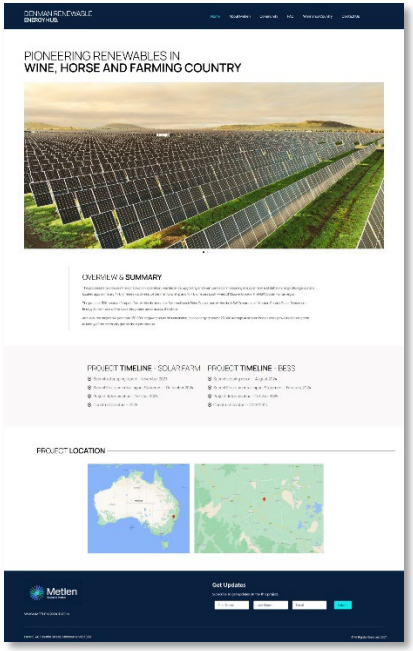
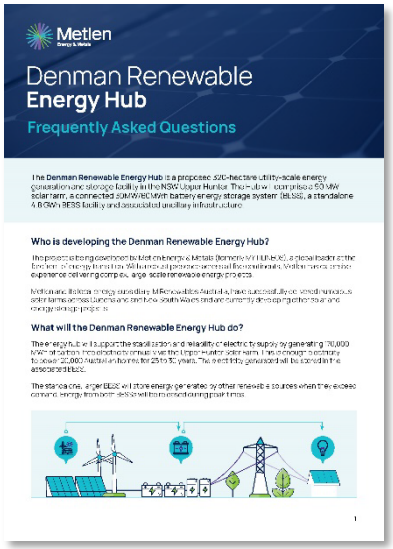
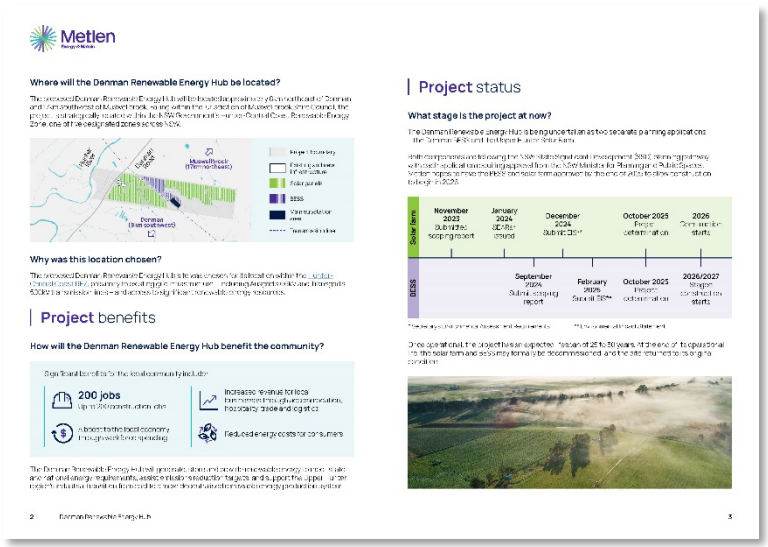
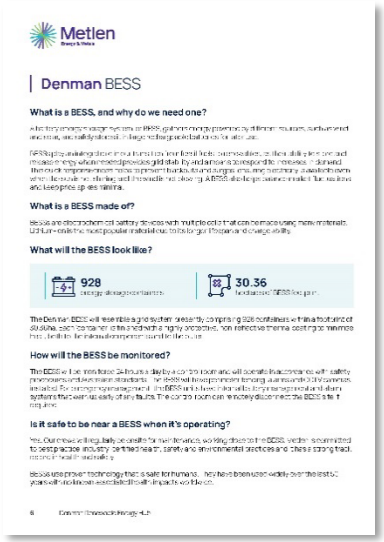
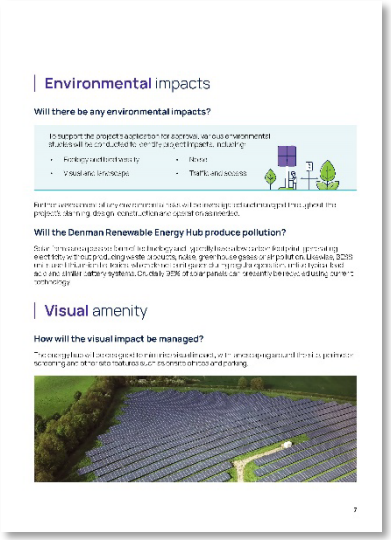
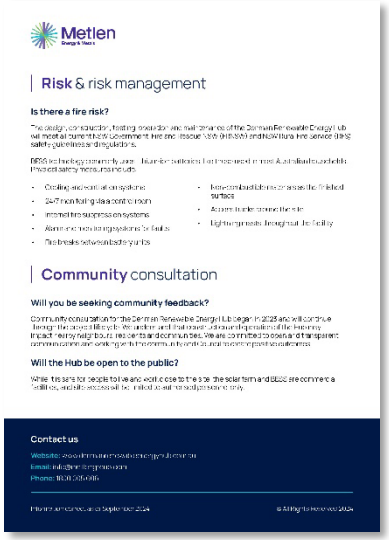
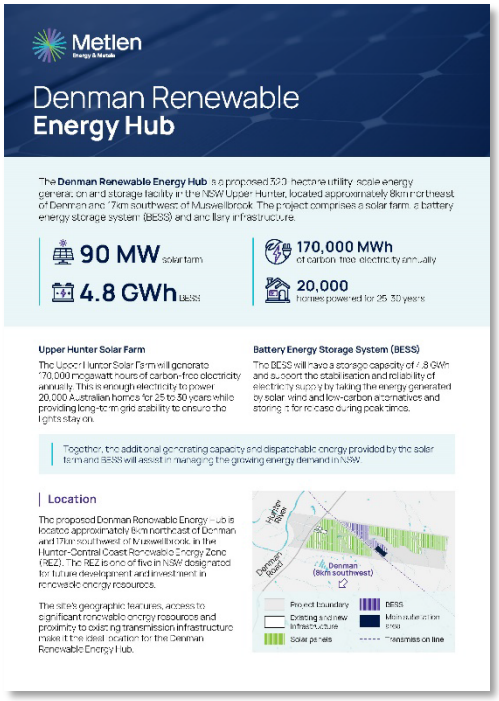
Activities	Summary
Stakeholder feedback database	All stakeholder interactions were logged into the stakeholder management database, Consultation Manager. The database captures stakeholder information, feedback, concerns and enquiries.
Project website	The Project website was established to provide Project specific information to the community. The website detailed the need for the Project; the Project background, location and timeline; community consultation; and contact information. This website is at: denmanrenewableenergyhub.com.au 
Emails and phone calls	A Project specific email address and phone number was created. These channels are monitored each day by Project team members. The contact details below can be found on the Project website, factsheet and FAQ. • Email: info@metlengroup.com; and • Phone number: 1800 005 606
Project FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) are available on the Project website to provide information about the Project and give consistent responses to common questions. FAQ website address: www.denmanrenewableenergyhub.com.au/faq/ An FAQ booklet with key information was developed to support community engagement activities. The booklet has been shared at drop-in sessions and provided upon request to stakeholders and community members.

