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Minister for the Environment and Energy

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Federal Member for Leichhardt

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SOLAR AND STORAGE COMBINE TO PROVIDE RELIABLE POWER IN FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND

Construction of Australia's first co-located large-scale solar and battery project to be connected to the electricity grid is now complete.

Federal Leichhardt MP Warren Entsch said the project would provide reliable power to more than 3,000 households living on the grid's fringe in Cape York.

"This is fantastic news for communities in Cape York. There is no reason why they should not have access to reliable power simply because of their location," Mr Entsch said.

"The Government, through the Australian Renewable Energy Agency, provided more than \$17 million to the \$42.5 million Lakeland Solar and Storage Project, located near one of the most remote National Electricity Market substations in Australia.

"The 10.8MW solar photovoltaic plant and 1.4MW/5.3MWh lithium-ion battery will demonstrate providing energy to the local regional community autonomously for several hours."

Federal Environment and Energy Minister Josh Frydenberg said the Government was committed to delivering affordable and reliable power for all Australians.

"For the people of Lakeland, who live on the fringe of the electricity grid where transmission is generally less reliable, this project helps ensure the lights stay on, even when the sun isn't shining," Minister Frydenberg said.

"It is yet another example of the Coalition Government delivering practical solutions for communities facing energy challenges.

"Combining solar generation and battery storage means energy generated throughout the day can be captured and stored for use when it's needed overnight or during peak usage times.

"The overall reliance of the community on the grid is reduced and smart controller software manages energy intermittency to create reliable power generation.

"The project will serve as a great example for other regional communities on the fringe of the electricity grid."

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