



Australian Jobs Act 2013

AIP Plan reference code:

Australian Industry Participation Plan Summary - Project Phase

Nominated project proponent: RICHMOND VALLEY SOLAR AND BESS PTY LTD

Project details

Name: Richmond Valley Solar Farm

Location: Myrtle Creek NSW

Type: Electricity facility

Purpose: Establish new facility

Capital expenditure: \$500 million or more

Description: The Richmond Valley Solar and BESS project is a proposed solar farm and battery energy storage system (BESS) located in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales, approximately seven kilometres to the east of the town of Rappville in the Richmond Valley LGA. The Project involves the installation, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of up to 500 megawatts of DC solar electricity generation and BESS of approximately 2,200 megawatt hours capacity. The project will also include supporting infrastructure, inverters to convert DC to AC electricity, a substation, switching substation and transmission lines to the nearby Transgrid transmission network. As of December 2024, the project is in the final stages of securing its planning and environmental approvals from the NSW Departments of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure. Once these approvals are in place, the project is expected to commence detailed engineering design, enabling procurement processes to commence. All procurement entities that are appointed will be contractually required to comply with, and report against, the approved AIP plan. Procurement for the Project commenced in 2024 with the three major procurement packages expected to be awarded in 2025 as below: 1. BESS Supply: Contract award expected in Q1 2025, following a competitive tender process. 2. EPC: procurement strategy involves the appointment one Principal Contractor following a competitive tender process to provide the Solar Plan, BESS Balance of Plant and HV* scope. • RFT Issue – Q1 2025 • ECI – Q3 2025 • Construction commences – Q4 2025 *Ark Energy will consider decoupling the HV scope and competitively tender to HV specialists providers E.g. Transgrid, Lumea etc.). 3. Long Lead Equipment: • RFQ Issue – Q1 2025 • RFQ Award – Q2 2025

Completion date: 01 Mar 2028

Key goods and services

Indicative list of key goods and services to be acquired for the project:

Key goods and services	Opportunities for Australian entities*	Opportunities for non-Australian entities	Explanation for no opportunities for Australian entities
Engineering design services	Yes	Yes	
LV cable design and installation	Yes	Yes	
HV design and installation of substation/s and switchyards	Yes	Yes	
Plant hire	Yes	No	
Transport	Yes	No	
Labour hire	Yes	No	
traffic management services	Yes	No	
Supply of fuel/oil	Yes	No	
Accommodation, meals and entertainment	Yes	No	
BESS Supply	Yes	Yes	
BoP Works Construction Materials - Concrete	Yes	No	
BoP Works Construction Materials - Steel	Yes	No	
BoP Works COstruction Materials - Electrical Cabling	Yes	No	
BoP Works - Cooling Systems	Yes	No	
BoP Works - Fire Protection Systems	Yes	No	
BoP Works - Control and Monitoring Systems	Yes	No	
BoP Works - Protective Coatings and Insulation	Yes	No	
Bulk Earth Works	Yes	No	
PV Module Supply	Yes	Yes	
Pile installation	Yes	No	
Electrical Install	Yes	No	
Mechanical Install	Yes	No	
Cable Trenching	Yes	No	
Site Security	Yes	No	
Fence and Gates Supply and Install	Yes	No	
Waste Management Services	Yes	No	

* An Australian entity is an entity with an ABN or ACN

Project standards:

- Australian
- International

Supplier information and communication

Project proponent's contact person for supplier enquiries:

Contact person name Martha O'Connor-Velez
Contact person position Senior Procurement Manager
Phone number 0472866954
E-mail martha.oconnor@arkenergy.com.au

Project proponent website: <https://arkenergy.com.au/solar/richmond-valley/>

Project opportunities website: <https://arkenergy.com.au/solar/richmond-valley/>

Supplier engagement and communication actions :

- Promote project opportunities through industry associations
- Conduct supplier information briefings on project opportunities and bid processes
- Issue media releases or ASX announcements on project developments and opportunities
- Directly contact suppliers with information on project opportunities and bid processes

Building Australian industry capability

Supplier capability development actions:

- Provide market intelligence to suppliers
- Encourage joint ventures and alliances between suppliers

Global supply chain integration actions:

- Provide references for high performing suppliers

Feedback process for unsuccessful bidders:

Ark Energy will provide targeted feedback to unsuccessful Australian tenderers, ensuring it's relevant and industry specific. This feedback will include recommendations for development activities, like support programs and training, to boost their future tender capabilities. Unsuccessful tenderers will receive constructive feedback on their submissions' strengths and weaknesses, focusing on quality, compliance, and competitiveness. Improvement suggestions will be provided to enhance their future tender submissions. Notification to unsuccessful bidders will be provided in written, the notification will include an offer from Ark Energy for detail feedback through a verbal discussion. Procurement entities will be required to offer feedback, including training and development recommendations tailored to the tenderer's needs. Feedback will also be offered to unsuccessful Australian bidders and will include recommendations of relevant skills, capability, and capacity development. This approach promotes continuous improvement among suppliers, encouraging a cycle of development to improve their future tender prospects and overall performance.

Australian Industry Participation Plan Summary - Operations Phase

Nominated facility operator: RICHMOND VALLEY SOLAR AND BESS PTY LTD

Facility details

Name: Richmond Valley Solar Farm

Location: Myrtle Creek NSW

Type: Electricity facility

Key goods and services

Indicative list of key goods and services to be acquired for the new facility:

Key goods and services	Opportunities for Australian entities*	Opportunities for non-Australian entities	Explanation for no opportunities for Australian entities
Operation and Maintenance Services	Yes	No	
Ancillary Services (Clening, Security, Waste Management, Pets control etc)	Yes	No	

*An Australian entity is an entity with an ABN or ACN

Facility standards:

- Australian
- International

Supplier information and communication

Facility operator's contact person for supplier enquiries:

Contact person name Martha O'Connor-Velez
Contact person position Senior Procurement Manager
Phone number 0472866954
E-mail martha.oconnor@arkenergy.com.au

Facility operator website: <https://arkenergy.com.au/solar/richmond-valley/>

Facility opportunities website: <https://arkenergy.com.au/solar/richmond-valley/>

Supplier engagement and communication actions :

- Promote project opportunities through industry associations
- Engage with vendor identification agencies on project opportunities and bid processes
- Conduct supplier information briefings on project opportunities and bid processes
- Directly contact suppliers with information on project opportunities and bid processes

Building Australian industry capability

Supplier capability development actions:

- Provide market intelligence to suppliers
- Encourage joint ventures and alliances between suppliers
- Support supplier development initiatives of industry associations or governments

Global supply chain integration actions:

- Provide references for high performing suppliers

Feedback process for unsuccessful bidders:

Ark Energy and the prospective O&M Facility contractor will provide targeted feedback to unsuccessful Australian tenderers, ensuring it's relevant and industry specific. This feedback will include recommendations for development activities, like support programs and training, to boost their future tender capabilities. Unsuccessful tenderers will receive constructive feedback on their submissions' strengths and weaknesses, focusing on quality, compliance, and competitiveness. Improvement suggestions will be provided to enhance their future tender submissions. Notification to unsuccessful bidders will be provided in written, the notification will include an offer from Ark Energy for detail feedback through a verbal discussion. The prospective O&M Facility contractor entities will be required to offer feedback, including training and development recommendations tailored to the tenderer's needs. Feedback will also be offered to unsuccessful Australian bidders and will include recommendations of relevant skills, capability, and capacity development. This approach promotes continuous improvement among suppliers, encouraging a cycle of development to improve their future tender prospects and overall performance