Activities	Summary
	 

Activities	Summary
	 Metlen **Construction** and operation **What is involved in the project?** **Will construction impact local traffic?** **Will the Hub be noisy?** **Upper** Hunter Solar Farm **What will the solar farm look like?** 153,000 solar panels 140 hectares solar footprint **How do solar farms compare to traditional energy sources?** **Will the solar panels generate glare or glint?** **How will you clean the solar panels?**  Metlen **Denman** BESS **What is a BESS, and why do we need one?** **What is a BESS made of?** **What will the BESS look like?** 928 energy storage containers 30.36 hectares of BESS footprint **How will the BESS be monitored?** **Is it safe to be near a BESS when it's operating?**
	 **Environmental** impacts **Will there be any environmental impacts?** **Will the Denman Renewable Energy Hub produce pollution?** **Visual** amenity **How will the visual impact be managed?**  Metlen **Risk** & risk management **Is there a fire risk?** **Community** consultation **Will you be seeking community feedback?** **Will the Hub be open to the public?** Contact us

Activities	Summary
Project factsheet	A factsheet about the Denman BESS was developed and shared with stakeholders. The factsheet includes general Project information, a Project timeline and contact information. The factsheet has been shared at drop-in sessions, meetings, and upon request to stakeholders and community members.



Metlen

Denman Renewable Energy Hub

The **Denman Renewable Energy Hub** is a proposed 530 hectare utility scale energy generation and storage facility in the NSW Upper Hunter, located approximately 8km northeast of Denman and 17km southwest of Muswellbrook. The project comprises a solar farm, a battery energy storage system (BESS) and ancillary infrastructure.

90 MW solar farm

4.8 GWh BESS

170,000 MWh of carbon free electricity annually

20,000 homes powered for 25-30 years

Upper Hunter Solar Farm

The Upper Hunter Solar Farm will generate 170,000 megawatt hours of carbon-free electricity annually. This is enough electricity to power 20,000 Australian homes for 25 to 30 years while providing long-term grid stability to ensure the lights stay on.

Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

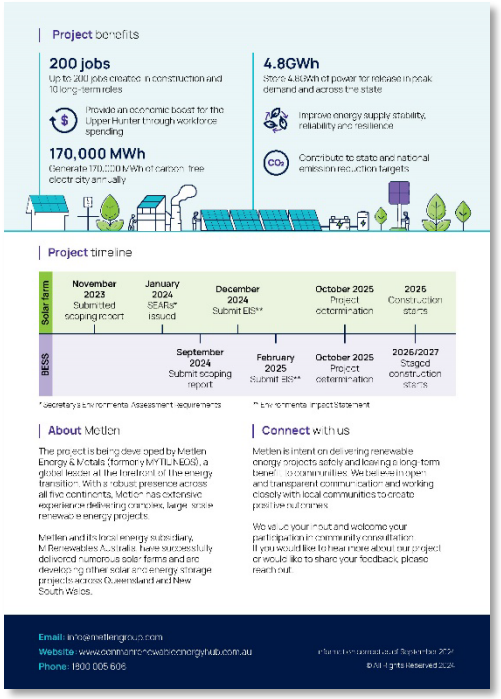
The BESS will have a storage capacity of 4.8 GWh and support the stabilisation and reliability of electricity supply by taking the energy generated by solar, wind and low-carbon alternatives and storing it for release during peak times.

Together, the additional generating capacity and dispatchable energy provided by the solar farm and BESS will assist in managing the growing energy demand in NSW.

Location

The proposed Denman Renewable Energy Hub is located approximately 8km northeast of Denman and 17km southwest of Muswellbrook, in the Hunter-Central Coast Renewable Energy Zone (REZ). The REZ is one of five in NSW designated for future development and investment in renewable energy resources.

The site's geographic features, access to significant renewable energy resources and proximity to existing transmission infrastructure make it the ideal location for the Denman Renewable Energy Hub.



Project benefits

200 jobs
Up to 200 jobs created in construction and 10 long-term roles

Provide an economic boost for the Upper Hunter through workforce spending

4.8GWh
Store 4.8GWh of power for release in peak demand and across the state

Improve energy supply stability, reliability and resilience

170,000 MWh
Generate 170,000 MWh of carbon free electricity annually

Contribute to state and national emission reduction targets

Project timeline

	November 2023	January 2024	December 2024	October 2025	2025
Solar farm	Submitted scoping report	SEARs* issued	Submit EIS**	Project determination	Construction starts
BESS		September 2024 Submit scoping report	February 2025 Submit EIS**	October 2025 Project determination	2026/2027 Staged construction starts

*Secretary's environmental Assessment requirements

**Environmental Impact Statement

About Metlen

The project is being developed by Metlen Energy & Metals (formerly MYTILINEOS), a global leader at the forefront of the energy transition. With a robust presence across all five continents, Metlen has extensive experience delivering complex, large-scale renewable energy projects.

