

Clean energy to help fill Western Australia's growing supply gap
Definitive Feasibility Study





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Building an independent, WA focused renewable energy company



Stage DFS complete 120MW solar / 80MW battery

Final Investment Decision mid-2024



Strategy aligned to Federal and State government's renewable energy and emissions targets



445m

Shares on issue

Market Cap

Cash

Management

Near term potential to become Australia's largest solar / battery **Project** 



Strong investor and stakeholder support for development

Renewable energy solutions for Western Australia



### Energy transition in WA is already seeing higher energy prices

#### Current status of the renewable energy transition

- WA and Australia both had ~35% of electricity generated in 2023<sup>1</sup> from renewables, well short of the 2030 target of 82%
- The energy transition affects both supply (replace fossil fuels with renewables) and demand (electrify everything)
  - AEMO forecasts WA electricity demand to increase between 78% and 220% over the next decade

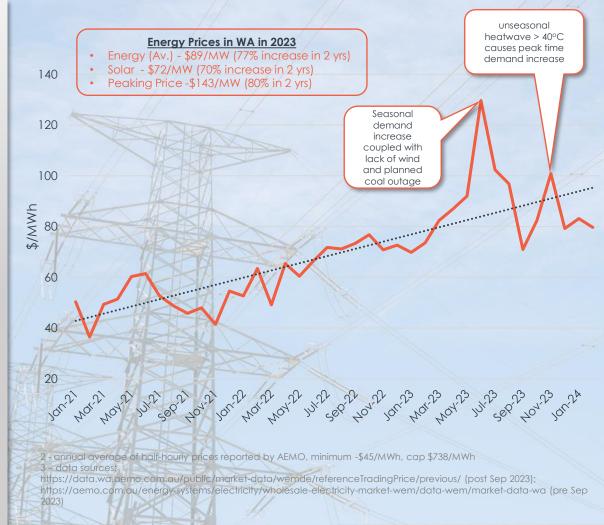
#### Record demand already being seen

- WA experienced the six highest demand periods since the beginning of the WEM during February 2024 alone<sup>2</sup>
  - Record day of 4.2GW 90% supplied by fossil fuel generators

#### Energy prices are also at record highs

- Average prices up more than 70% in the past two years
  - WA electricity prices most expensive in Australia \$84/MW compared to Victoria at \$26/MW<sup>3</sup>
- Reserve Capacity Prices (RCP) up by 78% over the past three years (\$251,000 in 25/26)<sup>3</sup>





<sup>2 -</sup> https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/stakeholder\_consultation/working\_groups/wa\_meetings/real-time-market-insightsforum/real-time-market-insights-forum-20-february-2024.pdf?la=en

<sup>3 –</sup> https://aemo.com.au/energy-systems/major-publications/quarterly-energy-dynamics-qed

<sup>4 -</sup> https://www.erawa.com.au/cproot/23833/2/2024-benchmark-reserve-capacity-price-for-the-202627-capacity-year.PDF



### Frontier's strategic advantages overcome key challenges in the clean energy transition

#### Key issues

### Frontier's Advantage



#### Network needs modifications / extensions

- Legacy networks heavily concentrated in urbanised areas
- Renewable generating assets need large land areas where networks are not established

- Two connections points (one approved ETAC and one in progress) on the largest capacity section of the network (330kv line)
- Freehold landholding 868ha
- Majority of permits and approvals in place



#### Demand / Supply mismatch

- Quicker roll out of new energy consuming products (e.g. EVs) results in increasing demand
- Phase out of fossil fuel generators Closure of the State owned coalfired power stations by 2029 results in reducing supply

- DFS complete FID by mid 2024
  - First production late 2026
- Stage One is only a 10% of potential capacity



#### Renewable electricity supply is intermittent

- Peak renewable supply does not typically coincide with peak electricity demand
  - Multiple stand-alone batteries are planned

- 80MW (4 hr) integrated DC coupled battery
  - Lower costs and transition loses
- Maximise profitability through arbitrage and Reserve Capacity Payments (only in WA)

<sup>2 -</sup> https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/electricity/wem/planning\_and\_forecasting/esoo



### A major renewable energy production and storage solution in the heart of the SWIS

#### Waroona Renewable Energy Project – Snapshot

- 120km south of Perth near Waroona, WA
- Close to existing infrastructure essential for renewables, including network terminal and workforce.
- 868ha freehold land 100% controlled:
  - Previously used for grazing largely cleared

