

Media Release

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Find out more at: <https://www.facebook.com/BRIG>

With video and pix

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SUN SHINES ON JOBS GROWTH WITH SOLAR PROJECT

SOLAR jobs could soar on the back of a project designed to deliver a hybrid solar / grid power supply project.

The, three-year “Adapting Renewable Energy Project” is being funded by the Federal Government’s Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and administered by the Bundaberg Regional Irrigators Group.

“Tailored technologies to reduce pumping costs for irrigating farmers are desperately needed, whether the crop be sugarcane, cotton, wheat, canola or small crops,” said BRIG spokesman Dale Holliss.

Mr Holliss is Deputy Chair of the National Irrigators Council and a member of the Energy Consumers Australia Board advisory committee.

He said the project is already showing extraordinary results – a reduction in irrigator electricity costs by 73%.

“The project has, during the trials to date, quite literally reduced the pumping cost from \$116 per megalitre to \$23.14. That’s a massive cost saving,” he said.

But the project also could support jobs growth in regional areas.

In January 2018, with the project under way, research and advisory business Green Energy Markets reported that jobs created by combined solar projects such as the ARENA / BRIG model had topped 10,000 nationally. In addition, it said, the Solar Citizens report had predicted a further 1500 ongoing full-time jobs if all planned renewable projects went ahead.

Mr Holliss said the expansion of solar within the farming sector would support other areas of business in regional areas of Australia.

Green Energy Markets has identified areas of solar jobs growth including positions for installers, photovoltaic (PV) design engineers, solar project developers, and workers who could pile solar posts, erect tracking systems and install solar panels.

To find out more about the event go to <https://www.facebook.com/BRIG>

The ‘Adapting Renewable Energy Project’ will be showcased at a special Field Day on May 15

When: May 15, 2019, 11am-2pm

Where: near Bundaberg

What: Field Day to showcase the Adapting Renewable Energy Project’. Exhibitors at the Field Day will include suppliers and business enterprises providing vital components of this ground-breaking project.

Entry: Free. Booking essential. Courtesy pick-up from Brothers Sports Club, Takalvan St, Bundaberg