

6 February 2018

# Media Release

## Employment opportunities on horizon as Bulgana Green Power Hub progresses

Updates on the progress of one of the biggest and most innovative renewable energy projects to be undertaken in the region will be shared at two information sessions in Stawell on Wednesday, February 14 and Thursday, February 15.

Residents are encouraged to drop in to the Community Information Session between 2pm and 7pm on Wednesday, February 14 to learn about the Bulgana Green Power Hub (BGPH) - a 56-turbine wind farm and 20 megawatt battery that will be located 20kms east of Stawell.

On Thursday, February 15, Neoen Australia will host a Contractor Information Session from 6pm to 9pm. Prospective job applicants are encouraged to attend to learn how they can best access information on jobs that become available through the project.

Both sessions will be held at the Stawell Gallery, 50 Longfield Street, Stawell (located at Pleasant Creek Historic Precinct).

Neoen's \$350million investment in BGPH is expected to create 230 jobs at the peak of construction along with many knock-on opportunities for local contractors and the accommodation and services sectors. The hub will provide ongoing employment for a small, permanent local team involved in activities such as maintenance and vegetation and pest management.

With construction expected to start in March 2018, BGPH project manager Matthew Parton said Neoen was eager to update the community on progress, to answer any questions and address any reservations about the hub and to ensure everyone understands the job application process.

"We really want residents to drop in on Wednesday, meet our team, watch the video, check out the map, ask questions and share ideas and thoughts in a relaxed atmosphere. We want residents to know what to expect during construction and to know who to contact should they have any questions.

"At Neoen we have a 'no surprises' philosophy which means we consult with the communities in which we operate, we listen to their concerns and ideas and encourage them to take advantage of the opportunities our projects provide," Mr Parton said.

At the Community Information Day, Wednesday, 14 February, potential job applicants can learn more about what to expect from the contractor session the following day, in particular what to bring along to support the job seeking process.

As a part of its commitment to the Stawell community, Neoen has established a \$120,000 per year BGPH Community Fund. This fund will be distributed under the auspices of the Northern Grampians Shire Council to community organisations each financial year for the duration of the project.

Mr Parton urged everyone to head along to the community information day, to chat with BGPH representatives about the project and to learn more about the community fund.

In a global-first, Neoen Australia, Nectar Farms and the Victorian Government have signed an agreement that will see 10 per cent of the hub's capacity provide baseload equivalent power to Nectar Farms – a 30-hectare greenhouse facility which is an international leader in intensive, protected crop farming. The remaining 90 per cent of power will be fed directly to the grid.

-ends-

**Media contact** – Joanna Stevens, Premier Strategy 0408288740



# Bulgana Green Power Hub Community & Contractor Information Sessions

## Keeping the community informed

Neoen Australia will hold two drop-in sessions for the community and contractors to share updates on the progress of the Bulgana Green Power Hub; one of the biggest and most innovative renewable energy projects to be undertaken in the region.

### WHEN

Community Information Session  
Wednesday 14 February, 2pm to 7pm

Contractor Information Session  
Thursday 15 February, 6pm to 9pm

### WHERE

Stawell Gallery, 50 Longfield Street, Stawell  
*Located at Pleasant Creek Historic Precinct*

During the community session residents are invited to drop in, meet the project team, view display materials and maps and learn what to expect during construction.

During the contractor session prospective job applicants are encouraged to drop in, chat to the project contractors and learn how to access information on jobs that become available.

For more information on the Bulgana Green Power Hub  
visit [www.bulganawindfarm.com.au](http://www.bulganawindfarm.com.au)  
or email [contact@bulganawindfarm.com.au](mailto:contact@bulganawindfarm.com.au)