

Fast Facts

Bush fire mitigation

Solar panels are mostly made of non-combustible materials and the BESS will have fire suppression and containment systems. In the unlikely event of an incident, fire breaks, water tanks and firefighting equipment will prevent fire spreading from site.

Fire research results

In response to community concerns, a series of Miriam Vale BESS fires were simulated in local wind conditions. The studies found fumes from a fire would not spread more than 250m from the fire source, and the fire would be controlled within the site boundary.

Battery safety

Our BESS LFP (Lithium Iron Phosphate) batteries are one of the safest energy storage options, operating over a wide temperature range. A Battery Management System detects and shuts down faults and if a fire starts, flames are isolated in a container.

Road safety

Construction traffic will be controlled and restricted to approved working hours, with limited impacts to the Bruce Highway. Operational traffic will be similar to that of a small business.

Noise and vibration

Solar panels move slowly and quietly to face the sun. The BESS will operate within strict noise regulations to prevent impacting the peaceful enjoyment of the area. None of the equipment will vibrate.

Heat island effect

Studies show temperatures can increase up to 4°C within 2.5-5m of a solar panel but this dissipates quickly and no difference in temperature should be felt 30m from panels.

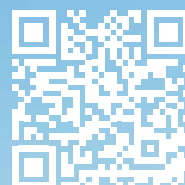
Solar panel glare

Miriam Vale solar panels are anti-reflective with less than 5% glare. They are 45% less reflective than vegetation, 65% less reflective than aluminium and are safely used at airports.

Government funding

PEP does not receive any direct government funding for the Miriam Vale projects.

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for more details***



White-throated Snapping Turtle and Australian Lungfish

Our environmental specialists haven't found these species in the Project area. However, erosion and sediment controls and environmental monitoring will protect local habitats, including those downstream.

Stormwater channelling

Rainfall is distributed between solar panels, and vegetation, swale drains and retention basins will disperse water evenly to prevent erosion and support biodiversity.

Cleaning solar panels

Large-scale solar panels are naturally cleaned by rainfall. If extra cleaning is needed, water and a soft brush is used. Solar panels do not contain chemicals that run-off with water.

BESS and the network

BESS facilities support energy reliability and stability by storing excess energy and releasing it to the network when needed, such as at night. This reduces electricity waste and supports uninterrupted power supply during lower generation, high demand and network disruptions.

Floodwater

Storm and flood waters will flow through the area normally. Sediment control measures will prevent construction soils, stockpiles and other site materials washing away when it rains.

Weed management

A Weed and Pest Management Plan will be in place. All incoming and outgoing vehicles and machinery will be cleaned down and certified by an authorised weed and seed inspector.

Insurance premiums

No current evidence links increased insurance premiums with neighbouring solar farm and BESS facilities. These facilities have strict safety measures and are considered low risk by insurers.

PEP ownership

Miriam Vale Solar Farm and BESS are being developed by PEP Australia, which is 100% Australian founded, owned and operated.

Property values

PEP has found no evidence that the Solar Farm and BESS will impact local property values.