and gas—helping to keep the lights on for millions of Australians.

We're currently working to shift our energy mix to cleaner, more sustainable sources, while making sure the electricity system stays reliable and affordable. As part of that commitment, we're looking to develop new projects—like the Marulan Gas Fired Power Station—to support the transition to renewable energy.

Building major infrastructure in any community comes with responsibilities. That's why we're committed to being open, respectful, and proactive in how we engage with Traditional Owners, local people, landowners, and councils throughout the life of the project.

Currently our teams are listening, sharing information and engaging with communities in South Australia and in the La Trobe Valley in Victoria to deliver Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) projects.

We are an active part of the Illawarra community, supporting their information needs and responding to interest through the delivery of a major upgrade to the Tallawarra Gas Fired Power Station. In Lithgow, a community with a rich history hosting and generating energy, we are engaging regularly on the Mt Piper Power Station and in the development of a BESS project and proposed Lake Lyell Pumped Hydro.

We work in partnership with the community—listening, learning, and working together for the best possible outcomes.

Why a gas project?

Gas-fired power is a practical, transitional tool to help Australia bridge the gap to a more sustainable energy mix.



Reliability and grid stability

Gas-fired power provides firm, dispatchable energy—meaning it can be turned on or ramped up quickly when demand spikes or when renewable sources like wind and solar aren't generating (e.g., at night or during calm, cloudy weather). This helps maintain grid reliability during the transition period when renewables and storage are still scaling up.



Complementing renewables

While renewables are growing rapidly, they are variable by nature. Gas is a flexible "partner" to renewables—it can fill gaps in generation and balance solar and wind energy.



Transition away from coal

As ageing coal-fired power stations retire, Australia needs replacement capacity to keep the lights on. Gas can serve as a transitional solution while renewable-enabling technologies like batteries, and pumped hydro mature and scale.



Supporting industry and peak demand

Industrial processes and peak electricity demand (such as hot summer evenings) often require power that is both *firm* and *scalable*. Gas-fired plants can meet these needs without long lead times or massive infrastructure upgrades.



Strategic backup during emergencies

Gas provides critical backup during grid emergencies, extreme weather events, or unexpected outages—making it an important insurance policy for a stable, reliable energy system.

EnergyAustralia recognises that we operate and plan for the energy transition on the traditional Country of the Gundungurra peoples and we respect and acknowledge their continued connection to Country and culture.

What are the project benefits?

A gas-fired power station near Marulan could deliver a range of benefits to the local community, region and NSW.



Job creation

Around **380 jobs** would be created during construction, boosting local employment and supporting nearby businesses.



Minimal Infrastructure Upgrades

The project would use **existing infrastructure**, requiring only minimal grid upgrades—potentially reducing cost, time, neighbour and environmental impact.



Strategic location

Marulan's proximity to the **Moomba to Sydney Gas Pipeline** and existing infrastructure allows for **efficient, reliable energy delivery** to major demand centres across NSW.



Economic Boost

Increased activity during construction would stimulate the **local and regional economy**, helping build resilience and growth.



Genuine benefit sharing

We're committed to **meaningful and innovative support** for local initiatives—exploring ways to address challenges like **housing supply** and investing in projects that deliver **long-term community value**.



Strengthening NSW Energy Security

Be proud that Marulan could be the host community for critical state infrastructure that keeps the lights on in NSW.

Indicative Project Timings

2009/10	Planning and assessment	EnergyAustralia purchases the site from Delta Energy
2012	Initial scope	Initial project scoping and consultation
2015	Initial approval	Initial approval by NSW Government
2019/20	Updated scope	Updated scoping and consultation
2024	Extended approval with modification	Updated approval by NSW Government
2025	Renewed scope	Renewed scoping and consultation
2026	Environmental Assessment	- Technical and environmental studies - Ongoing consultation with report on consultation activities
2027	Modification Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) exhibition	- Comprehensive public exhibition of environmental and technical studies and reports - Formal stakeholder and community consultation period - NSW Government approval pending outcomes of the EIS - Final Investment Decision by EnergyAustralia*
2028-2032	Construction window*	
2032	Operational*	

*indicative only, subject to a comprehensive approval process

What has been heard

EnergyAustralia has been engaging and listening to community feedback for a number of years, producing a consultation report for the initial scoping (2015) and an additional consultation report for the updated scoping (2020).

As we start this new conversation with the community, we would like to reflect on what has been heard to date and invite members of the community to validate, discuss or add to the matters identified below.