#### Network

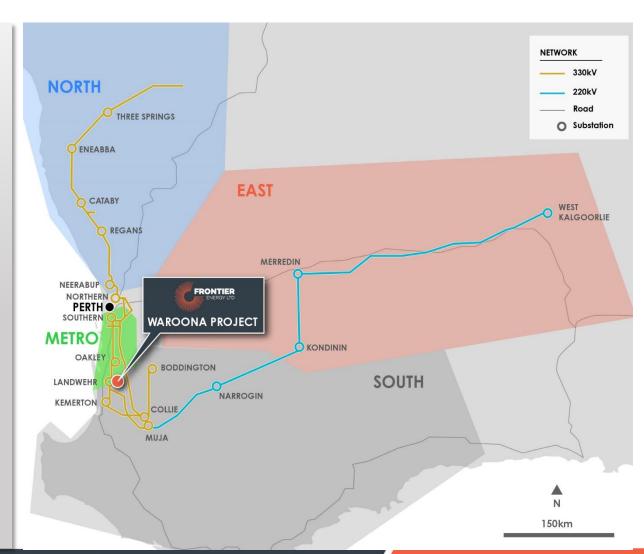
- Located on high voltage (330kV) transmission line unconstrained, with major industrial consumers.
- Frontier has two network connections (one approved ETAC and one ETAC in progress) - potential to export multiples of Stage One capacity.

#### **Approvals**

Majority of permits and approvals in place.

#### Stage One DFS – 120MW solar / 80MW (4 hr) battery

- Targeting FID by mid-2024.
- Ability to quickly replicate the strategy on adjacent freehold land.





### Stage One DFS delivers strong results and platform for growth

Strong economic returns, low technical risk and ability to expand quickly

#### Stage One Strategy – 120MWdc solar, 80MW / 320MWh battery

- All revenue/pricing assumptions provided by independent energy forecaster, Aurora Energy Research
- Base Case EBITDA \$68.1m (5 year average) Stage One only
- Rapid payback 4.6 years (pre tax) / 5.8 years (post tax)
- Strong IRR Geared (70%) 21.6% (post tax) & 27.3% (Pre tax)
- Stage One accounts for ~10% of the Project's potential

#### **Production and Capex**

Item	Units	DFS	
Life of operation	Years	30	
Solar			
Solar Capacity	MWdc	120	
Energy Production (Yr 1)	GWh	258	
Battery – 4 hr			
Nominal capacity – 4 hr	MW	80	
Storage capacity	MWh	320	
Initial Capital Costs			
Stage One – Solar and BESS	A\$ m	\$304	
Payback	Units	Pre Tax	Post Tax
Years (pre tax / post tax)	Yrs	4.6	5.8
IRR		Pre Tax	Post Tax
Ungeared	%	18.0%	14.8%
Geared, leverage 70%	%	27.3%	21.6%





### Multiple revenue streams, potential increase in a rising market

Strong forecast average revenue of \$74m per year over the first 5 years

#### Reserve Capacity Payments (RCP) - \$27.1m (36% of revenue)

- Unique to WA not in any other Australian State
- Payment per MW based on RCP Yr 1 \$300,000 / MW, locked in for 5 years

#### Energy Sales – Battery (peaking period) – \$19.6m (27% of revenue) – see Appendix 2

- Targeting high demand, high price period when renewables less reliable (5pm 9pm)
  - Average peak price in 2023 \$145/MW 78% increase over past 2 years
- Battery to charge during low or negative price periods (middle of the day) to maximise arbitrage

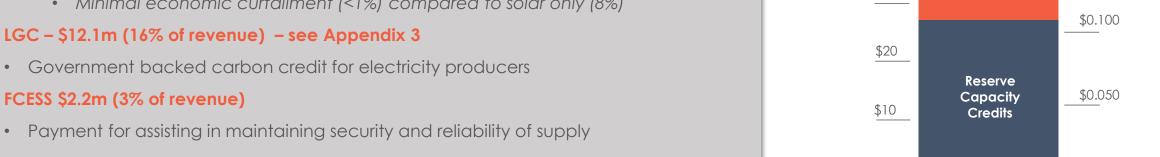
#### Energy Sales – Solar direct - \$12.9m (18% of revenue) – see Appendix 2

- Sell energy during shoulder periods and charge battery in low price/peak supply
  - Minimal economic curtailment (<1%) compared to solar only (8%)</li>

