

Climate Capital and Sunrise Energy Group execute first renewable energy project

Climate Capital, Sunrise Energy Group and Image Resources have executed a project to build a new solar farm at the Boonanarring Mineral Sands Project.

The 2.3 MW solar farm is a behind-the-meter installation that complements the existing grid-connected power supply. It will improve the financial outcomes of Image Resources' mine and processing operation and its carbon emissions footprint.

Climate Capital has agreed to acquire a majority stake in the solar farm from Sunrise Energy and will fund its completion. Associated commercial agreements have also been executed, including an agreement for Sunrise Energy to undertake the Engineering, Procurement and Construction of the project.

The solar farm is Climate Capital's first investment since it achieved its first-round capital raise in early 2018. Its business model is based on providing co-investment opportunities for its shareholders in solar, wind and hydro-electricity. It has a pipeline of projects across the National Electricity Market and the Western Australian energy markets, which have been originated internally by its team, and later-stage opportunities through its developer partnerships.

Climate Capital's CEO, Dominic Churchill, said that "we are excited that this project is our first investment, and have been working with Sunrise and Image for almost a year to ensure that all of the commercial arrangements are in place for a successful project.

"A key part of our investment thesis is that there are many opportunities to work directly with the corporate sector to develop smaller-scale projects that can avoid many of the network connection and commercial challenges faced by large and remote renewable projects."

Mr Churchill added "we look forward to pursuing more opportunities with Sunrise Energy and other developer partners, and progressing our internally-originated projects, to add to our flexible investment platform."

The Boonanarring solar farm project is a behind-the-meter solution. However, there are also opportunities around the country to develop grid-connected renewable energy projects, typically up to 10 MW, that are backed by corporate power purchasing agreements.

Neil Canby, Executive Director of Sunrise Energy Group said that "we are delighted that the solar farm at Boonanarring has been executed successfully. It is a reward for the effort that our team, Climate Capital and Image Resources have put into overcoming a number of challenges that arose since it was first announced in April 2018.

"The project demonstrates the potential for the corporate sector to reduce energy costs and improve emissions profiles by facilitating renewable energy solutions. In particular, it demonstrates that distributed energy projects can be successful for commercial and industrial customers in Western Australia, which has a very different market to the National Electricity Market in the Eastern States" Mr Canby added.

About Climate Capital

Climate Capital invests in renewable projects around Australia. It seeks to invest in projects which are behind-the-meter or present the ability to contract electricity offtake with a corporate counterparty, are 1–10MW in capacity, and offer sector and geographic diversification to its existing portfolio. It is looking for additional opportunities where it can add value and support vendors in the delivery of projects, as well as corporates seeking to reduce costs and emissions through power purchasing agreements.

About Sunrise Energy Group

Sunrise Energy Group Pty Ltd is an emerging renewable energy company based in Perth, Western Australia. Sunrise Energy Group delivers turnkey solutions using distributed renewable generation for both grid-connected and off-grid customers in rural and remote Western Australia. Sunrise Energy Group works directly with customers to tailor the solution for them that achieves the desired social, environmental and economic outcomes for each particular situation.

About Image Resources

Image Resources NL (ASX: IMA) is a mineral sands focused mining company operating an open-cut mine and ore processing facility at its 100%-owned, high-grade, zircon-rich Boonanarring Project, located 80km north of Perth in the infrastructure rich North Perth Basin.

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