



**SENATOR THE HON TIM AYRES
MINISTER FOR INDUSTRY AND INNOVATION
MINISTER FOR SCIENCE**

MS25-001592

Senator the Hon Sue Lines
President of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear President

SENATE ORDER OPD 252 – Lambruk Solar Project

Please find attached response from the Minister for Climate Change and Energy,
the Hon Chris Bowen MP, to Senate Order OPD 252 regarding Lambruk Solar Project.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'T Ayres', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

TIM AYRES

Enc



THE HON CHRIS BOWEN MP
MINISTER FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENERGY

MS25-001592

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Minister for Industry and Innovation
Minister for Science
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Minister

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Tim'.

I write with regard to Senate Order for Order for the Production of Documents No. 252 moved by Senator Bell and agreed by the Senate on 24 November 2025, regarding Lambruk Solar Project.

I am pleased to comply with the order and provide the attached documents considered to be in scope of the order.

Text from the documents has been redacted where it contains personal details (names, positions and contact details of non-SES APS staff, private company staff and community members and associations) and/or where there is information unrelated to the request.

I would appreciate you writing to the President of the Senate to table these documents on my behalf. Thank you for representing me in the Senate on this matter.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chris'.

CHRIS BOWEN

Enc (1) Documents within scope of the order for Production of Documents

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:47:10 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 12 December 2024 12:14:19 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: 241212 - CALL NOTES (for file) - [REDACTED] - NSW - Lambruk Solar Farm [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon team,

Call notes – for new CRM case, at enquiry stage please [REDACTED]

I have just returned [REDACTED] call, regarding his concerns with the proposed Lambruk Solar Farm:

<https://lambruksolarproject.com.au/>

The project has been in feasibility stage for a few years and is yet to lodge formal planning submission.

[REDACTED] is on a small property, [REDACTED], and says there has been a “fair bit of backlash” from the neighbouring small rural block landholders, particularly concerned about the impact on property values (estimating \$2mil dropping down to \$1.3mil)

The proponents have run a few community meetings and started visual amenity studies; [REDACTED] says he has also spoken with CEO of company a few times. [REDACTED] also noted, in passing, that while the planning authority will be at State-level he was uncomfortable with proposed community benefit payments to the local council.

[REDACTED] was seeking general advice on “where do we stand (as small neighbours), why don’t they have to offer/provide neighbour payments?”

I outlined our role and discussed the policy/practice landscape of neighbour agreements.

Next steps

- * I will email to [REDACTED] (via [REDACTED]) the following links, along with link to our complaints page and RE-Alliance info (used earlier this week).
 - * <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-planning-framework>
 - * https://www.nswfarmers.org.au/NSWFA/NSWFA/Content/IndustryPolicy/Resource/Renewable_Energy_Landholder_Guide.aspx
 - * <https://www.aeic.gov.au/publications/considerations-landholders-entering-commercial-agreements>

Cheers

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

Acknowledgement of Country

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past and present.

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 12 December 2024 11:28 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: [REDACTED] please return call from [REDACTED] regarding Lambruk Solar Farm in New South Wales [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] telephone the 1800 number regarding Lambruk Solar Farm in New South Wales

[Lambruk Solar Project](#)

[REDACTED] has a few questions regarding solar farm and would prefer to speak to someone from our office.

Kind regards
[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:47:27 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

To: [REDACTED]

Bcc: [AEIC](#) [REDACTED]

Subject: Some quick references - re: NSW guidance on solar farm developments - and neighbour agreements

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Hello [REDACTED]

It was great to chat with you this morning and hear about your concerns and experiences (to-date) regarding the proposed Lambruk Solar Farm.

As mentioned, some handy references for you (below) – and please do not hesitate to follow-up with the Office to discuss, or if your direct discussions with the proponent aren't progressing: <https://www.aeic.gov.au/making-a-complaint>

In-case you haven't already – you may also want to sign-up on their website for community updates: <https://lambruksolarproject.com.au/latest-news-media/>

Cheers
[REDACTED]

NSW Farmers Association – *Renewable Energy Landholder Guide*

- * https://www.nswfarmers.org.au/NSWFA/NSWFA/Content/IndustryPolicy/Resource/Renewable_Energy_Landholder_Guide.aspx

RE-Alliance *Community Benefits Handbook (2021)*, an independent not-for-profit organisation that works with and advocates for regional communities, , includes a section on Neighbour Agreements (starting from page 21):

<https://www.re-alliance.org.au/reports>

Office of the AEIC, *Considerations for Landholders Entering Commercial Agreements* (2023)

- * <https://www.aeic.gov.au/publications/considerations-landholders-entering-commercial-agreements>

NSW Government, *Renewable Energy Planning Framework – solar farms – private agreements* (2024)

- * <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/policy-and-legislation/renewable-energy/renewable-energy-planning-framework>
-

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Australian Energy Commissioner
PO Box 24434
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

via email: aeic@aeic.gov.au

Re: Lambruk Solar Project – SSD-67436209

We are writing to formally lodge a complaint about the lack of consultation and misleading practices of the developer of the Lambruk (formally Acacia) Solar Project, Venn Energy.

The Canadian/Turkish developer, Venn Energy, is proposing a 1528 hectare site between Kia Ora Lane and Duri-Dungowan Road, stretching 8.5 kilometres from Goonoo-Goonoo Creek, in close proximity to Loomberah Road in the east.

It will contain 850,000 solar panels, 178 inverters, 16 hectares of battery storage and other infrastructure. It impacts 59 immediate neighbours, and at least 170 “visual non-associated receivers” – which is developer dehumanisation language for the local families, households and landowners.

The site is within 10km of Tamworth on land zoned rural and rural/lifestyle, and it is more than 30km outside of the New England Renewable Energy Zone (REZ).

The experience of the affected neighbours is the opposite of the description of how Venn Energy says it is/will act on its website <https://lambruksolarproject.com.au/about-us/>

“Venn Energy focuses on fostering respectful, transparent, and lasting relationships with stakeholders, particularly landowners and the local community, and is committed to providing access to clear information and seeking community input throughout the approval and development process.”

[REDACTED] was created to provide a united front for the local community to approach the solar developers, and support the ongoing promotion of the agriculture, lifestyle and concerns of families in the area.

As it was clear very early on that Venn Energy had a “divide and conquer” attitude to the local community, it appeared that solidarity and clear communication of the position of those affected was imperative to negotiations.

To date Venn Energy have not directly communicated with [REDACTED], despite requests that they direct their communications to [REDACTED].

As one of the early issues was conflicting information about the project being given by Venn Energy to different affected parties, verbally but not in writing, one of the [REDACTED] directives to landholders was to not talk to Venn representatives alone, and to invite one of the twelve [REDACTED] to also attend to attempt to keep the developer accountable.

[REDACTED] asserts that many of the affected landholders within a 4km radius, which was initially misrepresented on the original Scoping Report which shaved off 30 neighbours, have never been contacted by Venn Energy and are only aware of the project due to the [REDACTED] or via word of mouth.

This is an account by a directly affected neighbour to the project:

Tuesday 29th November 2022 was the day my world changed in an instant. I received a message from a friend about a large solar project in our area. Little did they know this project was effectively in my backyard. The developers were not the first to notify us of this project and their community engagement officers excuse was they were having issues finding addresses for neighbouring properties, but they could have been quite capable of performing a letter drop. And the community engagement has not improved since day one, Venn Energy have only been willing to attend one community meeting in Loomberah despite repeated invites and the meeting had to be on their terms including pre-set questions and a moderator appointed by Venn Energy, who turned out to be a renewable energy advocate with wind turbines on his property in southern NSW, so he was never going to be impartial or sympathetic to our fight.

The project was originally called Acacia Solar Project and was half the size of the current proposal with only one landowner involved. Fast forward 12 months of uncertainty and we receive news the project has doubled in size, with 4 more landowners on board and it has a new name Lambruk Solar Project.

The one meeting that Venn Energy agreed to after consistent approaches by the [REDACTED] had multiple rules imposed including a moderator appointed by them, and many of the questions asked by the community were not answered, and answers to basic questions have not been received despite follow ups from the [REDACTED] and community members.

A “Lambruk Solar Project FAQ’s” booklet promoted by Venn Energy included:

- **ABOUT THE PROJECT DEVELOPER:** “Venn Energy is an Australian renewable energy development company”, which is patently false.
- **ABOUT THE LAMBRUK SOLAR PROJECT:** “at full capacity could generate enough clean renewable electricity to power approximately 180,000 NSW homes”.

The number of homes powered figure is actually 126,000 based on average household power use, and that figure will decrease by 2.5% each year, as the solar panels lose full capacity. The community is concerned that overstatement of the project’s benefits, with the 180,000 homes powered being a major selling point on the Venn Energy Lambruk Project website and in all documentation, may falsely be used to justify its approval. The Venn representatives at the only meeting were unable to provide their calculations or any rebuttal of these figures.

- *OPERATION OF THE SOLAR FARM:*

1. *“Will existing agricultural activities continue on the project site? Yes. It is proposed that the panel arrays will be spaced..... for the land to be used for agricultural purposes, such as sheep grazing”.*

At the only community meeting Venn Principal [REDACTED] refused to confirm that agriculture would continue on the project site, citing insurance issues.

2. *“Will the project impact the value of my property. A 2016 review considered the potential impact of wind developments on nearby values”.*

It is disingenuous, to downright dishonest, to use a non-referenced review, conducted more than a decade ago, of international wind farms, to assert that this solar project would have a limited impact on property values.

[REDACTED] would appreciate direct, honest communication from Venn Energy and public meetings at which direct questions are able to be asked and answered. We deplore the “divide and conquer” strategy employed by Venn Energy, which appears to be an attempt to divide and weaken the local community.

The experience of our local community mirrors that of the [REDACTED] (Colbinabbin, VIC) and the [REDACTED] Solar Project (Geurie, NSW) for which Venn Energy are the developers.

We believe the lack of direct consultation with all affected landowners within a 4km radius is contrary to guidelines and that this should be rectified.

There is no “social licence” whatsoever for this project, no meaningful compensation for the adversely affected neighbours and the permanent loss of high quality agricultural land threatening food security is an issue for all Australians.

We believe there should not be short lifespan “renewables” projects on highly productive land, especially where they threaten homes, livelihoods, the community and the environment.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On behalf of

[REDACTED]

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:47:59 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Thu, 19 Jun 2025 07:42:43

Sent: Thu, 19 Jun 2025 07:42:27

To: [AEIC](#)

Subject: Re: AEIC - [REDACTED], AEIC Ref(CAS-01720)

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

OFFICIAL

Dear [REDACTED]

As requested below, [REDACTED] Inc. grants you permission to share the information that we have provided via email and in the pdf document.

Regards,
[REDACTED]

□
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

OFFICIAL

On Thursday, 19 June 2025 at 16:38, AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to email us today regarding your concerns about the proposed Lambruk Solar Farm and Venn Energy.

To assist us in handling your complaint, please complete the attached Complaint Form and send it through to our Office via email.

Alternatively, please respond to this email providing our Office with permission to share information that you have provided with other relevant parties for the purposes of handling your complaint.

You can also refer to our website, which outlines the information we require to assess and accept a complaint:

<https://www.aeic.gov.au/making-a-complaint>

I will be in contact in the coming week to discuss your concerns however, if you have any questions or need further assistance in the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Kind regards,

[Redacted signature]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

[Redacted address] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



Acknowledgement of Country

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OFFICIAL

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Thursday, 19 June 2025 4:11 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: AEIC - Loomberah Families & Farmland Inc. / Lambruk Solar Project

Attn: Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Re Complaint: [Lambruk Solar Project - SSD-67436209](#)

Developer: Venn Energy

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a letter from [REDACTED] to lodge a complaint against the developer of the Lambruk Solar Project, Venn Energy.

One form of practical resolution that we seek is for Venn Energy to correspond directly with our group so that we are able to ensure that consistent, accurate information is able to be disseminated to our community.