Energy type

We think batteries would be better than gas to provide stored energy from renewables



More consultation

We need more time and opportunities to understand the project



Greater commitment

You have taken a long-time to develop the project and we are not sure it will go ahead



Visual

We would like to understand what we will see in the landscape, particularly the height of the stacks



Air

Fresh air is important to us as a rural community, and we need to know how a power station manages air quality.



Noise

Our rural community is peaceful, and we need to see noise modelling for construction and operations.



Traffic

Construction would need reliable roads and create a lot of truck movements – we would like to understand safety, maintenance and road upgrades required.



Accommodation

Our community is growing fast, and housing is a challenge. We need assurance that the workforce won't impact rent or motel availability.



Managing biodiversity

We enjoy the wildlife and the Wollondilly River and need to understand how these would be protected and how any impacts would be managed.

Survey shows strong Community interest

A recent survey of 300 local residents has shown strong interest in learning more about the project. Many respondents said they want more detailed information and more chances to speak directly with the project team.

Key topics of interest include environmental impacts, project benefits, how the technology works, and the

approvals process. People also said they prefer face-to-face engagement and regular updates.

In response, we'll be holding pop-up information sessions where you can meet the team – and ask questions directly.

Thank you to everyone who took part in the survey. Your feedback is helping shape how we engage with the community.

How to have your say and get involved:

Chat to us at a
Pop-up Info Stall



Talk to a Community
Reference Group Member



Respond to
a doorknock



Community Reference Group appointed

EnergyAustralia has appointed a **Community Reference Group (CRG)** following an expression of interest period in May.

The CRG brings together residents, landowners, community organisations, and council representatives to help guide communication, share local knowledge, and ensure community views are considered as the proposed project progresses.

The group will meet regularly throughout the planning and environmental assessment process. In the first meeting on 25 June 2025, members will have the opportunity to review and validate what has previously been heard about the project from the community. Members will also receive key project updates, raise local concerns, provide feedback, and help shape how information is shared with the broader community.

We thank all those who expressed interest in joining the CRG and look forward to working closely with the group and the wider community.

Meeting summaries and updates will be shared publicly via this newsletter and the project webpage.

If you'd like to learn more about the CRG or get in touch with the project team.

Work with us - become a 'Citizen Scientist'

Have you ever paused to admire the call of the Gang-gang Cockatoo or noticed the subtle changes in wildflowers across the seasons? If you care about our unique local environment, now is your chance to make a difference—by becoming a Citizen Scientist.

Over the next 12 months, we're calling on passionate locals just like you to help identify and monitor habitats and count populations of our native flora and fauna. Whether it's observing birdlife, tracking flowering patterns, or mapping habitat changes, your local knowledge is invaluable.

Citizen science is a powerful way for communities and scientists to work together. Your observations will contribute to real research and help protect the biodiversity that makes the region so special. From backyard sightings to bushwalk discoveries, every contribution helps build a clearer picture of the current state of our environment.

You don't need a degree—just curiosity, care, and a willingness to get involved. Training and guidance will be available from environmental experts and local ecologists, making this a fantastic learning opportunity for individuals, families, schools, and community groups.

Why get involved?

- Help monitor and protect species like the iconic Gang-gang Cockatoo
- Share your local knowledge with scientists and conservationists
- Connect with your community and environment in a meaningful way
- Be part of a growing network working to preserve our natural heritage

If you'd like to nominate yourself—or your group—to take part, simply send us an email. Let us know your name, location, and what you're most interested in (birds, plants, insects, local habitats, etc.) and we'll get in touch with the next steps.

Project Website: www.marulangasfiredpower.com.au

How to have your say and get involved:

Arrange a meeting or briefing



Become a citizen scientist



Nominate for a site visit



Provide an EOI for workers accommodation





Engaging with neighbours and landowners

Landowners and neighbours are central to the consultation and engagement activities.

We distinguish landowners as people who may host part of the proposed project infrastructure on their property while neighbours are people who live nearby the proposed infrastructure.

Our team are actively listening, preparing information on impacts relevant for each landowner or neighbour and discussing mitigation options now. Through one-on-one discussions with relevant landowners and neighbours, our dedicated Landowner Managers look to provide people with:

- specific, respectful and frequent opportunities to provide feedback or raise concerns
- information to accurately explain the Project, our planning approach and potential impacts to their properties
- options to jointly consider mitigations for their properties

Together, we work through ways to minimise impacts on neighbouring businesses and homes by developing voluntary Neighbour Mitigation Agreement or voluntary Landowner Agreement for each eligible property.