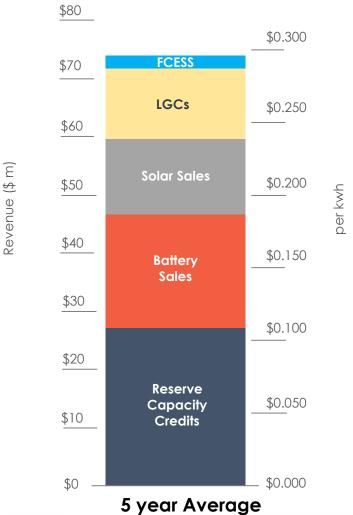
#### LGC - \$12.1m (16% of revenue) - see Appendix 3

Government backed carbon credit for electricity producers

#### FCESS \$2.2m (3% of revenue)



1 - https://www.erawa.com.au/cproot/23833/2/2024-benchmark-reserve-capacity-price-for-the-202627-capacity-year.PDF 2 - https://www.wa.gov.gu/medig/43698/download?inline





### Why is WA different? Reserve Capacity underpins development

Unique to WA and a major driver in development strategy

#### Reserve Capacity Mechanism (RCM)

- RCM is unique to WA, not available in the Eastern States (NEM)
- Under the RCM, generators receive annual payments per MW, based on a Reserve Capacity Price (RCP)
  - New generators can lock in the RCP for five years
- RCPs have increased strongly over the last three years
  - When the market is in deficit an additional 30% is applied to the RCP

#### Battery the new reference technology

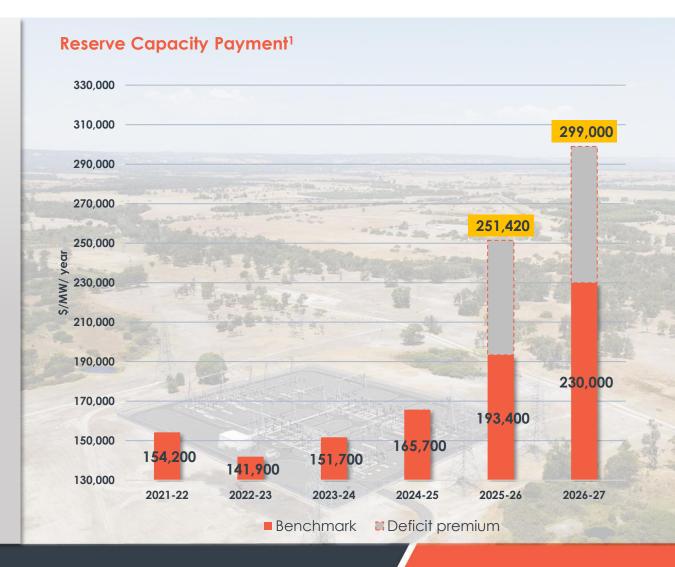
- In Dec 2023<sup>2</sup>, the WA Government selected a 4-hour battery with a 330kV connection as the future benchmark technology
- Potential to extend lock in period from 5 years to 10 years

#### **Advantage for Frontier**

- RCP provides an additional, fixed \$24m in revenue
- Fixed multi year revenue stream enables increased leverage



<sup>2 -</sup> https://www.wa.gov.au/media/43698/download?inline





### Low operating costs ensure long term sustainable profitability

Long life, low operating costs in first world jurisdiction ensures favourable funding solutions

- Once constructed, renewable energy projects are typically always profitable (over the course of a year) due to their:
  - Low operating costs
  - Reliability of production
  - Limited additional capital development requirements
- Stage One opex is forecast at \$5.9m pa (5 year average)
  - This equates to a direct operating cost of approximately 2.4c/kwh (excluding financing costs) compared to revenue of 29.6c/kwh
- Strong annual EBITDA of \$68 million pa over the first 5 years of production





### Funding Strategy - Debt and strategic partnership process

Targeting minimal future dilution for existing shareholders through dual funding strategy

#### **Debt Financing**

- Debt financing for renewable energy projects attract highly favourable terms compared to other industries
  - Long tenors and low interest rates
- Appointed Leeuwin Capital Partners, highly experienced advisor with experience in WA renewable energy sector
- Discussions with all major local banks and international banks already taken place
  - Information Memorandum and data room to be opened shortly
- Indicative debt proposals 2Q24