Despite correspondence requesting that they do this they are yet to acknowledge or correspond directly with [REDACTED]

Please advise your receipt of this correspondence and its status in due course.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

----- IMPORTANT - This email and any attachments have been issued by the Commonwealth of Australia (Commonwealth). The material transmitted is for the use of the intended recipient only and may contain confidential, legally privileged, copyright or personal information. You should not copy, use or disclose it without authorisation from the Commonwealth. It is your responsibility to check any attachments for viruses and defects before opening or forwarding them. If you are not an intended recipient, please contact the sender of this email at once by return email and then delete both messages. Unintended recipients must not copy, use, disclose, rely on or publish this email or attachments. The Commonwealth is not liable for any loss or damage resulting from unauthorised use or dissemination of, or any reliance on, this email or attachments. If you have received this e-mail as part of a valid mailing list and no longer want to receive a message such as this one, advise the sender by return e-mail accordingly. This notice should not be deleted or altered -----



Australian Government

Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

26 June 2025

██████████
Venn Energy
Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
via email to: ██████████

Dear ██████████

Re: ██████████ Lambruk Solar Project

Within the last month, our Office have received multiple complaints raising similar concerns regarding the ██████████ Lambruk Solar Project ("Project"). The purpose of this letter is to refer to you the concerns that have been raised and seeking a response from Venn Energy to assist us in responding to these complaints.

The role of the Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

The role of the Office is to receive complaints from concerned residents about proposed and operating wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities and new major transmission projects, and assist the parties to the complaint seek and reach resolutions. Our complaint handling process is set out in the Commissioner's Complaint Handling Policy, available on our website at: <https://www.aeic.gov.au/publications/complaints-handling-policy>

Further information about our Office can also be found at www.aeic.gov.au

Concerns Raised

The complainants have raised the following concerns in relation to the Projects:

- Not all immediate neighbours were directly informed by Venn Energy, either in person or through a letter drop, about the proposal. Notably, one landowner situated less than 300 meters from the site boundary claims to have only been informed directly in 2023, after initially learning about it through word of mouth.
- Landowners situated beyond the 1 km radius have not been informed at all.
- There has been a refusal to engage with multiple invitations to community meetings held within the local and nearby communities, including Colbinabbin township.
- A small group meeting scheduled at the local hotel was cancelled at the last minute without explanation.

- They feel they have received minimal communication, information, and responses to their inquiries regarding the Projects.
- There are concerns that the Neighbour Agreement is insufficient.
- It is alleged that a meeting agreed to by Venn after multiple requests for the Lambruk Solar Project came with numerous conditions, including a moderator appointed by Venn. Furthermore, it is claimed that many community queries were left unanswered, and responses to basic questions have not been received despite follow-ups.

Resolution sought

They are seeking the following resolutions:

- Their concerns to be thoroughly considered and effectively addressed.
- An increase in community meetings to ensure transparent communication and engagement.
- Meaningful one-on-one meetings with immediate neighbours to foster direct dialogue.
- Comprehensive responses to all questions and issues raised.
- Equitable compensation for adversely affected neighbours, considering the permanent loss of high-quality agricultural land, which jeopardises food security.
- Enhanced direct interaction with neighbours both within and beyond the 4 km radius to ensure inclusiveness and collaboration.

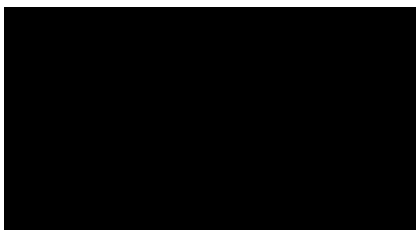
Next steps

To progress this matter, it would be appreciated if you could review the information provided about the complaints and the resolutions sought by the complainants. After your review, please advise us in writing with a response, including the actions you may take to resolve the issues raised. Please note that the response will be sent directly to the complainants to ensure transparency and clarity. If there are any concerns regarding the confidentiality of certain information, please supply a separate version of the response that will be withheld from external dissemination.

We would appreciate receiving a response by close of business on Thursday 10th of July 2025.

Please contact me on 1800 656 395 or via email if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner
Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:48:10 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

To: [REDACTED]

Bcc: [AEIC](#) [REDACTED]

Subject: 250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy re [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy re \[REDACTED\] Lambruk Solar Project.pdf](#)

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Please refer to the attached correspondence from our Office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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Australian Government

Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

01 July 2025

██████████
Venn Energy
Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne VIC 3000
via email to: ██████████

Dear ██████████

Re: ██████████ Lambruk Solar Project

Within the last month, our Office have received multiple complaints raising similar concerns regarding the ██████████ Lambruk Solar Project ("Project"). The purpose of this letter is to refer to you the concerns that have been raised and seeking a response from Venn Energy to assist us in responding to these complaints.

The role of the Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

The role of the Office is to receive complaints from concerned residents about proposed and operating wind farms, solar farms, energy storage facilities and new major transmission projects, and assist the parties to the complaint seek and reach resolutions. Our complaint handling process is set out in the Commissioner's Complaint Handling Policy, available on our website at: <https://www.aeic.gov.au/publications/complaints-handling-policy>

Further information about our Office can also be found at www.aeic.gov.au

Concerns Raised

The complainants have raised the following concerns in relation to the Projects:

- Not all immediate neighbours were directly informed by Venn Energy, either in person or through a letter drop, about the proposal. ██████████
██████████
██████████
██████████
- Landowners situated beyond the 1 km radius have not been informed at all.
- There has been a refusal to engage with multiple invitations to community meetings held within the local and nearby communities, including Colbinabbin township.
- ██████████
██████████

- They feel they have received minimal communication, information, and responses to their inquiries regarding the Projects.
- There are concerns that the Neighbour Agreement is insufficient.
- It is alleged that a meeting agreed to by Venn after multiple requests for the Lambruk Solar Project came with numerous conditions, including a moderator appointed by Venn. Furthermore, it is claimed that many community queries were left unanswered, and responses to basic questions have not been received despite follow-ups.

Resolution sought

They are seeking the following resolutions:

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- Comprehensive responses to all questions and issues raised.
- Equitable compensation for adversely affected neighbours, considering the permanent loss of high-quality agricultural land, which jeopardises food security.
- Enhanced direct interaction with neighbours both within and beyond the 4 km radius to ensure inclusiveness and collaboration.

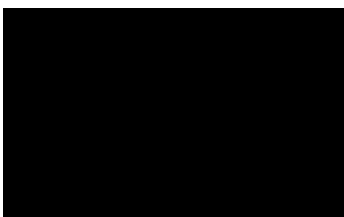
Next steps

To progress this matter, it would be appreciated if you could review the information provided about the complaints and the resolutions sought by the complainants. After your review, please advise us in writing with a response, including the actions you may take to resolve the issues raised. Please note that the response will be sent directly to the complainants to ensure transparency and clarity. If there are any concerns regarding the confidentiality of certain information, please supply a separate version of the response that will be withheld from external dissemination.

We would appreciate receiving a response by close of business on Thursday 10th of July 2025.

Please contact me on 1800 656 395 or via email if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner
Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:50:33 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Thu, 3 Jul 2025 04:19:25

Sent: Thu, 3 Jul 2025 14:19:02

To: [AEIC](#)

Subject: Re: 250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy re [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[image001.jpg](#);

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for clarifying and for revising the letter. We will prepare a response and get back to you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

On Tue, Jul 1, 2025 at 3:35 'a0PM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

The complaints received have raised the same concerns and practical outcomes regarding both [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project.

In the section for 'Concerns Raised', the first concern is in relation to both projects. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I have amended the above in my letter and specified which project the small meeting being cancelled last minute relates to which is the [REDACTED] Please find the revised version attached to this email.

If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 27 June 2025 4:22 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Subject: Re: 250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy re [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for sending the letter through and outlining the complaints which you have received from community members.

I've read through the correspondence and the list of complaints raised. In order to provide you with an accurate response, would it be possible for your office to revise the letter to separately list the concerns received for [REDACTED] and the Lambruk Solar Project?

Grouping the complaints under both projects makes it difficult for us to determine which specific project activities some of the issues listed relate to. This affects our ability to respond meaningfully, particularly as the projects are at different development stages and have different engagement histories and community contexts.

We would also appreciate knowing which landowner located within 300 metres of a project reported not being directly informed, as this will help us investigate the matter more accurately and respond appropriately. Without this detail, it is difficult to address the claim in a meaningful way, however we also understand if for confidentiality reasons, you are unable to share this detail. We would appreciate it if you can share which project this complaint applies to, if you are unable to share the landowner details.

We would greatly appreciate any clarification you can provide.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

On Thu, Jun 26, 2025 at 4:45 'a0PM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Please refer to the attached correspondence from our Office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

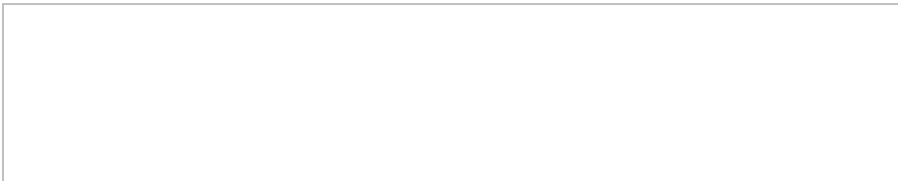
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] IPO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



OFFICIAL

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Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:50:41 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Mon, 7 Jul 2025 01:40:12

Sent: Mon, 7 Jul 2025 01:39:54

To: [AEIC](#)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Att: [REDACTED] - 250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy [REDACTED] and Lambruk Solar Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[Outlook-v2uhr2kv.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Apologies for introducing myself over email, I just started with Venn Energy last week.

I left a voicemail with you this morning just after 9am regarding the correspondence below. If you get the chance, could you please return my call regarding the format of response to AEIC enquiries.

I look forward to hearing from you,

[REDACTED]

VENN ENERGY



Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA | 3000

119 Spadina Avenue, Suite 304, Toronto, ON, CANADA | M5Y 2L1

Gümüşsuyu, Adriyatik Apt, Mete Cd. No:3 D:No: 16, 34437 Beyoğlu/İstanbul, Turkey

Mobile: +61 480 801 515

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

OFFICIAL

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **AEIC** <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Date: Tue, Jul 1, 2025 at 3:35 'a0PM

Subject: RE: 250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project [SEC=OFFICIAL]

To: [REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your email.

The complaints received have raised the same concerns and practical outcomes regarding both [REDACTED] and Lambruk Solar Project.

In the section for 'Concerns Raised', the first concern is in relation to both projects. [REDACTED]

I have amended the above in my letter and specified which project the small meeting being cancelled last minute relates to which is the [REDACTED]. Please find the revised version attached to this email.

If you have any further questions, please let me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



Acknowledgement of Country

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>

Sent: Friday, 27 June 2025 4:22 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Subject: Re: 250626 - Correspondence from AEIC to Venn Energy re [REDACTED] and Lambruk Solar Project
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for sending the letter through and outlining the complaints which you have received from community members. I've read through the correspondence and the list of complaints raised. In order to provide you with an accurate response, would it be possible for your office to revise the letter to separately list the concerns received for the [REDACTED] and the Lambruk Solar Project?

Grouping the complaints under both projects makes it difficult for us to determine which specific project activities some of the issues listed relate to. This affects our ability to respond meaningfully, particularly as the projects are at different development stages and have different engagement histories and community contexts.

We would also appreciate knowing which landowner located within 300 metres of a project reported not being directly informed, as this will help us investigate the matter more accurately and respond appropriately. Without this detail, it is difficult to address the claim in a meaningful way, however we also understand if for confidentiality reasons, you are unable to share this detail. We would appreciate it if you can share which project this complaint applies to, if you are unable to share the landowner details.

We would greatly appreciate any clarification you can provide.

Kind regards,

OFFICIAL

On Thu, Jun 26, 2025 at 4:45 'a0PM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Please refer to the attached correspondence from our Office.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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OFFICIAL

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--

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:50:49 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Thu, 10 Jul 2025 08:41:18

Sent: Thu, 10 Jul 2025 18:40:23

To: [AEIC](#)

Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[venn-logo.png](#); [Venn response to AEIC_10 July 2025.pdf](#); [Venn response to AEIC_\[REDACTED\]10 July 2025.pdf](#);
[Venn response to AEIC_Lambruk Solar Project_10 July 2025.pdf](#);

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find *attached* copies of the following:

- * Private and Confidential - Response to AEIC;
- * [REDACTED]
- * Response in relation to Lambruk Solar Project.

