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Minister for the Environment and Energy

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**LARGE-SCALE BATTERIES TO DELIVER
MORE AFFORDABLE & RELIABLE ENERGY IN VICTORIA**

The Turnbull Government, through the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA), is providing up to \$25 million for two large-scale batteries that will help provide more affordable and reliable energy in Victoria.

The two batteries, located near Kerang and in Ballarat, will collectively provide 55MW of energy and 80MWh of storage capacity. The Turnbull Government's funding will match a contribution of up to \$25 million from the Victorian Government.

"These two large-scale, grid-connected batteries will play a key role in delivering more affordable and reliable energy for Victorians," Minister Frydenberg said.

"They will not only allow currently unused renewable energy to be stored instead of wasted, but also inject electricity into the grid at times of peak demand in an area known for transmission congestion.

"Together, they will help lower power prices and stabilise the grid."

The first battery near Kerang will be co-located with the existing 60 MW Gannawarra Solar Farm. Providing 25MW of energy and 50MWh of storage capacity, it will be the largest integrated battery and solar farm in Australia – capable of operating at full capacity for two hours or providing power to at least 800 households for 24 hours.

The second battery will provide 30MW of energy and 30MWh of storage capacity. Located at the existing Ballarat terminal substation, it will not only capture excess energy generated from renewable sources in the region and ease transmission congestion, but also reduce the need to expand the substation. During times of peak demand, it can power 20,000 households for one hour.

"Storage has been the missing piece of the energy jigsaw for a long time," Minister Frydenberg said.

"It was Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull who put it at the top of the agenda.

"Whether it's Snowy 2.0 in New South Wales and Victoria, the Battery of the Nation projects in Tasmania or various initiatives, including a 30MW battery, in South Australia, we are expanding, exploring and funding energy storage right across the country.

"These two large-scale, grid-connected batteries in Victoria are yet another investment that will help deliver more affordable and reliable energy for Australian households and businesses as we transition to a lower emissions future."

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