#### Strategic Partnership

- The Company has received multiple unsolicited approaches over the past 12 months from a range of major groups
- The Company has appointed leading Australian advisory firm Barrenioey as Corporate Advisor in connection with exploring a potential strategic partnership Project development
- · The strategic partnering process has commenced and will seek to introduce a high-quality strategic partner that can provide equity capital to support FID of Stage One and accelerate additional growth Stages

DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE	Stage One	Stage Two - indicative	Stage Three - indicative	Future Expansion Potential
Size of project (solar/battery) 4 hour battery storage throughout	120MWdc / 80MW	250MWdc / 160MW	400MWdc / 270MW	400MW+
Timing	Target FID – mid 2024	Right strategic partner will allow for accelerated development to commence within 6-12 months of Stage One FID		Long term target



### Frontier's path to production

#### **BUILDING A SCALEABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY HUB**



Near term contributor to WA renewable energy strategy



Major growth potential in an unconstrained section of the grid



Strategy aligned to Federal government's State energy and emission targets





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### Appendix 1 - Battery enables revenue uplift through arbitrage

Opportunity to increase received electricity price, while minimising risk of curtailment

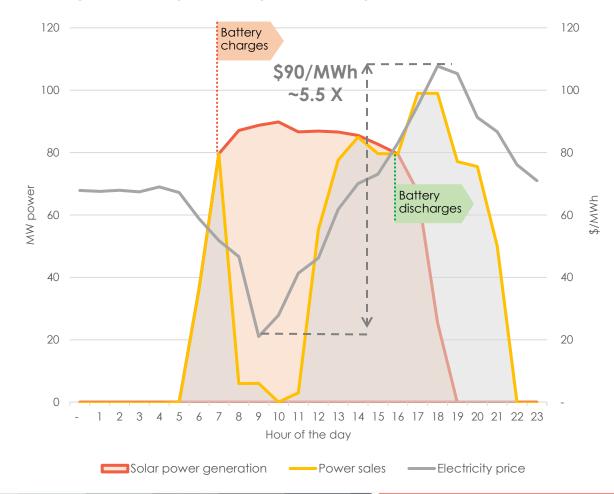
#### Electricity price follows supply and demand

- WA has the most sunlight hours in the country and one of the highest installation rates of rooftop solar (PV) at 38%<sup>1</sup>
  - Expected to increase to ~ 50% by 2030
- Price dips during the day when solar generation peaks
- In the afternoon / evening, demand increases while solar generation declines, causing price to rise sharply

#### Battery allows for revenue uplift and reduces curtailment risk

- The integration of a battery allows electricity sales to be 'shifted'- i.e. electricity is stored in low price periods and sold in high price periods
- 80MW four-hour battery sized to enable substantial shift of electricity sales
  - Solar energy sales early morning shoulder period
  - Battery charge morning to midday
  - Battery discharge combined with solar sales early evening (during peak electricity demand)

#### Electricity revenue uplift example – January 2023



1 - https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/electricity/wem/planning\_and\_forecasting/esoo/2023/

### Appendix 2A – Price forecasts and revenue – Electricity<sup>1</sup>

#### Battery price and revenue

- The Base Case battery price forecast is ~\$150/MWh (close to Spot), with the Stress Test scenario ~\$120/MWh.
  - Early volatility due to adding battery storage >1GW by 2027 and rolling off ~1.3GW coal fired generation by 2029<sup>2</sup>
  - Revenue around \$23m per annum (nominal average)

#### Solar price and revenue

- The solar price forecast captures only hours in which the battery is not being charged, i.e. very early morning before charging commences, and late afternoon once the battery has been charged and solar energy is again available for dispatch.
  - During low and negative price intervals in the morning and mid-day, the battery is charged and no solar power is dispatched to the grid. These intervals are excluded.
- The Base Case and Stress Test scenarios are above and below the Spot of \$75/MWh, respectively, with the Base Case showing near term price strength due to supply demand mismatch
  - Revenue around \$15m per annum (nominal average)



<sup>1 -</sup> These forecasts were developed by Aurora with specific reference to the Project's location in the grid, size of the solar farm and storage capacity of the battery.