As discussed with [REDACTED] of our office, we have separated the responses according to Project so that it makes it easier to follow.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VENN ENERGY



Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

10 July 2025

Private and Confidential - [REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner – ONLY

PO Box 24434

Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: AEIC complaints – Venn Energy Solar Projects – AEIC COPY ONLY

Thank you for your letter of 1 July 2025 outlining community concerns regarding our Lambruk and [REDACTED] Solar Projects.

As mentioned in our phone call earlier this week, we value the AEIC’s role in facilitating open dialogue between project proponents and local residents and are grateful for the opportunity to respond to the issues raised.

As advised, we have separated the responses below by Project, to make it easier for AEIC to respond in the same manner.

Next steps

For both projects we have outlined next steps in responses below; however as an additional assurance to AEIC, we have included a copy of our proposed implementation plan for Lambruk. Please note, this information is not public yet, the dates are to be confirmed, so we request that this information be only circulated within AEIC.

Upcoming activities through to December 2025 include:

- meetings with landowners and near neighbours to discuss the EIS process and next steps
- continued engagement with industry and local businesses, and
- information sessions prior to EIS submission.

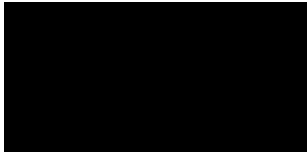
Venn Energy has recently appointed a Community Engagement Manager, [REDACTED], to support communication and engagement.

While we believe our engagement efforts have been comprehensive, we are committed to continuous improvement. The new Community Engagement Manager will work on the ground to support proactive outreach through one-on-one meetings, drop-in sessions, online briefings, and webinars at key project stages to ensure community feedback is incorporated and evolving concerns are addressed.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with your office to provide a detailed briefing on our projects and to discuss any further questions or suggestions.

Please advise your availability, and do not hesitate to contact me directly on [REDACTED] at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely



Timing	Activity and Engagement Methods	Purpose	Target audience
To inform EIS			
August 2025	Stakeholder contact: letters, emails, in-person/virtual meetings, phone call	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an overview of what we heard and next steps. Outline EIS process and potential impacts, and how these will be addressed during the EIS development. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding residential community Adjacent property landowners Neighbouring businesses Non-government organisations (NGOs), utilities and government agencies Elected officials
September 2025	Community update: newsletter, webpage updates, email to database, dedicated phone / email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide project update, answer questions, outline EIS process and potential impacts, promote upcoming engagement opportunities, encourage sign up to EDM for project updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding residential community Adjacent property landowners Neighbouring businesses
	Direct neighbour phone calls supported by community newsletter. Offer of 1:1 meetings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide project update, answer questions, outline EIS process and potential impacts, promote upcoming engagement opportunities, encourage sign up to EDM for project updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbouring businesses Adjacent property landowners
	Briefing of Councillors and Council staff, and other statutory stakeholders (including those identified in the SEARS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform about project including new footprint, potential impacts and SSSA pathway; understand community values, priorities, concerns, risks and mitigations; capture feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council Government agencies
September 2025	Community information session: FAQs, factsheets, information boards, feedback forms (online). <i>To be promoted in print press, radio and social advertising.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inform about project including new footprint, potential impacts and SSSA pathway; understand community values, priorities, concerns, risks and mitigations; capture feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding residential community Adjacent property landowners Neighbouring businesses
	Webpage update: website, factsheet, digital advertising, letters / emails / phone calls to registered stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thank community and stakeholders for feedback, provide timeline and next steps for engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-government organisations, utilities and government agencies Neighbouring businesses and properties Surrounding residential community Adjacent property landowners
October 2025	Community newsletter and webpage updates: newsletter, website, factsheet, digital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce EIS submission, provide Planning Portal details, overview key feedback and how it shaped the project, outline next steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-government organisations, utilities and government agencies Neighbouring businesses and properties

	advertisement, letters / emails / phone calls		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding residential community
To inform public exhibition			
Upon exhibition start	Stakeholder letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce EIS exhibition period, invite feedback via Planning Portal, offer briefings or meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders that have had meetings to date. Neighbouring properties Sensitive receivers MPs Traditional Owners and Aboriginal groups
	Community update: website content, newsletter (subject to timing of exhibition), direct community email (to database)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Announce EIS exhibition period, invite feedback, promote engagement activities and key dates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding residential community Neighbouring businesses Adjacent property landowners
Upon determination	Stakeholder letter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarise feedback and engagement to date, thank contributors, outline how feedback has been used and next steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All stakeholders that have had meetings to date
	Webpage and community update: website update, newsletter, community email	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarise engagement activities, key themes and outcomes, outline how feedback was used and next steps 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surrounding residential community Neighbouring businesses Adjacent property landowners
Ongoing engagement – throughout construction and operation			
Venn Energy will continue to engage with the community post EIS approval. This will include regular updates, information about construction and detailed enquiry and complaints protocols. At this time, the CSEP will be updated to include an engagement methodology and approach to frequency of communication.			

10 July 2025

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

PO Box 24434

Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: AEIC complaints – Lambruk Solar Project

Thank you for your letter of 1 July 2025 outlining community concerns regarding our Lambruk Solar Project.

We value the AEIC's role in facilitating open dialogue between project proponents and local residents and are grateful for the opportunity to respond to the issues raised.

Notification of immediate neighbours

For the Lambruk Solar Project, we conducted four rounds of introductory letters to identified receptors between November and December 2022. In August 2024, we sent email updates to known addresses and performed a letterbox drop to remaining properties within four kilometres. While we acknowledge that a small number of landholders beyond one kilometre may have initially been missed, we addressed this with the physical letterbox drop in August 2024.

Community meetings

To ensure meaningful engagement, we convened a drop-in session on 22 December 2022 prior to lodging the scoping report, a moderated town hall at Loomberah Memorial Hall on 28 May 2024 where questions were collected and answered either during or after the event, and an online meeting on 21 August 2024. A moderator was present to ensure a productive, safe, and respectful environment. These events demonstrate our commitment to open and respectful dialogue.

Open communication channels

Our communication platforms include a dedicated project website with FAQs, quarterly newsletters, and a community hotline by phone and email. All enquiries are logged, and information is provided as specialist studies progress. Stakeholders who feel their questions remain unanswered are encouraged to resubmit them via our hotline to ensure thorough responses.

Neighbour agreements

Neighbour agreements for the Lambruk Solar Project are commercial, opt-in contracts negotiated individually, with no obligation for landholders to sign unless satisfied with the terms.

Project update

Since our last community newsletter in March 2025, we have continued detailed work on surveys, technical, and environmental studies. Improvements have been made to the footprint with assessments at varying stages. We have also maintained engagement with key stakeholders and the local Aboriginal Land Council to align the Project with community interests and cultural considerations.

Next steps

We continue refining the solar farm layout. Once a detailed project layout review is complete, we will meet landowners and adjacent neighbours to seek feedback and provide further information on the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The EIS assesses the economic, environmental, and social impacts of the project, aiding the community, councils, government agencies, and approval authorities in making informed decisions.

Upcoming activities through to December 2025 include:

- meetings with landowners and near neighbours to discuss the EIS process and next steps
- continued engagement with industry and local businesses, and
- information sessions prior to EIS submission.

Venn Energy has recently appointed a Community Engagement Manager, [REDACTED], to support communication and engagement.

While we believe our engagement efforts have been comprehensive, we are committed to continuous improvement. The new Community Engagement Manager will work on the ground to support proactive outreach through one-on-one meetings, drop-in

sessions, online briefings, and webinars at key project stages to ensure community feedback is incorporated and evolving concerns are addressed.

We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with your office to provide a detailed briefing on the Lambruk Solar Project and to discuss any further questions or suggestions. Please advise your availability, and do not hesitate to contact me directly at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:51:31 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

Sent: Thursday, 17 July 2025 2:07:16 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[venn-logo.png](#); [Venn response to AEIC_10 July 2025.pdf](#); [REDACTED]
[Venn response to AEIC_Lambruk Solar Project_10 July 2025.pdf](#);

Hello both,

I am not sure if you both had time to review the response letters attached from Venn last week, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Let me know your thoughts 😊

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



Acknowledgement of Country

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 10 July 2025 6:40 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Hi [REDACTED]

Please find **attached** copies of the following:

- * Private and Confidential - Response to AEIC;
- * [REDACTED]
- * Response in relation to Lambruk Solar Project.

As discussed with [REDACTED] of our office, we have separated the responses according to Project so that it makes it easier to follow.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

--

[REDACTED]

Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:51:39 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Fri, 18 Jul 2025 01:23:20

Sent: Fri, 18 Jul 2025 11:22:54

To: [AEIC](#)

Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[image001.jpg](#); [image002.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for letting me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

On Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:32 'a0AM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for providing the response letters.

We appreciate you separating the projects in your responses as well.

I will provide you with an update on the cases once I have spoken to the complainants.

Kind regards,

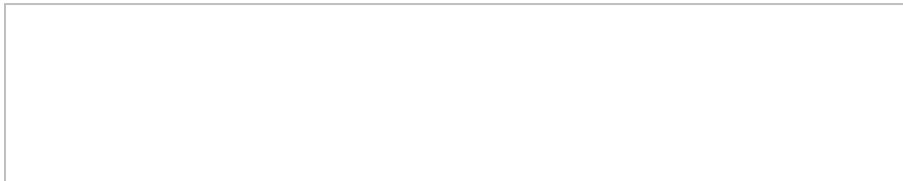
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 July 2025 6:40 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Hi [REDACTED]

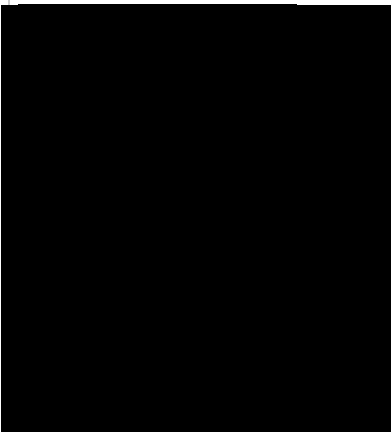
Please find *attached* copies of the following:

- * Private and Confidential - Response to AEIC;
- * [REDACTED]
- * Response in relation to Lambruk Solar Project.

As discussed with [REDACTED] of our office, we have separated the responses according to Project so that it makes it easier to follow.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

--



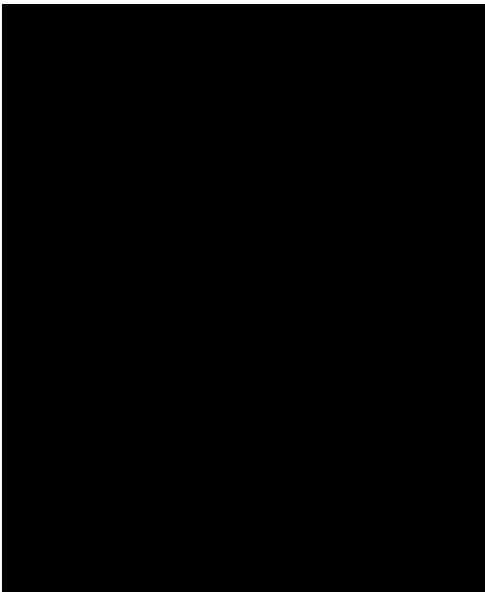
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Mobile: 

Email:  Website: www.vennenergy.com

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Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Mobile: 

Email:  Website: www.vennenergy.com

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:52:30 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

Sent: Fri, 1 Aug 2025 00:21:16

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

~WRD0000.jpg; Venn response to AEIC_Lambruk Solar Project_10 July 2025.pdf;

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

In relation to the Lambruk Solar Project, I made a mistake and forgot to include the practical outcome below in my letter.

[REDACTED] is a part of a group named [REDACTED] and would like Venn Energy to correspond directly with [REDACTED] to discuss concerns and obtain information regarding the Project.

Please note that [REDACTED] has provided us with consent to share her information with Venn regarding their complaint.

Could you please confirm if Venn is already in direct contact with [REDACTED] or if not, can direct contact be made?

I believe the email address for the group is [REDACTED].

