



## INDEPENDENT CEO PROCEDURE?

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# SOLAR ON-SITE

## \$60m project at Horfield



JENNY DENTON

PRELIMINARY work has started on the site of the shire's latest solar farm.

On-site construction infrastructure, including sheds, workers' areas and storage facilities, has been established on the land at Horfield, 8 kilometres south of Cohuna, and work has begun on clearing land for the installation of solar panels.

The facility is being built at a cost of \$A60.5 million by Italian-based multinational renewable energy company Enel Green Power.

Six local people employed by construction contractor Tempo are currently working at the site, with worker numbers expected to increase significantly.

According to Victorian Government information about the solar farm, it will create 38 jobs and seven traineeships.

The 34.2 megawatt project, at 909 Leitchville-Kerang Road, will see an 82.5-hectare area installed with around 87,000 "bi-facial" solar panels that will track from east to west throughout the day.

Enel Green Power expects the project to generate up to 77 GWh of power a year, which will save around 71,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide being released into the atmosphere annually.

The project was developed by Peter Leeson, a Melbourne-based solar specialist with close friends in Cohuna, who on-sold it to Enel.

His company, Leeson Group, is now providing services for the development.

Enel secured a 15-year electricity supply deal with the Victorian Government for the solar farm when it was chosen last year as one of six renewable energy projects around the state that will underlie the Government's capacity to meet its legislated renewable energy targets of 25 per cent by 2020 and 40 per cent by 2025.

The first round of the Victorian Renewable Energy Target "reverse auction" called for bids for large-scale projects to generate up to 660 MW of renewable energy, 100 MW of it specifically solar.

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The site of the solar farm, at Horsfield, where sheds, workers' areas and storage facilities have already been established.

### Weather

TODAY Partly cloudy, 4-13



TOMORROW Partly cloudy, 4-14



THURSDAY Partly cloudy, 3-15



FRIDAY Partly cloudy, 3-15



SATURDAY Mostly sunny, 3-17



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