



[Our Solar Projects](#)

[News](#)

[About Us](#)

[Contact Us](#)

Welcome to the latest edition of the Meralli Solar newsletter, a summary of everything happening at Meralli, with our partners, and the latest in Australian renewables.

We were recently lucky to be at the Latitude and Chillamurra Solar Farms at Boggabilla NSW (a stone's throw over the Macintyre River from Goondiwindi) for an early morning shot. It struck us just how far renewables technology has advanced in a pretty short space of time (and our own experience and understanding of what works and why).

When we built Chillamurra in 2017 we used 265-watt PV modules and string inverters. And 5 years later at the Latitude Solar Farm, we installed 460-watt PV modules, central inverters and reverse DC-coupled battery storage. In our next project, we'll be installing 550-watt modules.

Given the sun has about 5 billion years to go (according to NASA), it's hard to imagine what future renewables tech might look like.



Latitude (foreground) and Chillamurra Solar Farms, Boggabilla NSW

Industry Trends



Commodity	Current \$	Trend
Aluminium (USD)	2631.50-	↑
Steel (CNY)	4,179.00	↑
Euro	1.54	↓
PV	-	↑
Freight	-	→

- Aluminum futures were trading around 2,600 USD/T in January, a level not seen since June 2022, and are up more than 9% since the beginning of 2023 on prospects of more robust demand and fears of supply shortages. China has been taking significant steps to boost its economy and end the strict coronavirus-induced regime, lifting the outlook for metal demand and overshadowing global recession concerns.
- Steel rebar futures were trading around CNY 4,040 per tonne, down from the six-month high of CNY 4,180 touched on January 30th after a survey of post-Lunar New Year inventories of steel products in China showed a significant increase. Still, the benchmark is up more than 20% from its November lows on hopes that China's reopening will boost growth and consumption.
- Early on in the pandemic, consumer demand spiked rapidly causing a constriction of available container capacity. High demand, low availability, and ongoing volatility and disruptions have driven ocean freight prices to unprecedented highs. Currently, freight rates are around 10x what they were two years ago, making it critical to secure both capacity and pricing quickly and sim
- In relation to the PV supply chain (also true of substructure supply), early material planning/purchase is advisable to avoid the same supply challenges in 2023 that occurred in 2022.

Sources:

[Trading Economics](#)

[Freightos.com](#)

[PVXchange Price Index](#)

Industry News

Here some of the industry news we've been reading this month:

- Newly released data from the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) shows Australian businesses and households are spending big on renewable energy, with large-scale wind and solar farm investment commitments [growing nearly 50 per cent](#) in 2022. (Utility Magazine)

- [Solar's stunning journey](#) from lab curiosity to global juggernaut wiping out fossil fuels (Renew Economy)
- Australia has posted its [second-best month for large-scale solar generation](#) in January, with a total of 1463GWh over the month, just short of the December record of 1509GWh. (Renew Economy)
- [Cracker of a deal](#): Arnott's takes iconic biscuit operations to 100 per cent renewables (Renew Economy)
- Solar may cover the world's electricity demand with [0.3% of its land area](#). (PV Magazine)
- Ingka Group, which owns furniture retailer Ikea, has taken [a stake in a large wind farm in Australia](#). (Renewz.biz)
- [Space-aged solar innovation](#): Is it coming down to Earth? (Renew Economy)
- [Boral](#) aims for net zero emissions carbon offset cement (AU Manufacturing)
- [Australia's biggest wind turbine](#) erected at what will be largest wind farm in NSW (Renew Economy)

See you again next month!

The Meralli Solar Team

Do you like our newsletter? We'd love you to share it!



Reenergising Regional Australia

Our mission is to change the energy landscape across regional Australia by installing high-quality, cost-effective, compact utility-scale solar farms that sit comfortably side by side with agriculture while empowering rural and regional economic development and sustainability.

Meralli Solar is Australia's leading provider of PEG frame solar solutions at the distribution level in rural and regional Australia. We see the opportunities associated with increased generation capacity in a decentralised grid, which shares energy within the local regional community, ultimately providing more affordable and reliable power than the current centralised system. We see that this approach will build economic capacity in our regional communities.

[Find out more](#)

Meralli Solar

55 Bridge St, Uralla
Australia



You received this email as a valued client, colleague or friend of Meralli, or because you signed up on our website.

We hope you find it useul.

[Unsubscribe](#)