Please feel free to contact me on 1800 656 395 if you'd like to discuss this further by phone.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, 18 July 2025 11:23 AM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for letting me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

On Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:32 'a0AM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for providing the response letters.

We appreciate you separating the projects in your responses as well.

I will provide you with an update on the cases once I have spoken to the complainants.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 10 July 2025 6:40 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Hi [REDACTED]

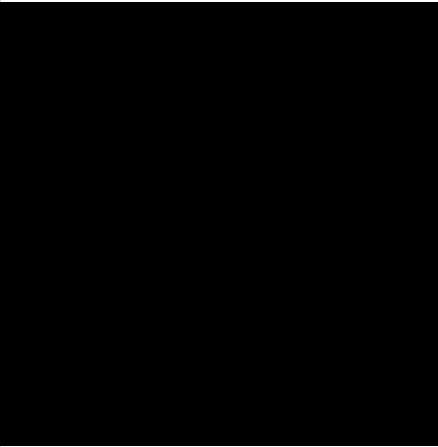
Please find **attached** copies of the following:

- * Private and Confidential - Response to AEIC;
- * [REDACTED]
- * Response in relation to Lambruk Solar Project.

As discussed with [REDACTED] of our office, we have separated the responses according to Project so that it makes it easier to follow.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

--



Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

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--
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Image removed by sender.

Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.venenergy.com

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:52:38 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon, 4 Aug 2025 03:50:04

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: DRAFT FOR REVIEW - [REDACTED] [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[Venn response to AEIC_Lambruk Solar Project_10 July 2025.pdf](#);

OFFICIAL

Hello ladies – Please review draft email below that will be sent with the response letter attached go to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Upon amending the below draft I realised [REDACTED] has requested –

“ One form of practical resolution that we seek is for Venn Energy to correspond directly with our group so that we are able to ensure that consistent, accurate information is able to be disseminated to our community. “

I raised this via email with Venn and [REDACTED] advised she will contact [REDACTED] directly to introduce herself and continue to be in contact as the project progresses.

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your patience and my apologies for the delay in providing you with an update.

We appreciate you taking the time to raise your concerns with our Office regarding Venn Energy and the proposed Lambruk Solar Project.

We have raised your concerns directly with Venn Energy.

Please find their formal response letter attached.

In addition to the letter, Venn Energy have advised that their Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager, [REDACTED], will be in touch with [REDACTED] directly and will continue to engage as the Project progresses.

Once reviewed, please let us know if you require further assistance from our Office or if you have further concerns to raise noting that we are unable to stop a project.

We will continue to monitor the proposed Lambruk Solar Project and remain in contact with Venn Energy.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



Acknowledgement of Country

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OFFICIAL

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:52:02 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

Sent: Monday, 4 August 2025 1:04:24 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

~WRD0000.jpg; Outlook-oe5lytr3.png;

Forwarding the below response from Venn to my email as an FYI.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 4 August 2025 12:41 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for following up with us to clarify the points below regarding [REDACTED]

With regards to previous engagement, Venn Energy has had contact with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] also including a meeting with some of the [REDACTED] members ([REDACTED] was not present) in August last year and we will continue to engage as the Project progresses. I will be in touch directly with [REDACTED] to introduce myself as part of our engagement plan issued in our correspondence to AEIC in July.

Thanks again [REDACTED] should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

[REDACTED]
VENN ENERGY

[REDACTED]

Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

OFFICIAL

From: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 10:21 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

In relation to the Lambruk Solar Project, I made a mistake and forgot to include the practical outcome below in my letter.

[REDACTED] is a part of a group named [REDACTED] and would like Venn Energy to correspond directly with [REDACTED] to discuss concerns and obtain information regarding the Project.

Please note that [REDACTED] has provided us with consent to share her information with Venn regarding their complaint.

Could you please confirm if Venn is already in direct contact with [REDACTED] or if not, can direct contact be made?

I believe the email address for the group is [REDACTED].

Please feel free to contact me on 1800 656 395 if you'd like to discuss this further by phone.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner
Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001
www.aeic.gov.au



Acknowledgement of Country

Our department recognises the First Peoples of this nation and their ongoing connection to culture and country. We acknowledge Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples as the Traditional Owners, Custodians and Lore Keepers of the world's oldest living culture and pay respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 18 July 2025 11:23 AM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for letting me know.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

OFFICIAL

On Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:32 'a0AM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for providing the response letters.

We appreciate you separating the projects in your responses as well.

I will provide you with an update on the cases once I have spoken to the complainants.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 July 2025 6:40 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Hi [REDACTED]

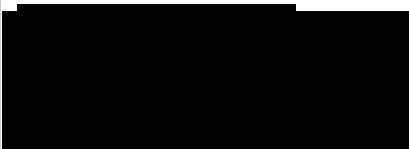
Please find **attached** copies of the following:

- * Private and Confidential - Response to AEIC;
- * [REDACTED]
- * Response in relation to Lambruk Solar Project.

As discussed with [REDACTED] of our office, we have separated the responses according to Project so that it makes it easier to follow.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

--



VENN ENERGY



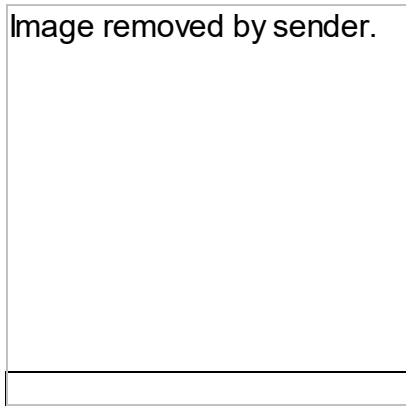
Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

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Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Mobile: 

Email:  Website: www.vennenergy.com

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Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:52:07 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

Sent: Wednesday, 6 August 2025 4:27:06 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Bcc: [AEIC](#) [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: AEIC - [REDACTED] / Lambruk Solar Project, AEIC Ref(CAS-01720)

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[Venn response to AEIC_Lambruk Solar Project_10 July 2025.pdf](#);

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for your patience and my apologies for the delay in providing you with an update.

We appreciate you taking the time to raise your concerns with our Office regarding Venn Energy and the proposed Lambruk Solar Project.

We have raised your concerns directly with Venn Energy.

Please find their formal response letter attached.

In addition to the letter, Venn Energy have advised that their Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager, [REDACTED], will be in touch with [REDACTED] directly and will continue to engage as the Project progresses.

Once reviewed, please let us know if you require further assistance from our Office or if you have further concerns to raise noting that we are unable to stop a project.

We will continue to monitor the proposed Lambruk Solar Project and remain in contact with Venn Energy.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



Acknowledgement of Country

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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 19 June 2025 5:42 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

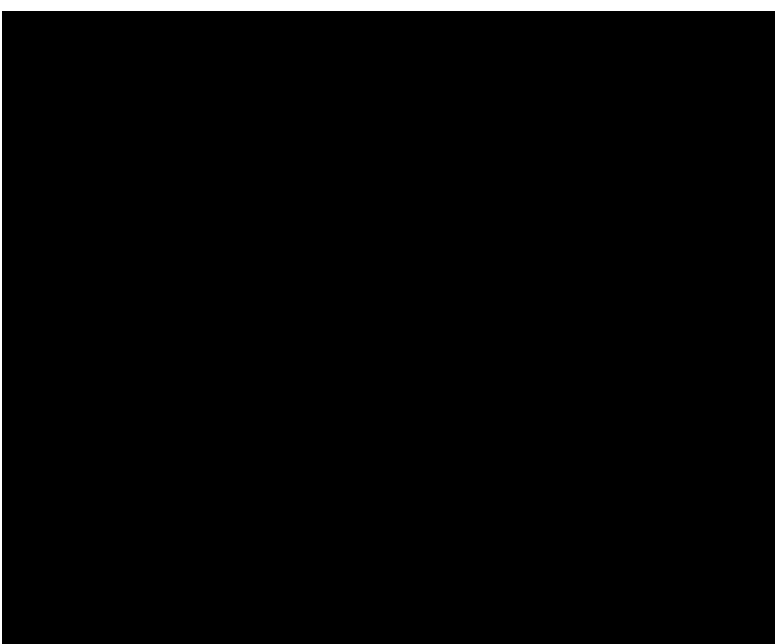
Subject: Re: AEIC - [REDACTED] / Lambruk Solar Project, AEIC Ref (CAS-01720) [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Dear [REDACTED]

As requested below, [REDACTED]. grants you permission to share the information that we have provided via email and in the pdf document.

Regards,
[REDACTED]



Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

OFFICIAL

On Thursday, 19 June 2025 at 16:38, AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for taking the time to email us today regarding your concerns about the proposed Lambruk Solar Farm and Venn Energy.

To assist us in handling your complaint, please complete the attached Complaint Form and send it through to our Office via email.

Alternatively, please respond to this email providing our Office with permission to share information that you have provided with other relevant parties for the purposes of handling your complaint.

You can also refer to our website, which outlines the information we require to assess and accept a complaint:

<https://www.aeic.gov.au/making-a-complaint>

I will be in contact in the coming week to discuss your concerns however, if you have any questions or need further assistance in the meantime, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 19 June 2025 4:11 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: AEIC - [REDACTED] / Lambruk Solar Project

Attn: Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Re Complaint: [Lambruk Solar Project - SSD-67436209](#)
Developer: Venn Energy

To whom it may concern,

Please find attached a letter from [REDACTED] to lodge a complaint against the developer of the Lambruk Solar Project, Venn Energy.

One form of practical resolution that we seek is for Venn Energy to correspond directly with our group so that we are able to ensure that consistent, accurate information is able to be disseminated to our community.

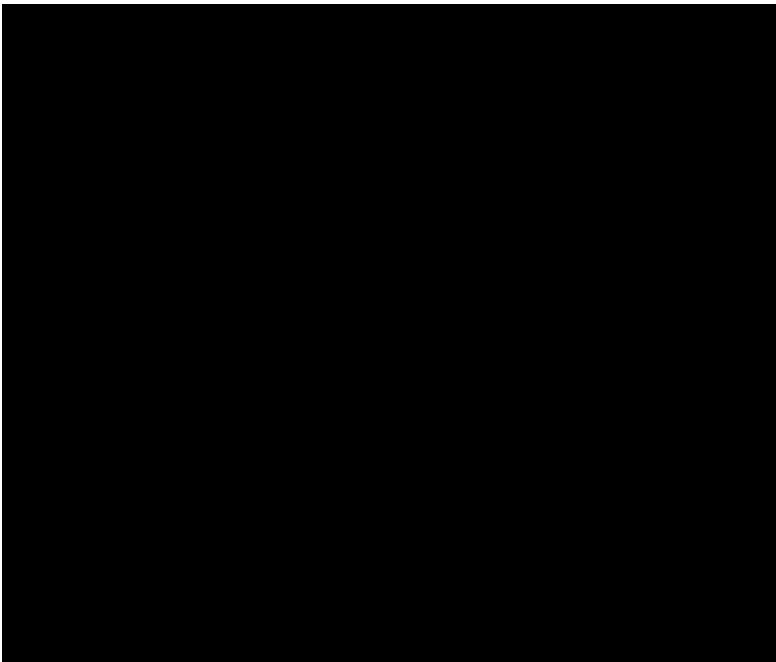
Despite correspondence requesting that they do this they are yet to acknowledge or correspond directly with the [REDACTED]

Please advise your receipt of this correspondence and its status in due course.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

On behalf of [REDACTED]



Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

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Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:52:12 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

Sent: Wed, 6 Aug 2025 01:43:52

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Att: [REDACTED] - [REDACTED] Update: Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you very much for the updates and information you have provided.

Appreciate your quick response and reaching out to [REDACTED] directly.

I will provide you with an update once the cases for Lambruk and [REDACTED] have been closed off from our end or if anything further is required.

Enjoy the rest of your week.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, 4 August 2025 6:12 PM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] Penn - [REDACTED] Update: Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good evening [REDACTED]

Just a further follow up regarding [REDACTED] I had a lengthy conversation with [REDACTED] this afternoon and it was clarified that while the members [REDACTED] have been receiving correspondence from Venn Energy individually, they would also like to receive all updates to the cumulative group email.

I have sent the group a copy of our August Community Update this evening, and we will continue to follow up and engage with the group as required.

