



Powering a Sustainable Future

WINTON SOLAR FARM PROJECT UPDATE

FRV, a global renewable energy solutions provider and leading solar developer, is currently constructing the 85 MW AC Winton Solar Farm, near Benalla in Victoria.

March 2020 – What is happening on site?



Landscape buffer plantings are already showing good growth after only 6 months.



'Commissioning' (testing) of solar panels continues.



Paint colors for the Operations Building ensure it blends into the landscape.



Solar panels move through a full rotation to better capture clean energy from the sun.



The complete package – solar farm is now fully constructed.

<p>Health and Safety</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Safety is a priority for all workers.</i> • Around 20-30 workers remain onsite. • Management plans are currently being updated to guide the <i>operations</i> of the solar farm. Key input will be sought from specialist groups, including the CFA and Benalla Rural Council.
<p>Major activities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major construction works are now complete. • 63% of commissioning works have been done with the team progressively energising sections of the site to allow for ‘hot’ commissioning. • Further vegetation works are underway to provide plantings for visual screening and soil stability. • Horticulture teams are visiting weekly to water and care for new plants in buffer vegetation plantings – removing guards as plants outgrow them and mulching to protect root growth. • The site’s operations building has been painted to reduce visual impact and improve long-range views for neighbours. • Remaining waste materials onsite are being sent out for recycling. • Site crews are using hydro mulching to restock suitable grass species in areas disturbed during construction. • Slashing works continue to keep down grass fuel loads during the tail-end of the fire season.
<p>Employment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring for permanent workers to operate and maintain the site is complete. Five ongoing workers have been recruited, with all candidates from the North East region.
<p>Contact us</p>	<p>We welcome your questions and feedback! To contact the Project team, please email infoaustralia@frv.com or call 0418 142 173.</p> <p>Please also visit our website at www.wintonsolarfarm.com</p>