

The Star of the South is Australia's first proposed offshore wind project

Located between 10 and 25 kilometres off the south coast of Gippsland, the Star of the South would be able to power an estimated 1.2 million homes at its full capacity, providing a reliable, consistent and environmentally-friendly source of energy for Victoria.

The project is being developed by a team of Australians, in partnership with leading global infrastructure fund Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners.

It's an exciting project for Australia, Victoria and the Gippsland region. The Star of the South would be one of the biggest offshore wind farms in the world and the first in the southern hemisphere.

The project involves:

- Installed capacity of up to 2,000MW
- Installation of wind turbines in the sea, between 10 and 25 kilometres off the coast of Gippsland, south of towns such as Port Albert and Yarram
- Approximately 25 kilometres of submarine cable route from the perimeter of the wind farm to transfer electricity to the coast
- Approximately 70 kilometres of underground cable route from the coast to the National Electricity Market in the Latrobe Valley.

Star of the South: Key facts

- Australia's first proposed offshore wind farm
- Located in the sea, between 10 and 25 kilometres off the south coast of Gippsland
- Capacity to power an estimated 1.2 million Victorian homes
- Potential for thousands of construction jobs and hundreds of ongoing permanent jobs
- A sustainable, reliable and clean source of energy for Victoria.



Benefits

The Star of the South would bring a new wave of industry and opportunities to Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley. Based on initial investigations, the project has the potential to:

- generate up to 8,000GWh of electricity per year, providing a reliable energy source for up to 20 per cent of Victoria
- drive investment and create new opportunities for Gippsland, the Latrobe Valley and Victoria by bringing a new industry to the area, with the potential for Gippsland to be an innovation hub for offshore wind in the southern hemisphere
- create a valuable source of clean energy, decreasing carbon emissions and providing a consistent, reliable energy source
- generate thousands of jobs during the construction phase, as well as numerous permanent jobs during its operation and maintenance period of 25 years
- avoid up to 10,500,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions each year and an estimated saving of 12,500 million litres of water.

Electricity generated by wind turbines in the sea is a proven form of reliable energy production. The first offshore wind farm was built in Denmark in 1991.

Dozens of offshore wind farms are in operation and construction across Europe, most notably in the UK, Denmark, Germany and France, and more are developing in countries such as the United States and Taiwan.

Timing and progress

The project has been in development since 2012 and a range of investigations have already been completed.

More detailed investigations will continue, to help confirm the feasibility of the project and provide a greater understanding of the wind conditions and ocean environment at the proposed site.

During the feasibility phase, the project will progress through Victorian and Commonwealth Government planning approval processes, which is an essential step for any major project.

If the project is found to be feasible, and subject to government approval, construction could commence in 2022. The project is expected to be built in stages, over a six to eight-year period.



Working with the local community

Through the early stages of development, the project team has met with a number of local stakeholders and community members.

The project is built on the belief that that local input is essential to developing and delivering a successful project.

As feasibility activities and studies increase, consultation will be more extensive, particularly within Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley, to make this a world-class project.

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