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

Hello everyone and a Happy New Year, we hope you were able to take some time away from the industry for a few days?! But like us, that is probably now a distant memory.

We are looking forward to another busy year in 2023. Work has commenced on the Junee Solar Farm with our friends from [Constructive Energy](#) and we're completing the final stages of installation of cabling and inverter units at the Wathagar Project (Moree NSW).

2022 IN NUMBERS	
20+MW SOLAR INSTALLED	30+MW/h DISPATCHABLE STORAGE ON THE MEDIUM VOLTAGE NETWORK



Construction of the Junee Solar Farm commenced at the beginning of last week.

Junee Solar Farm

The 2.3MW DC Junee Solar Farm is designed to reduce the power bill for a local agribusiness with significant daytime demand. There are a number of firsts at this site.

This is the first Australian site we have built with vegetation under the PEG substructure and it's the first site built on a slope that nears the PEG maximum (8 degrees).

Battery Energy Storage Units (BESS)






[Muggleton Cranes](#), the only crane company locally owned in Moree efficiently installed 4 x 30 tonne of BESS units at the Wathagar project. With these units in place, we've installed 31MWh of dispatchable storage on the NSW medium voltage network.

[Storage Solutions](#)

24/7 energy security and the option of selling into the Grid when demand and (returns) peaks.

Meralli Solar sites are designed with energy storage in mind - whether retrofitted or built as part of the project.

Industry Trends

 Commodity	 Current \$	 Trend
Aluminium	2378.00	↑
Steel	4,019.00	↑
Euro	1.57309	↑
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 is expected to trade at 4048.69 Yuan/MT by the end of this quarter, according to Trading Economics global macro models and analysts expectations. China's GDP for the fourth quarter and industrial production for December both expanded more than markets expected, signalling some resilience to the country's strict lockdowns during the period.
- Our business partners tell us that the price of containerised freight out of India has dropped. Not yet at normal levels however it is getting far more competitive - great news for upcoming PEG projects. According to Freightos data, freight rates and congestion levels point to a normalising supply chain.
- 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:

- Adelaide to host 2024 [International Renewable Energy Conference](#) (Energy Magazine)
- The New South Wales government aims to [“turbocharge” the state’s transition from coal and gas to a renewables-based grid](#) with a commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 70% in little more than a decade on the pathway to net zero emissions by 2050. (PV Magazine)
- South Australia has just chalked up what is undoubtedly a [world first](#) – a run of more than 10 consecutive days over which the average production of wind and solar accounted for 100 per cent of local demand. (Renew Economy)
- [Space solar power technology demo](#) launched into orbit. (Science Daily)
- Audi pledges to go [all-electric by 2033](#). (The Driven)
- Four [global trends in solar](#) and storage in 2023 (PV Magazine)
- [Australia’s biggest wind turbine](#) erected at what will be the largest wind farm in NSW (Renew Economy)
- Australia has formalised its [commitment to gender equality in the clean energy transition](#) by signing up to the equal pay, equal leadership and equal opportunity objectives of the global Equal by 30 campaign. (PV Magazine)
- [Solar Insiders Podcast](#): Little solar’s very big year (Solar Insiders Podcast)

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



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