

Mount Rawdon Pumped Hydro Project

Mount Rawdon Pumped Hydro Project awarded coordinated project status

The proponents of the Mount Rawdon Pumped Hydro Project are pleased to announce that they have been successful in securing coordinated project status for the project under the *State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971* (QLD). Coordinated project status is a significant milestone, which recognises the strategic significance of the project and the complexity of its approval requirements.

Coordinated project status also establishes the environmental approvals process for the project, which will include an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and a formal Cultural Heritage Management Plan.

The proponents have commenced the studies necessary to prepare an EIS and will be undertaking further studies in the coming months, including assessments of impacts on flora, fauna and aquatic ecosystems, surface and groundwater, traffic, heritage, noise and vibration, greenhouse gas and air quality. The EIS will also include an assessment of the social and economic impacts of the project.

This is a timely decision, which follows closely upon the Queensland Government's announcement that it will raise its renewable energy target from 50% by 2030 to 80% by 2035 – a target that the project is well placed to contribute to by providing up to 20GWhh of energy storage. The project is also an opportunity to show-case excellence in mine closure by allowing the pit of the Mt Rawdon Gold Mine to transition directly from mining to another economically productive use which will continue to provide both construction and ongoing jobs in regional Queensland.

The community and other interested stakeholders will have the opportunity to provide formal input on the project during the EIS process. In the meantime, stakeholders can find out more about the project by signing up to receive project newsletters.