Metlen and its local energy subsidiary, M Renewables Australia, have successfully delivered numerous solar farms and are developing other solar and energy storage projects across Queensland and New South Wales.

Connect with us

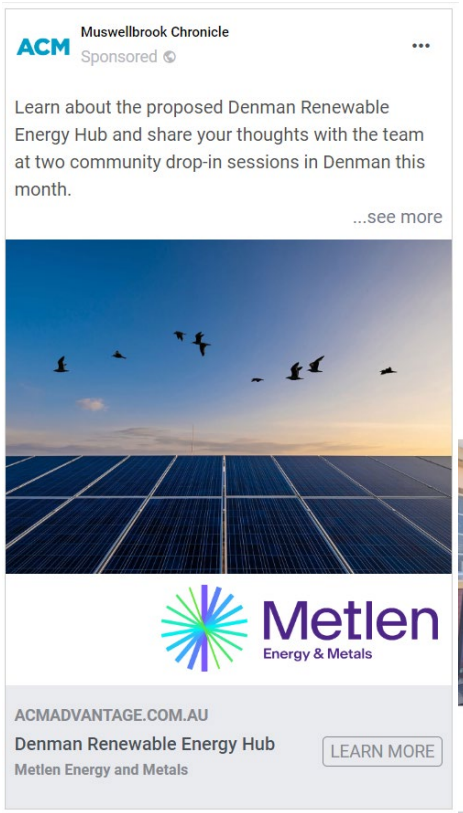
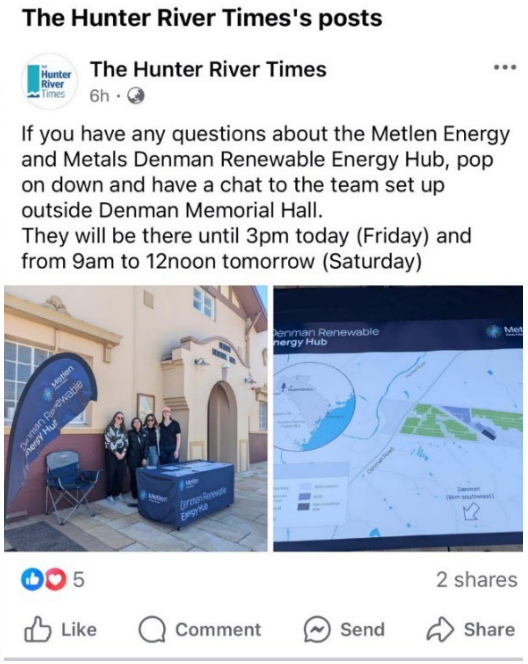
Metlen is intent on delivering renewable energy projects safely and locking a long-term benefit to communities. We believe in open and transparent communication and working closely with local communities to create positive outcomes.

