

Clean



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Solar farm planned for Riverland — large-scale battery storage explained

National

Carnegie Clean Energy's bid for State Government's 100MW battery says it could provide hour of power

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A MEGA battery proposed for the Adelaide area could provide an hour of power to avoid blackouts like those experienced by 90,000 householders last month.

Carnegie Clean Energy, the nation's largest designer and integrator of batteries, has unveiled a bid to build a 100MW battery that would be ready by summer.

It is among more than 20 submissions to the [State Government's call for companies to build an enormous battery](#) as part of its plan to secure South Australia's energy system.

Expressions of interest closed at midday on Friday.

It says there was interest from as far afield as the United States, United Kingdom, France, New Zealand, Hong Kong and Switzerland.

The Carnegie proposal could provide an hour of stored power and would take an hour to recharge.



 Lyon Group's 100MW solar and battery project at Roxby Downs.

Backed by corporate giants Samsung and Lendlease, the project could create 300 jobs — such as for electricians, engineers and mechanical fitters — and provide opportunities for South Australians leaving roles in the declining manufacturing industry.

Carnegie managing director Michael Ottaviano said it would be particularly helpful in situations like that seen on February 8 when SA Power Networks instigated load shedding — on orders from the Australian Energy Market Operator — that cut power to 90,000 homes for about 45 minutes.

“In the event that you have say, a generator go down in the system or a particularly strong level of demand on a hot day, or a confluence of both those things, then we will make our battery available to the people of South Australia to avoid those load shedding events,” he said.

The battery site would need to be about 20ha and would be based “within the Adelaide area”, Mr Ottaviano said.



Inside a battery plant

The battery cells would be designed in Adelaide but made in Korea. They would then be integrated into the South Australian system and the battery would be operated by Carnegie.

Consortium partner Samsung SDI is part of the South Korean electronics conglomerate and earlier this year delivered the world’s largest battery storage centre in California.

The 120MWh plant, using Samsung batteries, was delivered in six months.

The other consortium partner, Sydney-based Lendlease, has delivered SA projects including Adelaide Oval and the Adelaide Convention Centre.

Mr Ottaviano said the proposal could only go ahead with State Government support at this stage because “the market rules don’t allow these sorts of batteries to be economical”.

“For the moment it does require effectively a capacity payment ... paid by the Government if your battery is called to provide a service in the marketplace,” he said.

Mr Weatherill said the call for proposals had prompted businesses to “step up and be prepared to put forward proposals” which they might otherwise not have.



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SA to build 'Australia's biggest battery'

Originally published as [Mega battery could provide an hour of power](#)