Thanks again [REDACTED] have an excellent rest of the week.

[REDACTED]
VENN ENERGY



Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, August 4, 2025 12:40 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

Thank you for following up with us to clarify the points below regarding [REDACTED]

With regards to previous engagement, Venn Energy has had contact with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] also including a meeting with some of the [REDACTED] members ([REDACTED] was not present) in August last year and we will continue to engage as the Project progresses. I will be in touch directly with [REDACTED] to introduce myself as part of our engagement plan issued in our correspondence to AEIC in July.

Thanks again [REDACTED] should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to give me a call.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
VENN ENERGY



Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

From: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, August 1, 2025 10:21 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

In relation to the Lambruk Solar Project, I made a mistake and forgot to include the practical outcome below in my letter.

[REDACTED] is a part of a group named [REDACTED] and would like Venn Energy to correspond directly with [REDACTED] to discuss concerns and obtain information regarding the Project.

Please note that [REDACTED] has provided us with consent to share her information with Venn regarding their complaint.

Could you please confirm if Venn is already in direct contact with [REDACTED] or if not, can direct contact be made?

I believe the email address for the group is [REDACTED].

Please feel free to contact me on 1800 656 395 if you'd like to discuss this further by phone.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: 1800 656 395 | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 18 July 2025 11:23 AM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Hi [REDACTED]

Thank you for letting me know.

Kind regards,

OFFICIAL

On Fri, Jul 18, 2025 at 10:32 'a0AM AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au> wrote:

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for providing the response letters.

We appreciate you separating the projects in your responses as well.

I will provide you with an update on the cases once I have spoken to the complainants.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Office of the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Ph.: [REDACTED] | PO Box 24434, Melbourne VIC 3001

www.aeic.gov.au

DCCEEW.gov.au ABN 63 573 932 849



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 10 July 2025 6:40 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Venn Response to AEIC

Hi [REDACTED]

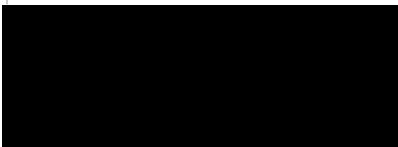
Please find **attached** copies of the following:

- * Private and Confidential - Response to AEIC;
- * [REDACTED]
- * Response in relation to Lambruk Solar Project.

As discussed with [REDACTED] of our office, we have separated the responses according to Project so that it makes it easier to follow.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

--



VENN ENERGY



Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

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--

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Level 22, Spencer Street 120, Melbourne, VIC 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

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Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:52:20 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Fri, 10 Oct 2025 03:34:09

Sent: Friday, 10 October 2025 2:34:10 PM

To: [Venn Energy](#)

Cc: [AEIC](#) [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

Subject: Fwd: Lambruk - Community Update October 2025

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Hi [REDACTED]

I have had a few community members say they have received the Lambruk newsletter and didn't sign up for it.

Can you please check your email out set up - or get your IT team to sort.

[REDACTED]

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

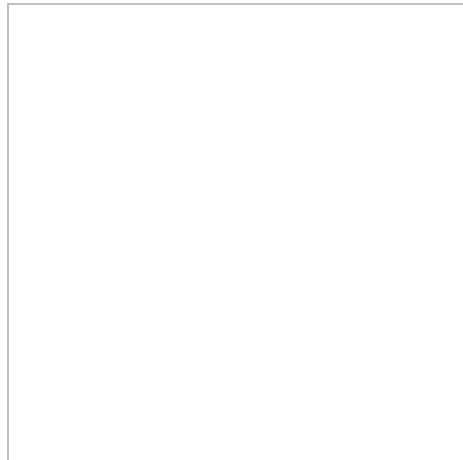
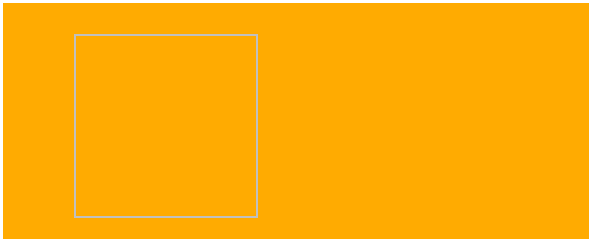
----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Venn Energy** <info@lambruksolarproject.com.au>

Date: Fri, Oct 10, 2025 at 12:31 'a0PM

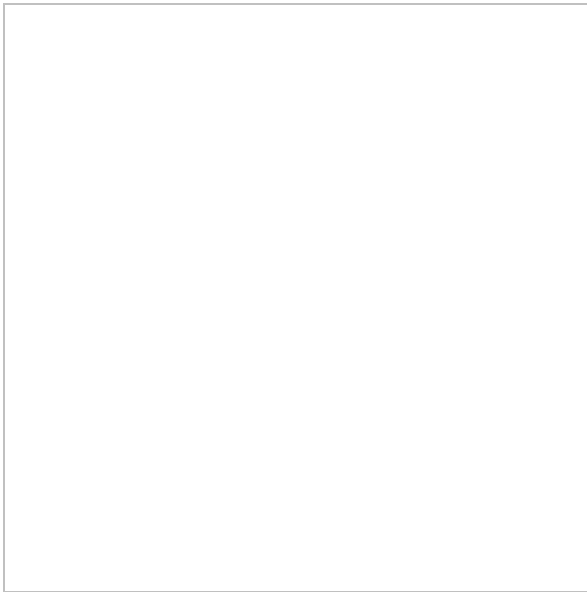
Subject: Lambruk - Community Update October 2025

To: [REDACTED]



Lambruk Solar Project Community Update

October 2025



Key Project Features

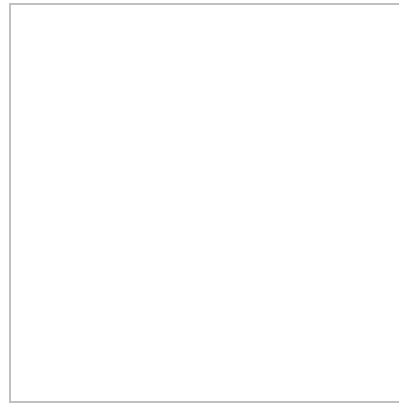
- *
Photovoltaic (PV) development with a capacity of up to 500 MW DC
- *
300 MW / 1,200 megawatt-hour (MWh) Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)
- *
Connection to the existing Transgrid 330 kilovolt (kV) overhead transmission line
- *
New collector substation

The Lambruk Solar Project is a renewable energy development that includes a 500 MW solar farm and 300 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), proposed approximately 15km southeast of Tamworth in NSW, near Loomberah and Timbumburi

Community engagement

In September, Venn Energy held two community drop-in sessions at Loomberah Hall and at the Tamworth Youth Centre ('the Youthie'). These sessions provided an opportunity for attendees to meet the Project team and learn more about the Lambruk Solar Project.

At the sessions, we shared maps, FAQs, and information about the planning application process, along with details of our anticipated project delivery schedule.



The event at Loomberah Hall attracted a strong turnout, with many community members asking questions about various aspects of the Project. We appreciate the local knowledge and feedback provided by the community during these individual meetings, as this allows us to refine the project design to minimise impact.

Our team remains available and willing to engage in open and respectful conversations with all community members.

Upcoming engagement

We are currently finalising the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and want to connect with the local community and answer any questions you might have about the technical assessments. The feedback we get from these engagement activities will help refine the project where feasible.

Talk to the experts

Meet the specialists who have undertaken the technical assessments.

1:1 meeting with the technical experts:

12pm - 5pm, Tuesday, 28 October, Loomberah Hall

[Visual and Glint & Glare](#)

[Agriculture/soils](#)

[Noise](#)

[Heritage](#)

[Biodiversity](#)

1:1 meeting with the technical experts:

9am - 12pm, Wednesday, 29 October, Loomberah Hall

[Visual and Glint & Glare](#)
[Agriculture/soils](#)
[Biodiversity](#)
[Hydrology](#)

Community meeting:

A short presentation by Venn Energy on studies that have been undertaken and the process to EIS Submission with Q & A.

5pm – 5:45pm, Tuesday 28 October, Loomberah Hall

Webinar:

Bushfire, traffic and social impact assessment experts.

12pm - 1:30pm, Thursday, 30 October, online

[Book webinar](#)

Community consultation outcomes

The EIS will document how the community and stakeholders have been consulted, their concerns, and how these concerns have been addressed in project revisions where feasible.

Recently asked questions

We value your questions and are committed to ensuring every community member feels heard. Below, we have compiled some of the questions raised during the engagement sessions and will continue to feature FAQs in upcoming editions of this newsletter.

What has changed about the project from the Scoping Report?

Following the Scoping Report, detailed technical assessments and community feedback have informed key changes to the Project layout including:

- *
- Reduction of site footprint by approximately 180 acres to further avoid and minimise visual, noise and biodiversity impacts.

- *
- Relocation of a number of battery units (BESS) away from the Project's site boundary.
- *
- Change from a centralised BESS to decentralised BESS, with the area originally identified for the centralised BESS to now be used as a temporary lay down area.
- *
- Alteration to internal access roads to reduce the number of watercourse crossings.
- *
- Removal of the southern access point to the Project Site as recommended by Council.
- *
- Incorporated Asset Protection Zones (APZs) and visual screening locations in the Project Site.

What is the expiry date of the panels?

Solar panels do not have a fixed "expiry date" in the traditional sense. Instead, their performance gradually declines over time. Typically, high-quality solar panels are designed to last more than 30 years. Most manufacturers provide performance warranties guaranteeing that panels will operate at around 85-90% of their original capacity at 30 years.

With proper installation and maintenance, solar panels can continue to produce electricity efficiently beyond their warranty period, although their output may decrease slightly each year. This long lifespan, combined with low maintenance requirements, makes solar panels a reliable and sustainable energy solution.

What is the decommissioning process?

The decommissioning process for our NSW solar project follows strict state planning policies to ensure environmental and community safety. Once the solar farm reaches the end of its operational life, we will carefully dismantle and remove all equipment and infrastructure as far as practicable.

The site will then be rehabilitated to a safe and stable condition, restoring the land as closely as possible to its original state. This process is carried out in consultation with local authorities and stakeholders to meet all regulatory requirements and community expectations.

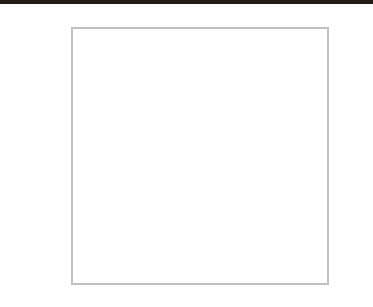
The decommissioning process is the planned procedure of safely closing and dismantling the Project once it has reached the end of its useful life. This includes removing all equipment and infrastructure, managing any environmental impacts, and restoring the land to a safe and stable condition, often as close as possible to how it was before the Project began.

The developer remains legally obligated to fully decommission the solar and battery assets at end of life and restore the land to its original condition. To ensure that obligation is met, a dedicated decommissioning fund, sized based on independent cost assessments, is built up during the operational period and can be accessed by the landowner if the developer fails to perform decommissioning.

If you have any questions or require further information, get in touch by calling 0485 840 493

Email: info@lambruksolarproject.com.au

Web: lambruksolarproject.com.au



P: 0485 840 493

E: info@lambrukolarproject.com.au

www.lambruksolarproject.com.au

Level 22/120 Spencer Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000

Visit the Lambruk project website

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[View in browser](#)

--

Please provide a receipt of this email and confirmation that any attachments can be opened and read

Yours Sincerely

[Redacted signature]

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:56:41 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Thu, 16 Oct 2025 01:30:39

Sent: Friday, 17 October 2025 9:15:48 AM

To: [AEIC](#)

Subject: Complaint - Re: Lambruk Solar Project / Venn Energy

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attn: Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Re Complaint: [Lambruk Solar Project - SSD-67436209](#)

Developer: Venn Energy

To whom it may concern,

As a concerned local resident and a member of the [REDACTED], I would like to lodge a complaint against developer Venn Energy's consultation procedures.

In a previous complaint we asked that Venn correspond directly with our Committee.

This complaint is directed at their "divide and conquer" form of community meetings, which we managed to disrupt on the 23rd of September by organising the local community and with a "show of force" managed to obtain a community meeting where the developers, who tried to keep us out of our own hall (with badly chosen local bouncers) were eventually persuaded to talk to the group of around 50-60 local residents.