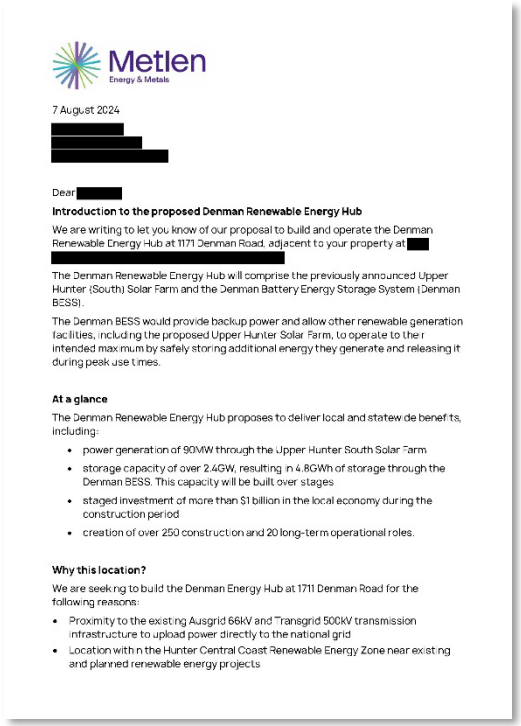
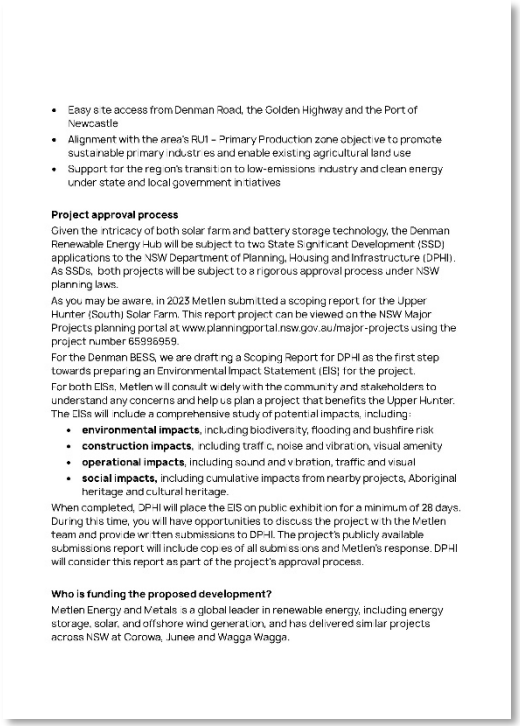
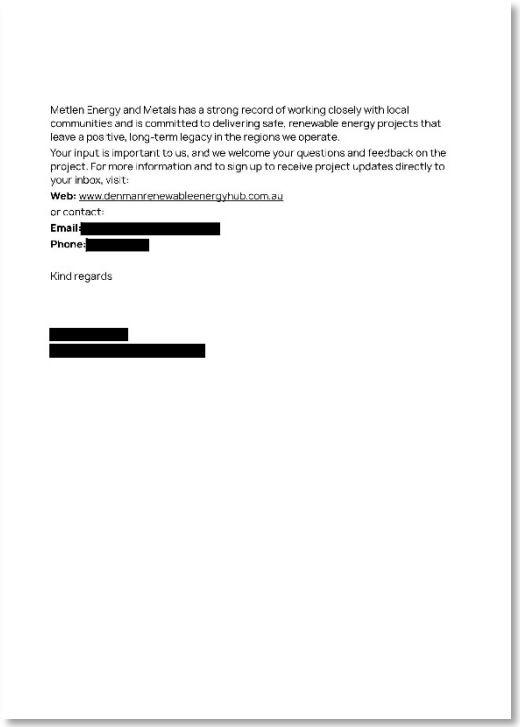
We value your input and welcome your participation in community consultation. If you would like to hear more about our project or would like to share your feedback, please reach out.

Email: in@metlengroup.com
Website: www.denmanrenewableenergyhub.com.au
Phone: 1800 005 606

Information current as of September 2024

Activities	Summary	
Community drop-in session	Two community drop-in sessions were held to introduce the Project and understand community perceptions and narrative. Metlen's presence was driven by the desire to engage the local community, provide information about the Project, address any concerns, build goodwill, and maintain relationships with key stakeholders as the Project progresses. The community drop-in sessions were held outside of the Denman Memorial Hall, Denman on 20 and 21 September 2024. Across two three-hour sessions, the team spoke with 30 people. The majority of people interacted with the map and collected a factsheet and FAQ. The key topics discussed were Project timeline, location, safety, jobs and community benefit opportunities. The majority of visitors to the session were neutral.	
Public relations and media	Print and digital media were used to advertise Metlen Energy & Metals' presence in the community at drop-in sessions. A print advertisement was run in The Hunter River Times newspaper, which has a monthly print and digital readership of 44,000. A team member from the publication visited the community event and shared a post to the paper's Facebook page (7,400 followers) to promote the session in real time. An online campaign promoting the sessions was run through the Muswellbrook Chronicle's digital newspaper. The campaign generated: • 30,847 impressions – the number of times the ads were shown; and • 213 clicks – the number of times the ads were clicked Click Through Rate of 0.75% - the percentage of people who saw the ads and clicked on them. Industry standard rate is 0.06%.	

