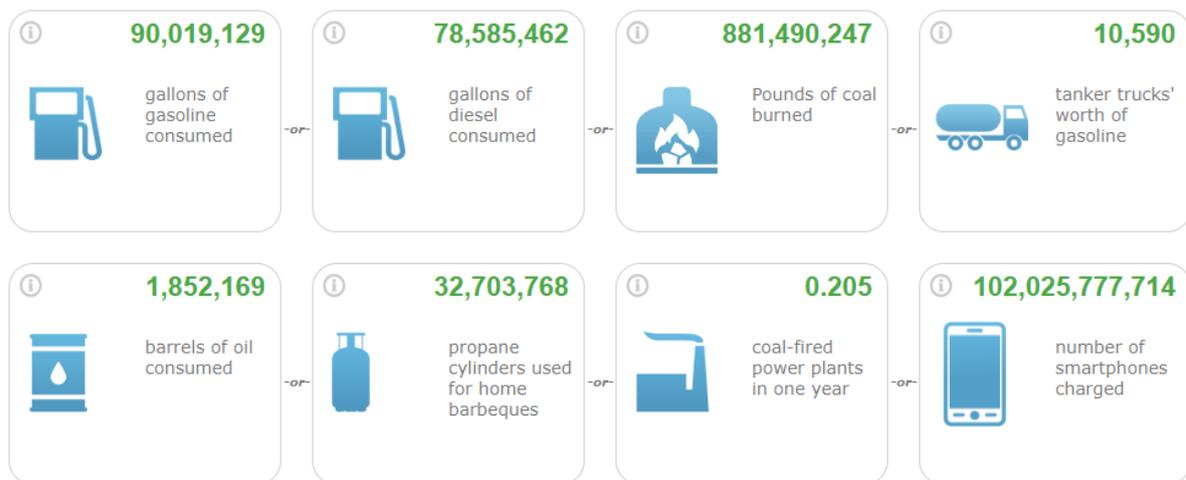


Background

Solar farms have one clearly positive effect on the environment – renewable energy is one of the best means of controlling our greenhouse emissions while maintaining our lifestyle.

Aside from providing enough power for over 150,000 homes, Corop solar farm will reduce emissions, equivalent each year to the following examples:

CO₂ emissions from



But there are many other aspects of the environment that are also important – and we're making sure they are all considered as we plan, build and operate the Corop solar farm. To show what we've been doing we have broken them into natural, social and economic, and built features.

Natural environment

This includes flora and fauna, in particular our native birds, animals and plants. We engaged a specialist consultancy to prepare a Flora and Fauna Due Diligence report and recommendations from the report have informed the position of all structures on the site. As a result no native vegetation will be removed from the site. You can read the report at

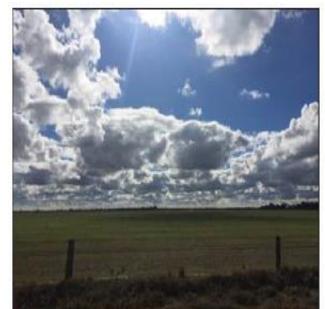
https://f50e17c0-acaf-432b-b333-d78c61546995.filesusr.com/ugd/5d9686_10b9ce5b84f34e93a79d3c93f105c50a.pdf

We have commissioned a hydrologic report to identify any issues related to surface or ground water. The report includes an assessment of the hydrology associated with wetlands; identifies ways to manage stormwater and flooding; and provides recommendations how to best maintain the land so it can easily revert to agricultural use when required. You can read the report at

https://f50e17c0-acaf-432b-b333-d78c61546995.filesusr.com/ugd/5d9686_405776e42da4407ba3b9686e92fcf462.pdf

The land will also be maintained with appropriate ground planting to preserve ground water conditions and habitat for the animals routinely hunted by the eagles. Fire is also a consideration. We will work closely with all relevant agencies to ensure our fire and emergency management plans comply with all state and local

We've heard from our neighbours about the wedge-tailed eagles, brolgas and other native birds – do you have photos or stories to share?



regulations. This includes providing adequate access tracks and maintaining water supply and pumping capacity on the site.

Social and economic environment

The state and local government planning schemes provide a lot of guidance on how a solar farm can be developed. We have prepared a Planning Report which addresses statutory requirements and explains how we will protect the agricultural and other values. You can read the report at https://f50e17c0-acaf-432b-b333-d78c61546995.filesusr.com/ugd/5d9686_257df0bb07874e2dbc3a21c14fd649e8.pdf

In terms of economics, the project will provide employment and contracting opportunities for local people and businesses. The site will also maintain a considerable amount of land for agricultural use, most likely grazing or cropping.

Part of the social environment is respecting our neighbours. We will work with adjoining farms and council to provide native landscaping around all boundaries of the site. The solar panels and other buildings are set back from the boundaries and access after construction will be mainly from the sealed Old Corop Road.

A community benefits plan will be developed in consultation with council and community. You can learn more from our Community Benefits fact sheet.

Built environment

Built environment for the Corop solar farm is mainly infrastructure: roads, water and power.

Our Traffic Impact Assessment Report looks at the amount of traffic likely to be generated during construction and operation of the solar farm. It looks at potential effects and provides recommendations on how to minimise them.

We have consulted with the Goulburn Broken Catchment Authority, Goulburn Murray Water, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and Campaspe Shire to determine whether any of our activities or construction would affect their assets.

Power infrastructure is integral to the project: one of the main reasons the site was chosen was because of the way it can connect seamlessly to the electricity network. The 220kV lines running through the south east corner of the site will provide an adequate power connection to provide power to the west, central and east of Victoria and also provide power to Melbourne.

Like to know more? See our other fact sheets:

- What is a solar farm?
- Maintaining a solar farm
- Solar panels and glare
- Corop solar fast facts
- Protecting our environment