

Utility-scale batteries

Yallourn Energy Security Precinct

EnergyAustralia recognises that the Yallourn Energy Security Precinct is proposed on the traditional lands of the Brayakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation. We recognise their continued connection to land, waterways and community and we pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Summary

- EnergyAustralia is proposing to build three new utility-scale batteries at the Yallourn Energy Security Precinct, with a combined capacity of up to 2.7GW.
- Battery storage supports a stable, reliable grid and can help keep costs down for customers.

The Yallourn site's retirement in mid-2028 creates an opportunity to bring new development to the Latrobe Valley. EnergyAustralia is investigating a range of proposals at the site under the Yallourn Energy Security Precinct (YESP), including attracting data centre operators, utility-scale battery storage and gas-powered generation. These proposals would make use of the site's existing grid connections, gas pipelines and skilled local workforce. As part of the Precinct, EnergyAustralia is proposing to build two new BESS up to 1 Gigawatt / 8 hour in capacity, as well as a 700 Megawatt / 4 hour BESS. These projects may create up to 300 jobs during construction and represent a multi-billion investment in the local economy.

What do utility-scale batteries do?

Large batteries store electricity when it's cheap and abundant, including when there is excess energy from renewables in the grid. The batteries then release it when demand is higher and prices rise. This helps keep costs down for customers and supports a more stable, reliable grid. Battery storage can also help keep the lights on when energy demand spikes.

What advantages of BESS to the wider grid?

Reliability – When demand for power rises, or on cloudy and still days when solar and wind aren't generating as much, batteries can step in quickly to keep electricity flowing. Together with fast-starting gas-fired generation, they take pressure off the grid when it needs it most.

Works alongside renewables – Victoria's energy system is generating more solar and wind power than ever, but the sun doesn't always shine when people need electricity most. Batteries help bridge that gap by soaking up surplus energy during the day, like when rooftop solar is generating more than households can use, and releasing it back into the grid in the early evening when demand peaks.

Fast response – the quick release of stored energy during periods of high demand helps maintain the energy supply and can help to keep costs down.

Utility-scale batteries

Yallourn Energy Security Precinct

Does EnergyAustralia already use batteries?

Currently we can dispatch energy from the Ballarat and Gannawarra BESS in north-west Victoria, and the Riverina and Darlington Point batteries in New South Wales. EnergyAustralia is also building the Wooreen battery alongside our Jeeralang gas-fired power station in the Latrobe Valley, with operations expected to begin in 2027 (pictured below). We are also constructing a new BESS in Hallett, South Australia and are developing another utility-scale battery alongside our Mt Piper power station near Lithgow, NSW.



Next steps

EnergyAustralia will lodge planning applications with the Victorian Government to develop a number of projects across the Precinct, including 2 BESS projects, in Quarter 3, 2026. EnergyAustralia will continue consultation with key stakeholders such as Latrobe City Council and the Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC) to ensure we have Traditional Owner input and respect Country and culture. We will continue to engage with members of the community about the Yallourn Energy Security Precinct project. We understand that any project we pursue must be good for the community.

Need more information?

✉ community.yallourn@energyaustralia.com.au

☎ 1800 574 947

📍 PO Box 444. Moe, Victoria, 3825

🌐 www.transformingyallourn.com.au