This, of course, was not an ideal method of gaining open consultation, and it did not stop the head of the company telling baldfaced lies, but it did facilitate one message to the assembled group.

The community would appreciate Venn organising community meetings for all locals in future and decry their small groups only, pick them off and shred their arguments one at a time tactics.

After the fact Venn Energy amusingly spoke of the "good turnout" in a newsletter - not that they tried to prevent the meeting going ahead.

Please advise your receipt of this correspondence and its status in due course.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

□

[REDACTED]

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:56:45 AM
From: [AEIC](#)
Sent: Thursday, 16 October 2025 4:53:47 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED] [Tony MAHAR](#)
Subject: FW: Complaint - Re: Lambruk Solar Projuect / Venn Energy
Importance: Normal
Sensitivity: None

Hey [REDACTED]

We have received another complaint from [REDACTED] regarding Venn and the Lambruk Solar Project, we have a closed case in CRM for her for the same project: [Case: Case: \[REDACTED\] - Dynamics 365](#)

The incident they are advising us about sounds interesting which is why I am Cc'ing [@Tony](#) as an FYI.

Will send [REDACTED] an acknowledgement and discuss this further in WCR tomorrow for next steps.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



1800 656 395



aeic@aeic.gov.au



www.aeic.gov.au



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Acknowledgement of Country

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 16 October 2025 12:30 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Subject: Complaint - Re: Lambruk Solar Projuect / Venn Energy

Attn: Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Re Complaint: [Lambruk Solar Project - SSD-67436209](#)
Developer: Venn Energy

To whom it may concern,

As a concerned local resident and a member of the [REDACTED], I would like to lodge a complaint against developer Venn Energy's consultation procedures.

In a previous complaint we asked that Venn correspond directly with our Committee.

This complaint is directed at their "divide and conquer" form of community meetings, which we managed to disrupt on the 23rd of September by organising the local community and with a "show of force" managed to obtain a community meeting where the developers, who tried to keep us out of our own hall (with badly chosen local bouncers) were eventually persuaded to talk to the group of around 50-60 local residents.

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After the fact Venn Energy amusingly spoke of the "good turnout" in a newsletter - not that they tried to prevent the meeting going ahead.

Please advise your receipt of this correspondence and its status in due course.

Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:56:52 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Mon, 20 Oct 2025 23:24:02

Sent: Mon, 20 Oct 2025 23:23:48

To: [AEIC](#) [REDACTED]

Cc: info@vennenergy.com [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: 251020 - Meeting request to discuss the proposed [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project and Complaints [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[Outlook-5bhalh13.png](#)

OFFICIAL

Thanks so much for being flexible on this [REDACTED] - we are in a peak time of travel for engagement on each of our projects and appreciate it.

Have an excellent rest of the week and we look forward to briefing Tony and [REDACTED] next week.

[REDACTED]

Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

OFFICIAL

From: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Sent: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 10:20 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: info@vennenergy.com <info@vennenergy.com>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: 251020 - Meeting request to discuss the proposed [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project and Complaints [SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

Thank you for calling me back this morning.

I will send through a meeting invite for Friday 31st of October @ 2pm-2:45pm.

Please let me know if there are any issues with the invite when you receive it.

Thank you again!

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



1800 656 395



aeic@aeic.gov.au



www.aeic.gov.au



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OFFICIAL

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2025 7:03 AM

To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

Cc: info@vennenergy.com; [REDACTED]

Subject: Re: 251020 - Meeting request to discuss the proposed [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project and Complaints
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning, [REDACTED]

Apologies as I was travelling yesterday.

The dates you have suggested below; we will be out in the community hosting drop-in sessions in Tamworth for Lambruk Solar Project.

Is there a time this Friday, or next Friday that could suit AEIC?

I look forward to hearing from you,

[REDACTED]

VENN ENERGY



Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

OFFICIAL

From: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Sent: Monday, October 20, 2025 10:43 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: info@vennenergy.com <info@vennenergy.com>

Subject: 251020 - Meeting request to discuss the proposed [REDACTED] Lambruk Solar Project and Complaints
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good morning [REDACTED]

I hope you have both been well.

I tried to call you this morning [REDACTED] to organise a meeting between Venn and our Office, but I couldn't get through and thought I would pop it into an email.

We would like to set up a time with you to receive a project briefing on the proposed [REDACTED] and Lambruk Solar Project.

Our Office would also like to discuss a few complaints regarding these two projects with Venn.

Could you please let me know which date and time suits best:

- * **Monday 27th of October @ 3pm-3:45pm**
- * **Tuesday 28th of October @ 1pm-1:45pm or 3pm-3:45pm**

If none of the above works, please call me on 1800 656 395 to discuss alternative times.

Kind regards,



1800 656 395

aeic@aeic.gov.au



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Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:56:59 AM

From: [AEIC](#)

Sent: Monday, 20 October 2025 11:08:25 AM

To: [REDACTED]
Bcc: [AEIC](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Complaint - Re: Lambruk Solar Projuect / Venn Energy

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Good morning [REDACTED]

On behalf of the Commissioner, thank you for your email and raising further concerns regarding Venn Energy and the proposed Lambruk Solar Project.

We may also seek information from the proponent or others on the material you have supplied, and this may take a little time.

We recognise the importance of your concerns and will be in touch shortly. You can also call or email us if you think of any further information.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



1800 656 395



aeic@aeic.gov.au



www.aeic.gov.au



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From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, 16 October 2025 12:30 PM

To: [AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>](mailto:aeic@aeic.gov.au)

Subject: Complaint - Re: Lambruk Solar Projuect / Venn Energy

Attn: Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner

Re Complaint: [Lambruk Solar Project - SSD-67436209](#)

Developer: Venn Energy

To whom it may concern,

As a concerned local resident and a member of the [REDACTED], I would like to lodge a complaint against developer Venn Energy's consultation procedures.

In a previous complaint we asked that Venn correspond directly with our Committee.

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After the fact Venn Energy amusingly spoke of the "good turnout" in a newsletter - not that they tried to prevent the meeting going ahead.

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Yours Faithfully,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent with [Proton Mail](#) secure email.

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 9:57:04 AM

From: [REDACTED]

Mail received time: Fri, 31 Oct 2025 04:49:17

Sent: Fri, 31 Oct 2025 04:48:24

To: [AEIC](#)

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Update on recent engagement activities for Lambruk and [REDACTED] - Oct 31 2025

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

Attachments:

[Outlook-witwotb4.png](#); [image.png](#); [Update on Engagement Activities for Lambruk and \[REDACTED\] - AEIC 31 Oct 2025.pdf](#);

Good afternoon, [REDACTED]

Thanks again for arranging the meeting with yourself and Tony - it was a very valuable opportunity to give a detailed overview of some of the engagement activity that has been taking place.

As promised, please find below some key/high level detail of what engagement activity has been underway for both Lambruk and [REDACTED]

I have also *attached* a copy of the Powerpoint slides we went through today.



Lambruk Solar Project

Update on engagement activity:

Further to our previous discussions with the AEIC, where we confirmed our commitment to transparent and proactive consultation, we want to provide a clear update on the engagement activity undertaken. This activity represents a natural progression of the project development process and reflects the commitments we made from the outset.

Engagement activities from July 2025 have included:

- * **Neighbour meetings:**
 - contacted 21 adjacent neighbours to schedule meetings with our team
 - individual meetings with 14 adjacent neighbours to our team and principal planning consultant, that took place to go through study assessments and results through the week of 13th – 17th of October, the 27th and 28th of October and we still continue to offer these.
- * **Direct responses to enquiries:** We continue to respond individually to community members by phone and email, listening to their concerns, providing information, and encouraging them to sign up for ongoing updates.
- * **Local access to materials:** To ensure transparency and accessibility, we have also arranged to supply members

of the local action group to share advertising on any upcoming engagement or activities to the closed social media groups.

- *
- **Stakeholder briefings:** We have offered briefings to Tamworth Regional Council and local, State and Federal MP's.
- * **First Nations engagement:** Venn Energy sponsored and attended NAIDOC week celebrations and a Community Family Day to visit local businesses and providers to answer questions about the project in July 2025. Also, sponsored an Elder's Lunch in September 2025.
- * **Project communications:**
 - * Distributed a monthly Community Update introducing our Community & Stakeholder Engagement Manager and providing development timeline infographics and detailed
 - * Calls to surrounding neighbours to offer meetings– including direct calls to members of the Action Group to garner insights and feedback on concerns around engagement activities.
 - * Issued electronic updates directing community members to the project website to sign up for newsletters and alerts.
 - *Continuing monthly newsletters through the end of 2025, transitioning into quarterly newsletters in 2026, with additional updates as required.
- *
- **Community drop-in session:** Community Drop-in sessions were held to inform the EIS throughout September and October as follows:
 - 23rd September** - Loomberah Hall
 - 23rd of September** - *'Out of session'* – unplanned community meeting – 5pm – Loomberah Hall - approx 60-70 people attended
 - 24th of September** – Tamworth
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 - 28th of October** – Planned Community Meeting - Presenting summary of EIS assessment results – 5pm – Loomberah Hall - approx 50 people attended
 - 29th of October** – *'Talk to the Experts'* – Loomberah Hall
 - 30th of October** – Webinar on Bushfire, Traffic and Social Impacts - approximately 37 attendees registered
- * **Hotline and email:** Maintaining responsiveness via the dedicated Lambruk Solar Project hotline and email – info@lambruksolarproject.com.au and 0485 840 493

As mentioned, we will provide you with a run-down of [REDACTED] activity once we return from community engagement

sessions we are holding for that Project next week.

[REDACTED]

Thanks again [REDACTED] have an excellent weekend,

[REDACTED]

VENN ENERGY

[REDACTED]

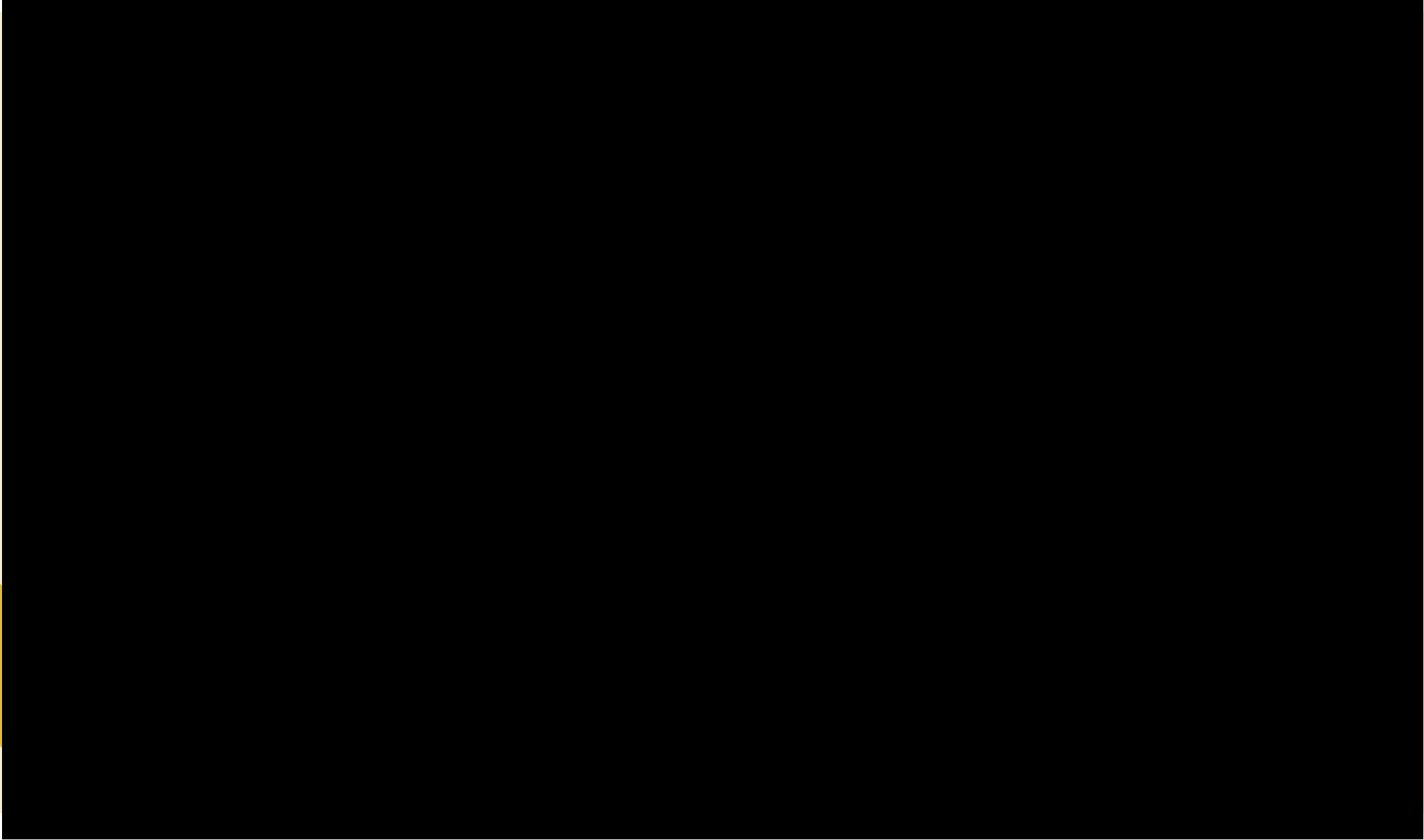
Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com

[REDACTED]









LAMBRUK SOLAR PROJECT

**Overview of engagement
activities since July 2025**



VENN ENERGY



LAMBRUK SOLAR PROJECT

August 2025 Community Update



The Lambruk Solar Project is a renewable energy development that includes a 500 MW solar farm and 300 MW Battery Energy Storage System (BESS), proposed approximately 15km southeast of Tamworth in NSW, near Loomberah and Timbumburi.

