Mortlake Power Station Battery Energy Storage System Project

Origin is proposing to develop a large-scale Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) adjacent to the Mortlake Power Station

Who are we?

Origin Energy (Origin) is an Australian owned energy company and a leading provider of power to homes and businesses across Australia.

What are we doing?

Origin owns and operates the Mortlake Power Station in Mortlake, Victoria. Origin has approved construction of a large-scale BESS adjacent to the power station and within the boundary footprint of the existing facility.

Mortlake is Victoria's largest gas-fired generator, with a generation capacity of 566 megawatts. The proposed battery project has a capacity of 300 megawatts and is expected to deliver output of up to 650 megawatts hours with the ability to be dispatched over variable durations as needed.
Located adjacent to the Moorabool to Heywood 500kv transmission line, the power station also sits within Victoria's South-West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ), one of five REZs established by the Victorian Government.

Why is the project necessary?

Increasingly, large-scale battery energy storage systems are playing an important role in Australia's energy transition, by supporting renewable energy sources and providing firming capacity and stability to the National Electricity Market. They do this by charging when renewable energy sources like wind and solar generation are plentiful and discharging into the grid during peak periods and other required periods. Large-scale batteries can also help stabilise the grid by providing short bursts of energy to correct faults in the network.

Current status

On 13 November 2023 the Victorian Department of Transport and Planning endorsed the amended Mortlake Power Station Development Plan and Mortlake Power Station Construction Environmental Management Plan to facilitate the development of the battery energy storage facility at Mortlake Power Station.
In December 2022, the Mortlake battery project was one of eight large-scale battery projects in Australia to be awarded grants under ARENA's Advancing Renewables Program, specifically for development of battery projects that utilise grid-forming inverters.

On 29 January 2024, contracts for the construction of the battery facility were signed with global energy storage systems supplier Fluence. The Mortlake battery facility is expected to be commissioned late in 2026 and will support further renewable project development.



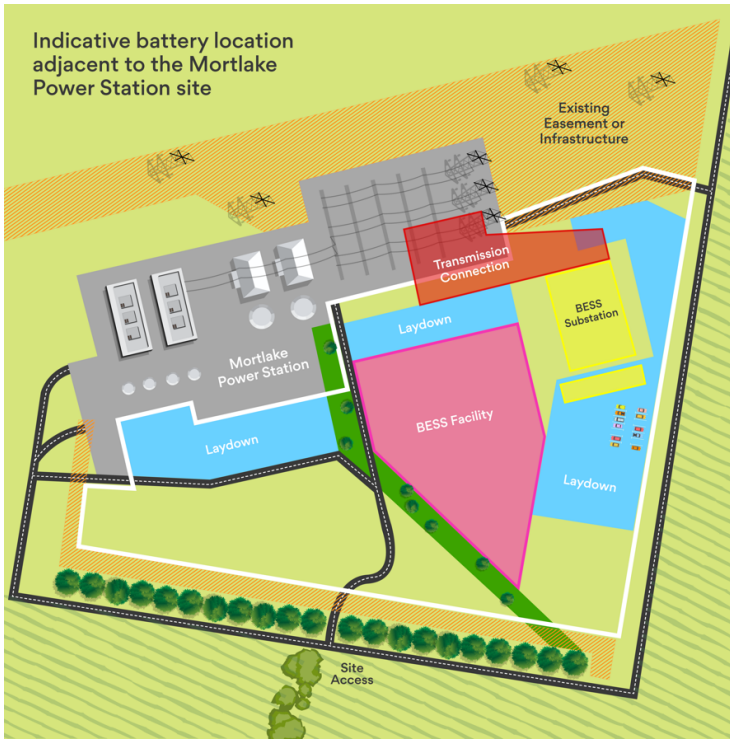


An indicative photomontage showing battery energy storage facility

Phase One Construction

The first phase of construction involves a period of detailed design activities, followed by a focus on site preparation and civil works, which will include:

- installation and maintenance of environmental controls including drainage and sediment controls
- upgrade of the construction access track from existing internal access road to battery location
- existing easement crossings to access battery area
- cut and fill to level areas and establish a hardstand pad, and
- structural works slabs to support battery modules, power conversion systems and transformer structures.



Our commitment to you

Origin is committed to keeping the local community informed as the project progresses. We will regularly update the community as key milestones are met.

For any questions or concerns you may have on the project, please get in contact via the below channels.

Visit us online: **www.originenergy.com.au/developmentprojects**

Email us at: **powerdevelopmentprojects@originenergy.com.au**

Call us on: **1800 677 315**

This Project received funding from the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) as part of ARENA's Advancing Renewables Program