<sup>2 -</sup> https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/electricity/wem/planning\_and\_forecasting/esoo/2023/



### Appendix 2B – Price forecasts and revenue – RCP and LGC

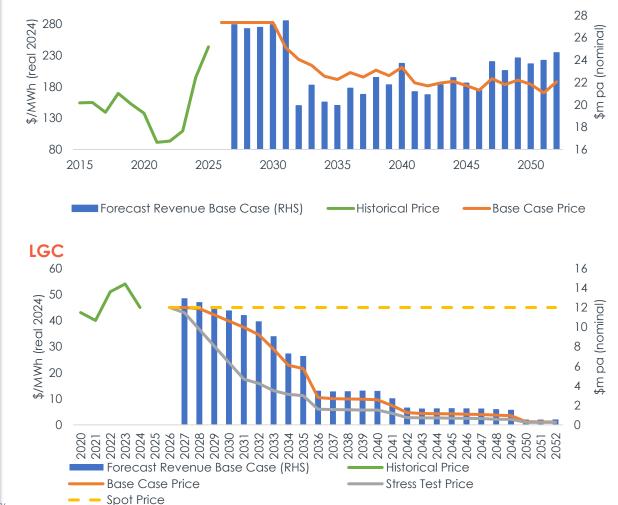
**RCP** 

#### RCP price and revenue

- The BRCP has been set at \$230,000 per MW for 2026/27<sup>1</sup>
  - As the market is forecast to be in deficit, an additional 30% premium is applied
  - New generators can lock this in for 5 years<sup>2</sup>
- Forecast beyond 2031 is provided by Aurora based on its wholistic model of the WEM, taking into account supply / demand and the cost to build and run new capacity
  - RCP Revenue averages \$23m (nominal)

#### LGC price and revenue

- LGCs have fulfilled their purpose, and could be replaced by a Guarantee of Origin Scheme from 2030.
- Despite this, LGC prices have remained strong, with Spot \$45 and range between \$40 and \$68 over the past three years.
- A carbon fungibility scheme could result in LGC prices of \$8 -35 in the 2030s, and this informs the Base Case.
  - Revenue averages \$5m, declining from an initial level of ~\$12m post 2030



<sup>1 -</sup> https://www.erawa.com.au/cproot/23833/2/2024-benchmark-reserve-capacity-price-for-the-202627-capacity-year.PDF

<sup>2 -</sup> https://www.aemo.com.au/energy-systems/electricity/wholesale-electricity-market-wem/wa-reserve-capacity-mechanism/certification-of-reserve-capacity



### Appendix 3 - Large Generation Certificates (LGCs) beyond 2030

The Federal Government has released a consultation paper on green certificates to replace LGCs beyond 2030

### Renewable Energy Guarantee of Origin (REGO) certificates: proposed design

- Federal Government is consulting on a replacement for LGCs (which are due to expire in 2030). REGOs could be introduced by 2024 as an alternative green certificate, to sit alongside the LGC scheme (and eventually replace it).
- A renewable MWh can only create one type of certificate, not both, to avoid double-counting
- Below-baseline generation would be eligible to make REGOs (i.e. a significant amount of Australia's hydro generation would become eligible)
- Small-scale systems, offshore systems, and systems that export power overseas directly would all be eligible, as would storage (if it surrenders a REGO to show it charged from renewable energy)
- All demand for REGOs will be voluntary

#### Key attributes of each certificate

- Existing attributes of LGCs (fuel source, year of creation, state, creator, certificate owner)
- Time of generation (hour + date)
- · Grid location (e.g. NEM, SWIS, DKIS, off-grid)
- Surrenderer and reason for surrender (e.g. to create a hydrogen Guarantee of Origin certificate, or to create a storage REGO certificate)
- Power station commissioning date

These additional attributes could allow for price differentiation of REGOs, with some buyers putting a premium on new plants (to demonstrate additionality) or seeking REGOs to match the time and location of their power use (24/7 CFE)





## Appendix 4 - WEM compared to the NEM

	Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM)	National Electricity Market (NEM)
Installed capacity (MW)	~7GW (+2GW rooftop solar)	>50GW (+20GW of rooftop solar)
Annual operational demand	~18TWh	~190 TWh
Peak operational demand	4GW	36GW
Market structure	<ul> <li>Separate energy + capacity</li> <li>Day ahead market and balancing market</li> <li>Pooled</li> <li>Physical</li> <li>Only operates in the SWIS</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Regional energy only</li> <li>Spot market only</li> <li>Pooled</li> <li>Financial</li> <li>5 state network</li> </ul>
Maximum spot price	\$738/MWh	\$16,600/MWh in FY24
Regulatory bodies	<ul><li>Economic Regulation Authority (ERA)</li><li>Energy Policy WA</li></ul>	<ul><li>AER</li><li>AEMC</li></ul>
Market operator	AEMO	AEMO
Largest three generation companies	Synergy (state-owned), Alinta, Bluewaters (JV)	AGL, Origin Energy, Stanwell (state-owned)







