



Snowy 2.0—Making power more affordable and reliable

The Australian Government has approved Snowy 2.0 which will see the expansion of Australia’s iconic Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Scheme. Snowy 2.0 is a key part of Government initiatives to deliver affordable and reliable power.

Government approval and support

Snowy Hydro Shareholder Ministers, Minister Cormann and Minister Taylor, provided shareholder approval for the Snowy Hydro Board to issue notice to proceed on the main works for Snowy 2.0 on 28 August 2020.

The Government will provide \$1.38 billion in equity towards the construction of Snowy 2.0, with Snowy Hydro funding the remainder of the project.

The iconic Snowy Scheme already plays a critical role in ensuring system stability and at times of peak demand with more than 4000 megawatts of existing fast start dispatchable generation capacity. Snowy 2.0 will increase this capacity by 50 per cent to 6100 megawatts.

Australia’s energy system is changing

The National Electricity Market is undergoing a period of unprecedented change with rapid penetration of low-cost intermittent renewables as thermal capacity retires from the system. Snowy 2.0 will play a key role in balancing intermittent renewables using its large-scale energy storage to provide reliable and affordable electricity on demand over sustained periods.

Making power more affordable and reliable

Snowy 2.0 will put downward pressure on electricity prices through providing the energy system with much needed generation capacity and energy storage. It will also reduce our reliance on more expensive forms of generation.

Snowy 2.0 will:

- provide an additional 2000 megawatts of fast-start, dispatchable capacity and 350,000 megawatt hours of energy storage
- have the capacity to supply 500,000 households at peak demand for up to 175 hours—that’s over seven days
- improve the security and reliability of the energy system by providing firming capacity to support the continued large-scale entry of intermittent renewable energy generation.

A boost for the Snowy region

Snowy 2.0 will create 5,000 direct and indirect jobs over the life of the project across the Snowy Mountains region, lifting economic activity, boosting local business and improving local infrastructure.

Snowy Hydro will work closely with the local community and maintain working relationships with key stakeholders as it proceeds with the project.

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