The proposed project has the potential to generate enough clean renewable energy to power 190,000 homes in New South Wales. The project is set to generate substantial environmental benefits and build a more sustainable future for the area.

With more clean, renewable energy powering the State, the Project will help the NSW Government meet their target to reach net zero emissions by 2050.

Project Update

We continue to progress with the preparation of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

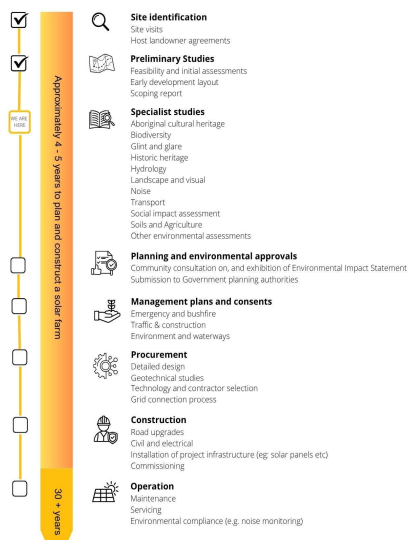
Working with technical experts, we are currently preparing the technical assessments and reports for the proposed project. Part of this process includes identifying potential issues and impacts associated with the current iteration of the development footprint, based on draft assessments completed to date. The project team is working closely with technical specialists to review and amend the current project design and development footprint to address these impacts.

The next steps for the Project include continuing detailed environmental assessments and studies related to the EIS. Once the results of technical assessments are further progressed, we will schedule drop-in sessions and we will notify community of this timing in advance.

We will also continue to consult neighbours and the broader community throughout the Project development to hear their feedback about the Project and initiatives such as benefit sharing and investment in the local community.

Project Development Process

Solar project indicative development timeline



**This outlines the typical steps undertaken by the developer but is not exhaustive and does not reflect all regulatory processes, government decisions, or the precise timing and duration of each stage

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – EIS

- We have been focussed on setting expectations around timing and educating local landowners and community on the project development process.
- Regular newsletters
- Emails to local Action Group
- Direct emails and calls to neighbours, surrounding landholders and wider-community
- We have engaged regularly with Tamworth Coalition of Aboriginal-Controlled Community Organisations (TACCO) and supported recent NAIDOC events – attending a 2,000+ in person event to engage and answer any questions that the local community may have about the project.





ENGAGEMENT CONTINUED ...

- We have continued engagement to hear community feedback with a focus on engagement prior to EIS Submission.

Holding detailed neighbour meetings – throughout September and October

- Community Drop-In-Sessions – General Project Update and Info
- Community Drop-In-Sessions – “Talk to the Experts” - Technical Assessments
- Community Meeting – Presenting summary of EIS assessment results
- Webinars with technical experts – Q & A’s

Archived: Wednesday, 24 December 2025 10:16:03 AM

From: [Tony MAHAR](#)

Sent: Sun, 2 Nov 2025 22:17:22

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: Att: [REDACTED] - Update on recent engagement activities for Lambruk and [REDACTED] - Oct 31 2025

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: Normal

Sensitivity: None

OFFICIAL

Thanks [REDACTED]

Good meeting notes – it was actually a good chat . I think Venn have some work to do but they were conscious of their position I think.

OFFICIAL

From: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Sent: Friday, 31 October 2025 4:09 PM

To: Tony MAHAR <Tony.MAHAR@aeic.gov.au>; [REDACTED]

Cc: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Att: [REDACTED] - Update on recent engagement activities for Lambruk and [REDACTED] - Oct 31 2025

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

OFFICIAL

Good afternoon,

Please below the meeting notes from today and [REDACTED] update provided at the meeting with the slides:

Meeting Summary: Venn Energy Project Updates

Attendees

- * Tony Mahar, Commissioner at AEIC
- * [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] Co-Founder and Managing Partner at Venn Energy
- [REDACTED], Community and Stakeholder Engagement Manager at Venn Energy
- [REDACTED] Manager Planning & Stakeholder at Venn Energy

Key Points

- * Update on Venn Energy's community engagement activities for [REDACTED] and Lambruk projects
- * Discussion of community feedback and consultation approaches
- * Review of complaint responses and community meeting requests
- * Overview of Venn's project portfolio and development processes
- * [REDACTED]

Discussion Items

Lambruk Project Engagement Activities

For the Lambruk project, which is approaching Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) submission, the team outlined their recent engagement efforts:

- * One-on-one meetings with 14 out of 28 neighbouring properties, providing property-specific assessment results related to noise and visual impacts
- * Monthly newsletters to the community with project updates
- * Community drop-in sessions and a community meeting attended by approximately 50 people in Loomberah
- * Attendance at NAIDOC events to engage with local community and businesses
- * Detailed discussions with the Loomberah Families and Farmland action group

The team emphasised their flexibility in meeting formats, accommodating both individual property discussions and larger community meetings based on community preferences. They noted that some neighbours preferred group settings while others valued private discussions about property-specific impacts.

Council Relationships and Project Support

The relationship with local councils was discussed for both projects:

- * [REDACTED]
- * [REDACTED]
- * Venn committed to not portraying council as supporting the project in their communications
- * Discussion about council's role in the Community Reference Group, with the council now taking a less directive approach

Project Portfolio and Development Approach

[REDACTED] outlined Venn's project portfolio and development philosophy:

- * Five projects in total, with one in construction stage in Queensland
- * Three active development projects: [REDACTED] Lambruk, and [REDACTED]
- * Focus on fewer projects with more attention and resources dedicated to each, rather than a wide portfolio approach

Communication Challenges and Improvements

The discussion highlighted several communication challenges and potential improvements:

- * Tony Mahar suggested improving website information to clearly show project timelines, approval gates, and current status
- * [REDACTED] acknowledged this feedback and confirmed plans to develop infographics showing the project development process
- * Discussion about managing email communications, with concerns about inboxes being flooded as a lobbying tactic
- * Acknowledgement that separating project concerns from engagement process feedback is important but challenging

Challenges

- * Managing opposition from some community members while maintaining productive engagement
- * Balancing one-on-one consultations with broader community meetings
- * Addressing concerns about land values and project impacts with limited available data
- * Responding to high volumes of communications and complaints that may be part of organised opposition
- * Ensuring clear communication about project timelines and development processes to manage community expectations

Additional Notes

- * Tony Mahar mentioned attending a webinar about the Lambruk project the previous day with approximately 30 participants
- * Discussion about land value impacts from renewable projects, with Venn noting that evidence suggests impacts are often overstated
- * Reference to a recent ABC article that quoted Tony Mahar regarding renewable energy projects
- * The Clean Energy Council recently released fact sheets about property and land values that Venn finds helpful in community discussions
- * Venn expressed willingness to receive feedback on any gaps in their engagement process

Next Steps

- * Venn to send detailed information about community engagement activities to AEIC
- * Venn to update project websites with clearer information about project timelines and approval processes
- * Venn to conduct drop-in sessions and community meetings for the [REDACTED] project next week
- * [REDACTED]
- * AEIC to close out the two complaint cases related to [REDACTED] and Lambruk based on the information provided
- * [REDACTED]

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]



[REDACTED]
aeic@aeic.gov.au



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OFFICIAL

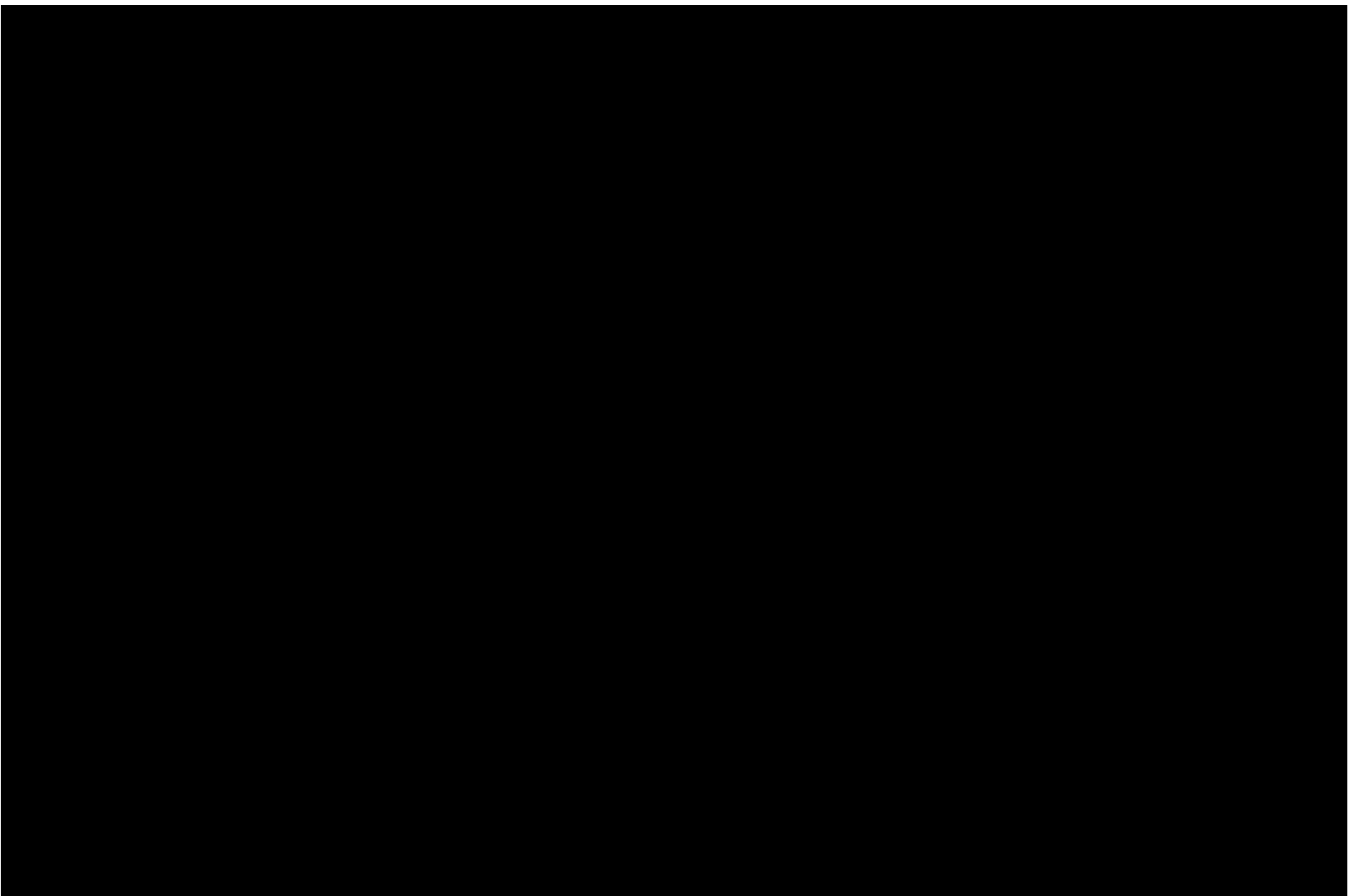
From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 31 October 2025 3:48 PM
To: AEIC <aeic@aeic.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Att: [REDACTED] - Update on recent engagement activities for Lambruk and [REDACTED] - Oct 31 2025

Good afternoon, [REDACTED]

Thanks again for arranging the meeting with yourself and Tony - it was a very valuable opportunity to give a detailed overview of some of the engagement activity that has been taking place.