Sources: AEMO, Western Power, Aurora Energy Research, Energy Policy WA, ERA



### Appendix 5 - Frontier's key advantage – grid connections at a central node

Frontier's high quality, unconstrained connection onto the network enables uncurtailed renewable energy sales

- The SWIS is the major electricity network in WA
  - Peak operating demand 4GW
- WA Government plans to expand the grid, however most upgrades will not occur until post 2030
  - Excluding approvals, permitting and development etc which can take a further +6 yrs

Frontier can potentially access two grid connections on the large voltage line (330kV) - low constraint and surrounded by major industrial consumers

• An independent report<sup>1</sup> highlighted that before 2030, only Landwehr Terminal (Project location) can accommodate new large-scale renewable generation of 250MW or greater

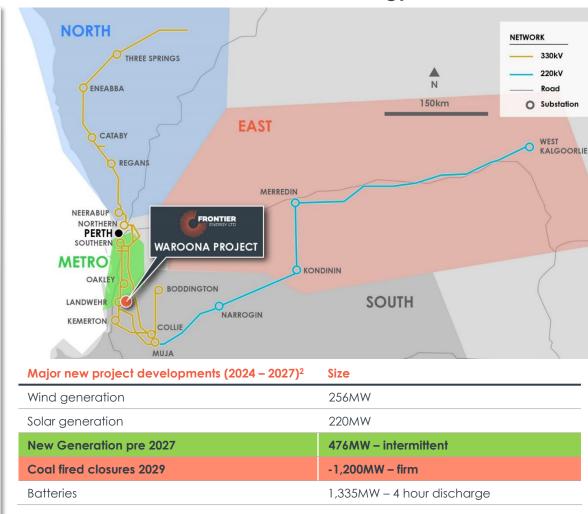
#### AEMO's 2023 ESOO report<sup>2</sup> forecasts a decade of deficits

- Major capacity deficit forecast: > 1.0GW by 2027 & 4.0GW by 2032
- AEMO forecasts demand increase of 78% to 220% over 10 years

#### How will the gap be filled?

- Reliance on batteries, to be charged with excess PV solar
- New utility scale renewable generation falls significantly short of replacing coal fired generation planned to be closed by 2029

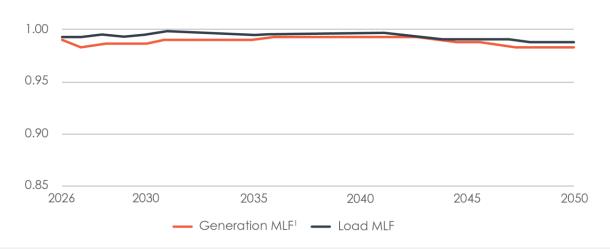
1 – ASX - 2 November 2023; 2 - https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/electricity/wem/planning\_and\_forecasting/esoo





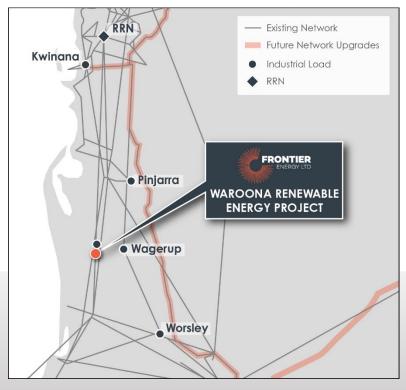
### Appendix 6 - Waroona Solar Farm/BESS is expected to see robust MLFs over the forecast horizon, due to its wellconnected surrounding network

#### MLF for Waroona Solar Farm/BESS - Aurora Central



- Waroona Solar Farm/BESS' generation MLFs are expected to remain highly robust over the forecast horizon, residing in the 0.984 – 0.993 range, so are the Waroona BESS' load MLFs, residing in the range of 0.987 – 0.999.
- Key factors that result in Waroona Solar Farm/BESS' robust MLFs include:
  - Being adjacent to the industry load centres, particularly the Wagerup alumina production facility, means the Waroona Solar Farm will make minimal contribution to the network loss and therefore receive high generation MLFs
  - The transmission lines connecting Waroona Solar Farm to the RRN and industrial loads are at high voltage (330 kV), which makes the Waroona Solar Farm's MLFs robust

