

About the Warwick Solar Farm

The University of Queensland (UQ) is committed to sustainability leadership and has a long track record in the deployment of renewable energy, including a 3.3 megawatt (MW) solar farm at the Gatton campus and over 3 MW of solar systems distributed across the rooftops of the University's buildings.

The Warwick Solar Farm builds on these strengths and makes UQ the first university in the world to offset 100 percent of its electricity usage from its own renewable energy generation.

This site was chosen because it met a range of essential technical criteria, such as proximity to a suitable connection point, slope of the land, geotechnical conditions, and little to no vegetation. Importantly for UQ's teaching, research and engagement objectives, it is also less than two hours from UQ's main St Lucia campus, and is close to the services and amenities of a major regional centre.

Investigations into the feasibility of becoming 100% renewable began in early 2017, and the business case for the project was approved in late 2017. In June 2018 land agreements were finalised and Southern Downs Regional Council granted development approval. The project was approved to connect to the electricity grid in November 2018, and construction commenced in February 2019. The project was officially opened in July 2020.

The Warwick Solar Farm will facilitate a wide range of new teaching, research and engagement opportunities for UQ in addition to its environmental and financial benefits. This Visitor Centre is a key part of UQ's commitment to the region over the life of the solar farm.

Warwick Solar Farm – looking north

