

Marulan Gas Fired Power Station

Community Reference Group

25 February - Meeting 4 – Update

What is the CRG?

The Community Reference Group (CRG) brings together residents, stakeholders and EnergyAustralia. It provides a forum to share information about the Marulan Gas Fired Power Station project, raise questions and ensure community feedback is considered as planning continues.

What was discussed?

Safety

This meeting was held online as a precautionary safety measure following a verbal threat made to an EnergyAustralia staff member.

Project snapshot and forward program

EnergyAustralia provided an update on the project and key milestones, noting the project is progressing technical studies to support a Modification Report, with submission anticipated in late 2026. The forward program includes a pop-up engagement at the Goulburn Show and a Business Impact Survey in March 2026, a consultation materials review at CRG Meeting 5 in April 2026, pop-ups and a Tallawarra Power Station tour mid-2026, and CRG Meeting 6 prior to submission in August 2026.

EnergyAustralia explained the assessment will be documented through a Modification Report (as the project has an existing approval) and advised it will be exhibited on the NSW Planning Portal for around 3–4 weeks.

EnergyAustralia confirmed engagement to date for neighbours in the Canyonleigh area has included letterbox drops, door knocks and emails to contacts on file, and noted a suggestion to hold a community pop-up at the Canyonleigh Community Hall. Bespoke visuals for relevant neighbours (showing different viewpoints) are expected around May, with photomontages and key viewpoints to be released through one on one engagements with neighbours (not publicly).

CRG administration

The CRG reviewed the Terms of Reference and made minor updates to reflect continuation in 2026. The group noted there remains a vacant position and an Expression of Interest (EOI) process will be run, with applicants required to adhere to the CRG Code of Conduct.

What we are hearing — community insights

Key themes raised included ongoing community concern about Canyonleigh Road conditions, the need for traffic data, and the importance of coordinated planning given multiple State Significant projects in the area. Council noted awareness of cumulative impacts and a regular grading program, while EnergyAustralia outlined developer coordination arrangements with Canyonleigh Road as a key focus. The status of road design work was noted as being at a concept stage.

Ecological studies

EnergyAustralia outlined its ecological assessment approach and confirmed a Biodiversity Development Assessment Report (BDAR) is being prepared to support the Modification Report. A broad suite of technical

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studies is underway. Early biodiversity findings were presented, and EnergyAustralia confirmed the project has been referred to the Australian Government under the EPBC Act for determination of assessment and management requirements. Discussion also covered an orchid recorded on site, including its emergency threatened species classification in NSW and design changes to avoid impacts.

Aboriginal and cultural heritage

EnergyAustralia advised the cultural heritage assessment is intended to recognise living cultural landscapes and support respectful stewardship of Country. Consultation is underway with Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs), and on-Country fieldwork with RAP representatives is scheduled for the first week of March 2026, alongside archaeological survey methods and cultural values discussions.

Onsite activities

EnergyAustralia outlined the types of activities landholders and residents may observe, including LiDAR drone and on-ground surveys, ongoing ecology surveys, property maintenance works, and heritage field surveys. EnergyAustralia also discussed a possible development application for a small, fully removable temporary site facility (up to two years), noting concept sketches have been provided to Council and approvals pathways are being confirmed.

Water management

EnergyAustralia outlined a staged water sourcing approach, including rainwater capture, a small licensed river allocation (approved), interim trucking, and a long-term pipeline connection to the Marulan Sewage Treatment Plant as the preferred primary source. Truck movements were discussed (currently approved up to 17 per day, with a possible temporary increase to 20 per day until a pipeline is operational). Context was provided on the river allocation and the project's indicative requirements.

Other discussion and actions

Additional discussion covered early engagement with the NSW Rural Fire Service, decommissioning and rehabilitation considerations, flooding/access issues, and confirmation that the HSP option remains in the scoping report but is not intended to be progressed within the Modification Report. EnergyAustralia also outlined the proposed establishment of a Canyonleigh Road Developer Reference Group to coordinate road planning, fire management, environmental considerations and communications to residents.

Next Community Reference Group meeting: 29 April 2026.

For more information visit: www.marulangasfiredpower.com.au or email: community@energyaustralia.com.au