emPowering SA

Government of South Australia

agl

Whyalla City Council



The Government of South Australia is delivering 18 community batteries for South Australia through emPowering SA.

emPowering SA ensures the benefits of community batteries are realised by households who are currently locked out from accessing renewable energy technologies, and for whom lower energy bills means the most.

In partnership with energy retailer AGL, the emPowering SA battery fleet will deliver direct benefits to more than 10,000 South Australian government nominated households facing cost of living pressures, through access to the cheapest residential electricity rates in South Australia.

THE PROPOSED LOCATION

Whyalla City Council and the Government of South Australia are proposing to locate a community battery on a portion of land adjacent to Whyalla Stuart substation, Bastyan Crescent, Whyalla Stuart.

Residents in Whyalla City Council facing cost of living pressures will be among the first to be offered the opportunity to take up places in emPowering SA, once the battery in the area is installed and operational.



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Whyalla City Council is working with emPowering SA to host one of the 18 community batteries.

This includes identifying possible locations, and consulting with the community to make sure residents have an opportunity to have their say. Subject to all requirements being met, Council will grant a lease to the South Australian government on the agreed location.

Construction of a community battery will only proceed if all requirements are met, including the following considerations:

- Planning and Design Code policies.
- Design, form and appearance.
- Services and infrastructure.
- Environmental impacts.
- Community consultation.



THE DETAILS

The community battery in Whyalla City Council will have a capacity of 700 kilowatts and 1,828 kilowatt-hours.

The battery will be owned by the Government of South Australia, and operated by energy retailer AGL as part of a virtual power plant (VPP).

The battery will store excess energy from the grid when renewable energy is abundant. It will then make that energy available at night, during periods of high demand, or when the grid needs support.

Knowledge from emPowering SA will be shared to provide information on the real-world deployment and operation of community batteries for the benefit of future projects by the private sector and community groups.

On current figures, a typical household benefiting from emPowering SA is expected to save up to $608 off their annual electricity bill.

As a fleet, emPowering SA is expected to deliver around $60 million of value direct to low-income and energy hardship households across South Australia over the life of the batteries.

LEARN MORE

empowering.sa.gov.au

WHO IS INVOLVED

emPowering SA is being delivered by the Government of South Australia, in partnership with energy retailer AGL.

In addition to Whyalla City Council, other local councils working with emPowering SA include: Campbelltown City Council, City of Charles Sturt, City of Marion, City of Mitcham, City of Salisbury Rural City of Murray Bridge, City of Onkaparinga, City of Playford, City of West Torrens, City of Port Lincoln, Port Pirie Regional Council, City of Port Adelaide Enfield, City of Tea Tree Gully, District Council of Loxton Waikerie, Port Augusta City Council and Mount Barker District Council.

This project is also supported by the Australian Government's $200m Community Batteries for Household Solar program through the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, and the Australian Renewable Energy Agency's Advancing Renewables Program.

Acknowledgement of Country

As guests here on Kaurna land, the Department for Energy and Mining (DEM) acknowledges everything this department does impacts on Aboriginal country, the sea, the sky, its people, and the spiritual and cultural connections which have existed since the first sunrise. Our responsibility is to share our collective knowledge, recognise a difficult history, respect the relationships made over time, and create a stronger future. We are ready to walk, learn and work together.