



## Australia's largest privately-funded and grid-connected battery to be built at site of former Hazelwood Power Station

**Wednesday, 1 December.** ENGIE, Macquarie's Green Investment Group (GIG), and Fluence have partnered to deliver Australia's largest privately-funded and owned utility-scale battery. The project is fully committed and will connect to existing network infrastructure to support the transition to renewable energy at the site of the former Hazelwood Power Station in the Latrobe Valley.

Providing 150MW/150MWh of flexible energy, the Hazelwood Battery Energy Storage System has the capacity to store the equivalent of an hour of energy generation from the rooftop solar systems of 30,000 homes and will play a critical role in increasing renewable energy capacity in Victoria, while delivering further grid stability for the state.

The project, funded by ENGIE and GIG, will be built, operated, and maintained over a 20-year period by Fluence – a global market leader in energy storage products and services and digital applications for renewables and storage. The project also represents the next major milestone in ENGIE's commitment to repurpose the former Hazelwood Power Station, which was decommissioned in 2017, to create a long-term sustainable asset. As an established power generation site with access to 1,600 MW of dormant transmission capacity, Hazelwood is uniquely placed to accommodate this first stage of the battery.

Construction of the Hazelwood Battery is already underway and network connection agreements have been executed, with the battery scheduled to be operational by November 2022 to align with increasing demand in the summer months. The battery's innovative design and the Hazelwood site's unique location, provide the flexibility to scale up storage capacity quickly and cost-effectively in order to respond to network and market demand, including additional capacity for future contracts.

Battery storage serves a key role in accelerating the build-out of solar and wind resources, capturing excess power during periods of high renewable generation while discharging to meet peak demand and reduce reliance on high-carbon energy. The Hazelwood Battery will also participate in frequency control ancillary service markets, delivering critical stability to a grid increasingly comprised of intermittent renewable sources.

*“ENGIE’s long-term commitment to Hazelwood and the Latrobe Valley started as a power station operator, then as investor in a multi-million-dollar rehabilitation project and now as the builder and owner of a new energy asset that helps with the decarbonisation of the energy system,”* said ENGIE ANZ CEO Augustin Honorat.

Greg Callman, Global Head of Energy Technology, GIG said: *“GIG is committed to supporting the green energy transition and storage is critical in enabling ever-expanding renewables capacity and use, to ensure that electricity networks are resilient, reliable and flexible. We’re delighted to invest alongside ENGIE in this project which will help service households and businesses in Victoria, through access to reliable renewable energy.”*

Fluence will utilise its market-leading sixth-generation Gridstack product in delivering the full turnkey project, the first Gridstack system to be deployed in Australia. Once operational, the consortium will use Fluence’s AI-enabled IQ Application to optimise the bidding of the Hazelwood Battery capacity in the National Electricity Market (NEM).

Aaron McCann, Fluence General Manager for Australia said: *“Fluence is proud to support Macquarie’s GIG and ENGIE as they take energy storage to its next phase in Australia: privately-financed large-scale batteries for grid flexibility, the key to an orderly energy transition for the NEM. The Hazelwood Battery will be the product of Fluence’s latest-generation technology, supported by our rapidly growing team in Victoria and the most widely adopted automated trading platform available in Australia today.”*

**ENDS.**

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## **About ENGIE**

ENGIE is a global player in low-carbon energy solutions, focusing on renewables and the infrastructure and services that support its customers' decarbonisation. In Australia, ENGIE's portfolio includes 1.1 GW of operating gas-fired power plants, 165 MW of operating wind farms and a 2 GW pipeline of solar, wind and large-scale batteries under development. ENGIE's Australian business includes energy retailer Simply Energy with 745,000 electricity and gas customer accounts and a successful Virtual Power Plant project, and a client solutions business focused on Net Zero outcomes for universities, cities and large companies and the development of electric vehicle charging infrastructure. ENGIE, along with partners, is also delivering two large-scale hydrogen projects in Victoria and Western Australia.

For more information, visit [engie.com.au](https://engie.com.au)

## **About Macquarie's Green Investment Group**

Macquarie's Green Investment Group (GIG) is a specialist in green infrastructure principal investment, project development and delivery, green impact advisory and the management of portfolio assets. Its track record, expertise and capability make it a global leader in green investment and development, dedicated to accelerating the green transition.

Initially launched by the UK Government in 2012 as the Green Investment Bank, it was the first institution of its type in the world. It was purchased by Macquarie in 2017 to create one of the world's largest teams of specialist green infrastructure developers and investors. Now operating as the Green Investment Group, the business and its operating platforms have investments or operations in over 25 markets, more than 450 staff and a global development pipeline of more than 35 GW.

Macquarie Group Limited (Macquarie) is a diversified financial group providing clients with asset management and finance, banking, advisory and risk and capital solutions across debt, equity and commodities. Founded in 1969, Macquarie employs 17,209 people in 33 markets. At 30 September 2021, Macquarie had assets under management of \$A737.0 billion.

For more information, visit [greeninvestmentgroup.com](https://greeninvestmentgroup.com) and [macquarie.com](https://macquarie.com)

## **About Fluence**

Fluence, a Siemens and AES company, is a global market leader in energy storage products and services and digital applications for renewables and storage. We have more than 3.4 GW of energy storage deployed or contracted in 29 markets globally, and more than 4.5 GW of wind, solar and storage assets optimised or contracted in Australia and California.

Through our products, services and AI-enabled Fluence IQ platform, we are helping customers around the world drive more resilient electric grids and a more sustainable future.

For more information, visit <https://fluenceenergy.com/>