Activities	Summary
	  
Project mailout (BESS)	Seventeen (17) introductory letters were sent to 25 landowners located within 5km of the Project. The letter detailed where the Project will be located, the energy capacities, timeline and the Project's contact information.

Activities	Summary
	  

Metlen
Energy & Metals

7 August 2024

[redacted]

Dear [redacted]

Introduction to the proposed Denman Renewable Energy Hub

We are writing to let you know of our proposal to build and operate the Denman Renewable Energy Hub at 1171 Denman Road, adjacent to your property at [redacted]

The Denman Renewable Energy Hub will comprise the previously announced Upper Hunter (South) Solar Farm and the Denman Battery Energy Storage System (Denman BESS).

The Denman BESS would provide backup power and allow other renewable generation facilities, including the proposed Upper Hunter Solar Farm, to operate to their intended maximum by safely storing additional energy they generate and releasing it during peak use times.

At a glance

The Denman Renewable Energy Hub proposes to deliver local and statewide benefits, including:

- power generation of 90MW through the Upper Hunter South Solar Farm
- storage capacity of over 2.4GW, resulting in 4.8GWh of storage through the Denman BESS. This capacity will be built over stages
- staged investment of more than $1 billion in the local economy during the construction period
- creation of over 250 construction and 20 long-term operational roles.

Why this location?

We are seeking to build the Denman Energy Hub at 1711 Denman Road for the following reasons:

- Proximity to the existing Ausgrid 66kV and Transgrid 500kV transmission infrastructure to upload power directly to the national grid
- Location within the Hunter Central Coast Renewable Energy Zone near existing and planned renewable energy projects
- Easy site access from Denman Road, the Golden Highway and the Port of Newcastle
- Alignment with the area's RU1 – Primary Production zone objective to promote sustainable primary industries and enable existing agricultural land use
- Support for the region's transition to low-emissions industry and clean energy under state and local government initiatives

Project approval process

Given the intricacy of both solar farm and battery storage technology, the Denman Renewable Energy Hub will be subject to two State Significant Development (SSD) applications to the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure (DPHI). As SSDs, both projects will be subject to a rigorous approval process under NSW planning laws.

As you may be aware, in 2023 Metlen submitted a scoping report for the Upper Hunter (South) Solar Farm. This report project can be viewed on the NSW Major Projects planning portal at www.planningportal.nsw.gov.au/major-projects using the project number 65996959.

For the Denman BESS, we are drafting a Scoping Report for DPHI as the first step towards preparing an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project.

For both EISs, Metlen will consult widely with the community and stakeholders to understand any concerns and help us plan a project that benefits the Upper Hunter. The EISs will include a comprehensive study of potential impacts, including:

- **environmental impacts**, including biodiversity, flooding and bushfire risk
- **construction impacts**, including traffic, noise and vibration, visual amenity
- **operational impacts**, including sound and vibration, traffic and visual
- **social impacts,** including cumulative impacts from nearby projects, Aboriginal heritage and cultural heritage.

When completed, DPHI will place the EIS on public exhibition for a minimum of 28 days. During this time, you will have opportunities to discuss the project with the Metlen team and provide written submissions to DPHI. The project's publicly available submissions report will include copies of all submissions and Metlen's response. DPHI will consider this report as part of the project's approval process.

Who is funding the proposed development?

Metlen Energy and Metals is a global leader in renewable energy, including energy storage, solar, and offshore wind generation, and has delivered similar projects across NSW at Corowa, Junee and Wagga Wagga.

Metlen Energy and Metals has a strong record of working closely with local communities and is committed to delivering safe, renewable energy projects that leave a positive, long-term legacy in the regions we operate.

Your input is important to us, and we welcome your questions and feedback on the project. For more information and to sign up to receive project updates directly to your inbox, visit:

Web: www.denmanrenewableenergyhub.com.au

or contact:

Email: [redacted]

Phone: [redacted]

Kind regards

[redacted]