If you are a neighbour and would like to arrange a one-on-one discussion with our team contact:

community@energyaustralia.com.au

Environmental Assessments underway now

We have commenced early-stage investigations that help identify and assess the potential impacts and key issues a project may have on the environment, people, and infrastructure.

Environmental assessments are wide ranging and include in-field surveys of flora and fauna, reviewing heritage registers and working with cultural knowledge owners, modelling noise, air and traffic impacts, and identifying nearby infrastructure and utilities. You may be able to assist scientific crews by identifying habitats or species. You may see and hear assessment activities from June to September 2025. Here's what to expect:

See

At roadsides or in paddocks:

- People in hi-vis
- Marked utes or four-wheel drives
- Torches and spotlights at night
- Temporary monitoring cameras

Hear

- Drone operations on EnergyAustralia land
- Marked utes or four-wheel drives

Do

When people in hi-vis are about:

- Drive slowly
- Limit hunting activity
- Contact **1800 574 947** with any concerns

Call for Expressions of Interest: Workers' Accommodation Site for Marulan Gas Fired Power Station

We are seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for a workers' accommodation village site to support our proposed Marulan Gas Fired Power Station Project.

Interested councils, companies and private landowners are invited to apply.

With over 380 construction workers expected—many from outside the region—over a four-year construction period (subject to NSW Government approvals), we are planning to minimise impacts on local housing and infrastructure.

"While we are still scoping the project, we are now identifying potential sites so that necessary environmental and technical studies can begin as part of the project's approvals process," said Project Director, Ian Black.

"Identifying a dedicated temporary accommodation village this early helps with planning and during construction avoids pressure on local motels and rental markets, protecting housing availability and affordability."

Key criteria for site suitability include proximity to the project site (12km north-east of Marulan, off Canyonleigh

Road in Brayton), flat and development-ready land, access to infrastructure, road accessibility, and minimal impact on nearby residents.

Interested parties should submit their site details—including contact information, land title or address—via email to: community@energyaustralia.com.au by **Friday 11 July**.

An information pack is available upon request. Shortlisted proposals will be assessed further, and conditional lease agreements may be developed with landowners of the preferred site(s).

We expect to identify one or two preferred sites by **September 2025** and will then engage closely with neighbours and stakeholders to refine the design and operation of the accommodation village for the NSW Governments approval process.

EnergyAustralia is also open to proposals for shared accommodation facilities that may serve other energy or infrastructure projects in the region.



Getting the facts

We have been out and about engaging with the local community, neighbour and landowners, community groups and both the Goulburn Mulwaree Council and the Upper Lachlan Shire Council answering questions about the project.



Question: "Why Marulan?"

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Answer: Marulan is close to vital infrastructure, including the Moomba to Sydney gas pipeline and a TransGrid electricity switchyard. These connections allow for efficient fuel supply and power transmission. The site has been chosen to support reliability in the national electricity market, particularly during peak demand or when renewable energy sources are insufficient.



Project stats

EnergyAustralia is progressing the development of the Marulan Gas Fired Power Station (the proposed power station) on land we own off Canyonleigh Rd. The Project has been identified for development since 2009 and has been declared Critical State Significant Infrastructure by the NSW Government.

An extension provided in October 2024 by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (NSW DPHI) grants the Project additional time through to late 2026 for the preparation of a Modification Report.

The first step is to prepare a 'Scoping Report' which will be submitted to the NSW Government which helps identify what may need to be investigated and developed as part of a Modification Report and associated Environmental Impact Statement. When the 'Scoping Report' has been considered by the NSW Government, specific directions are given to the EnergyAustralia to prepare the Environmental Impact Assessment. These directions are known as Scoping Advice.

Preparation of a Modification Report and EIS can take up to two years.

Find out more



Engage with us

We are out and about and available to answer your questions and receive your feedback.

June Community Newsletter 1

24 – 26 June Doorknock – Marulan and Canyonleigh Rd

25 June Pop-up engagement – Meridian Café, George Street (7.30-10am)

25 June Community Reference Group Meeting 1

11 July EOI workers accommodation closes

18 July* Tallawarra Gas Fired Power Station visit – interested stakeholders and community

29 July Pop-up engagement – Meridian Café, George Street (3-5pm)

30 -31 July Doorknock – Marulan and Canyonleigh Rd

August Assessments - potential workers accommodation site(s)

September Community Newsletter 2

22 September Pop-up engagement – Meridian Café, George Street (3-5pm)

24 September Community Reference Group Meeting 1

We're here to help

If you have a question, please don't hesitate to contact us.

 **community@EnergyAustralia.com.au**

 **1800 574 947**

www.marulangasfiredpower.com.au



See our best energy plans