As promised, please find below some key/high level detail of what engagement activity has been underway for both Lambruk and [REDACTED]

I have also **attached** a copy of the Powerpoint slides we went through today.



Lambruk Solar Project

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- * **Hotline and email:** Maintaining responsiveness via the dedicated Lambruk Solar Project hotline and email – info@lambruksolarproject.com.au and 0485 840 493

As mentioned, we will provide you with a run-down of [REDACTED] activity once we return from community engagement sessions we are holding for that Project next week.



[REDACTED]

Thanks again [REDACTED] have an excellent weekend,

[REDACTED]

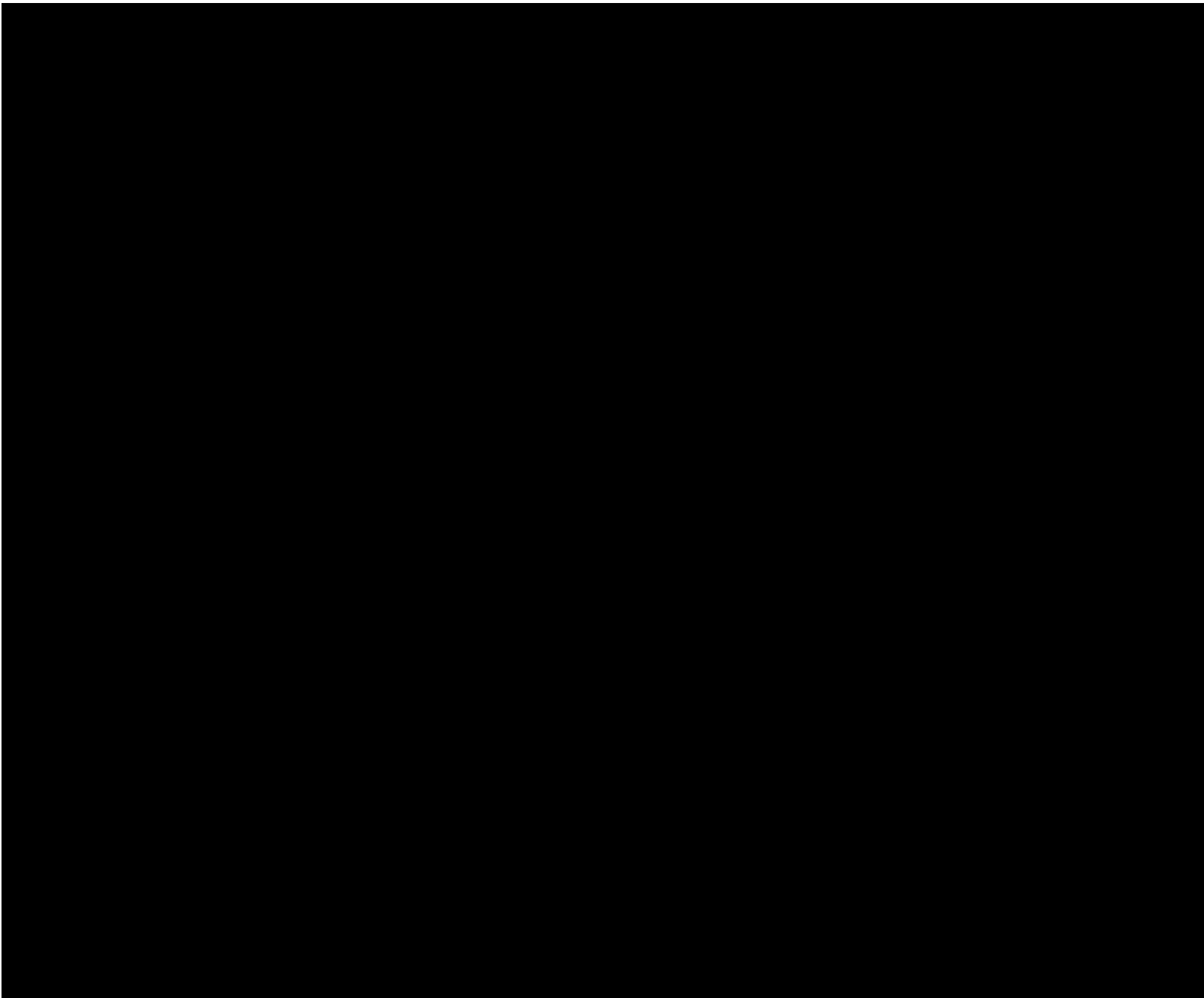
[REDACTED]

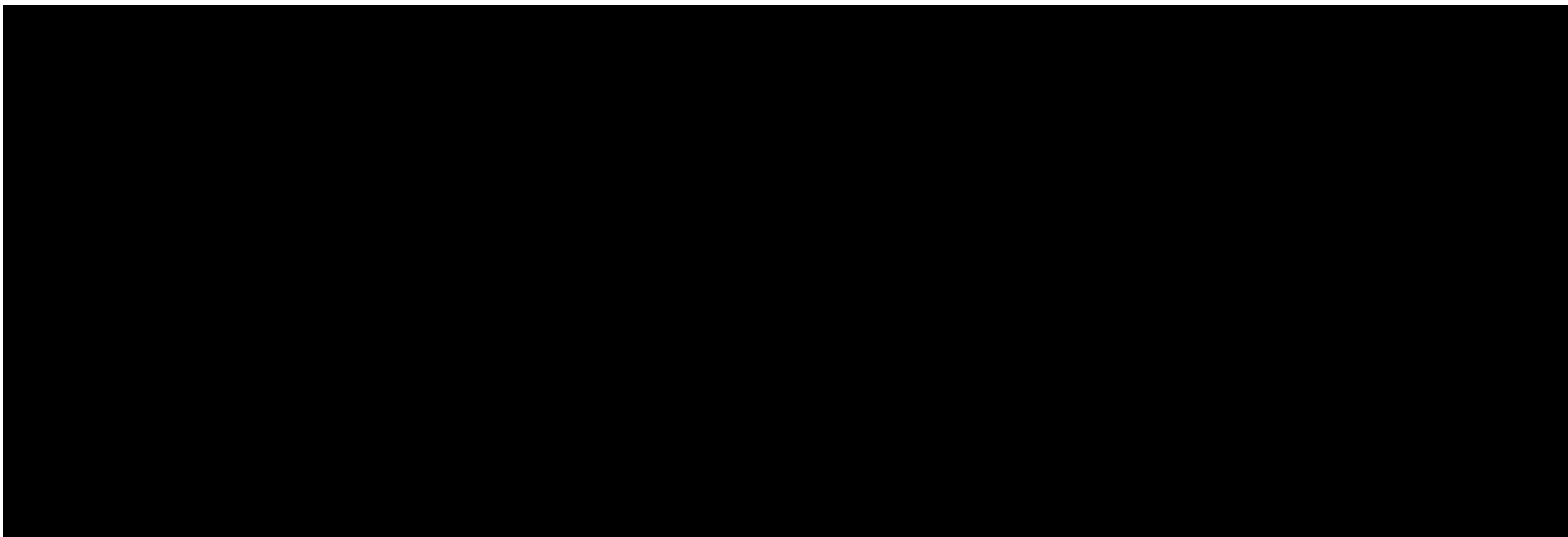
VENN ENERGY



Level 22, 120 Spencer Street
Melbourne, VIC, AUSTRALIA 3000

Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED] Website: www.vennenergy.com






CAS-01626 Timeline Notes (extracted from Dynamics CRM)



Modified on: 18/12/2024 12:34 AM

 Note modified by  



241218 - Requested information provided to Complainant in an email. NFA required from our Office and matter Closed

Modified On: 18/12/2024 12:34 AM

View less



CAS-01720 Internal Timeline Notes (extracted from CRM)

Modified on: 19/10/2025 11:27 PM

Note modified by [REDACTED]



251020 - Internal Note - Case Closure Summary

Case Opening Date: 19 June 2025

Case Closure Date: 17 October 2025

Complainant: [REDACTED] represented by [REDACTED]

Summary of Complaint and Resolution Sought:

[REDACTED] via [REDACTED] lodged a complaint concerning Venn Energy's consultation practices for the Lambruk Solar Project. The primary concerns included inadequate direct communication with affected landowners, misleading or insufficient project information, and the community's desire for direct engagement with the developer. They requested that Venn Energy communicate directly with their community group and conduct transparent, inclusive consultation.

Actions Taken by AEIC:

- Initial acknowledgment and receipt of correspondence from complainant (June 19, 2025).
- Issuance of formal correspondence to Venn Energy requesting review and clarification of community engagement practices (June 26, 2025).
- Follow-up communication to Venn Energy emphasizing the importance of direct engagement with [REDACTED] and ensuring community concerns were addressed (August 1, 2025).
- Regular updates and holding internal review meetings to monitor progress and community engagement activities.
- Communication of Venn Energy's detailed responses, including the community engagement measures, letters, and meetings conducted, to the complainant.
- Facilitated ongoing dialogue between Venn Energy and the community, including the appointment of [REDACTED] as a dedicated Community Engagement Manager.
- Persistent efforts to obtain and confirm direct contact between Venn Energy and the community group, as requested.

Did We Do What Was Asked or Needed?

Yes, we actively engaged with Venn Energy to ensure they responded appropriately to community concerns. Venn Energy provided detailed communication records, including multiple community meetings, newsletters, and direct correspondence, demonstrating efforts to meet the community's needs. The developer was asked to and did, in fact, establish direct contact with the community group and improve engagement practices. The AEIC monitored ongoing efforts and confirmed that Venn Energy had taken steps towards inclusive communication.

Outcome:

- The case was closed after confirming that Venn Energy had undertaken sufficient communication efforts, including direct engagement with the community group, and that no further correspondence or issues had been received by the AEIC as of the closure date.
- The community's concerns about consultation and communication had been addressed through Venn Energy's proactive measures, though ongoing engagement was acknowledged as beneficial.

Recommendation to Close the Case:

It is recommended that the case be closed as the developer has demonstrated meaningful engagement and responded comprehensively to community concerns, aligning with the expectations for transparent communication and stakeholder involvement. The community group has been informed of the ongoing consultation processes, and no further complaints have been received. Re-opening will be considered if new issues arise.

CP

Modified on: 17/10/2025 12:21 AM

Note modified by [redacted]

251017 - WCR Meeting

[redacted] to send acknowledgement - [redacted] to discuss with Tony about this case to determine next steps

Modified On: 17/10/2025 12:21 AM

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Modified on: 17/10/2025 12:19 AM

Note modified by [redacted]

250813 - WCR Meeting

Discussed case to be closed due to no further corro received. Case to be re-openend if Complainant comes back.

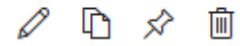
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Note modified by [redacted]



250711 - WCR Meeting Action

[redacted] to review response from Venn today, draft letter with Venn's response

Modified On: 17/10/2025 12:19 AM

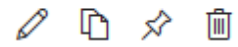
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WCR 6/8

Reviewed draft. Good to go. [redacted] to send


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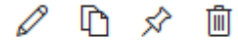


CAS-01818 Timeline Notes (extracted from Dynamics CRM)



Modified on: 27/11/2025 11:39 PM

Note modified by 



251128 WCR Update

Leave it open based on new correspondence received this morning

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