#### Central scenario WA network augmentations



- The low density of solar farms around Waroona area means the Waroona Solar Farm usually generates at times when the network congestion is low
- Future network upgrades throughout the 2030s further improves the network robustness around Waroona Solar Farm/BESS, resulting in continuously robust generation and load MLFs



### Appendix 7 - Renewable and battery projects for the SWIS

WA renewable energy projects with announced development plans<sup>1</sup> – 476MW new generation capacity so far announced, while 1,200MW to be closed by 2029. 1,335MW battery storage is planned to firm up renewables

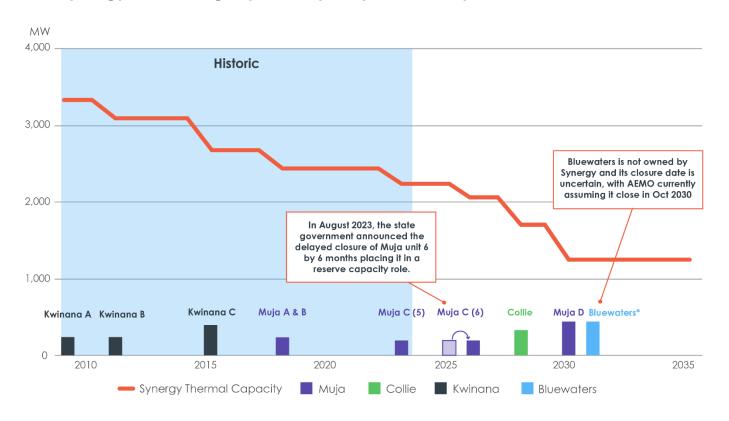
Project	Forecast production	Size	Owner
Wind			
Flat Rocks Wind Farm Stage 1	FY2024	76MW	Enel
Flat Rocks Wind Farm Stage 2	FY2026	~100MW	Water Corp
King Rocks Wind Farm	FY2026	~150MW	Synergy
Total wind		256MW	
Battery			
Neoen Battery Stage 1	FY2025	200MW/800MWh	Neoen
Collie Big Battery	FY2026	500MW/2000MWh	Synergy
Kwinana Big Battery Stage 2	FY2025	200MW/800MWh	Synergy
Neoen Muchea BESS		200MW/400MWh	Neoen
Alinta Wagerup BESS2	FY2025	100MW/200MWh	Alinta
Total Battery		1,200MW/4,800	
Mixed technology			
Cunderdin Solar Farm and BESS	FY2024	100MW - 55MW/220MWh	GPG (Naturgy)
Waroona - Stage 1 Solar Farm and BESS	FY2026	120MW - 80MW/320MW	Frontier
Mixed Total		220MW – 135/540MW	
Total New Energy Development projects by 2027		476MW (wind and solar) + 1,335/5,340 (battery)	
Planned closures of coal fired power stations	2029	-1,200MW	

<sup>1 -</sup> https://aemo.com.au/-/media/files/electricity/wem/planning\_and\_forecasting/esoo/2023/



# Appendix 8 - Synergy has more than 2GW of thermal capacity today but has announced closure dates

#### Synergy coal and gas plant capacity, and coal plant retirements<sup>1</sup>



1) Coal is likely to retire at the end of the capacity year (September 30th) to meet capacity obligations. In Aurora's modelling, these retirements are implemented on an annual basis by financial year so the effective implemented retirement date is June 30th.

#### Coal closure schedule

- State-owned Synergy is the largest participant in the WEM, and is expected to decarbonise in line with state government objectives (80% reduction in emissions from 2020 to 2030), with coal unit closures announced with several years' notice.
- In August 2023, the state government announced that Muja unit 6 will have a 6 month delay to its closure date to supply capacity over the 2024-25 summer. It is expected to only operate in a reserve capacity role requiring prior notice from AEMO to synchronise with the grid.
- Under the Reserve Capacity Mechanism review, carbon emissions are expected to affect a plant's accreditation of capacity credits. Under the prosed implementation plan, coal assets could see zero accredited capacity from the 2029 capacity year<sup>2</sup>
- The WA Government has announced that Synergy will spend \$3.8b on replacement capacity, and has committed to not build any new gas-fired power plants after 2030
- Bluewaters, the privately-owned 434MW coal-fired power station, is yet to announce a closure date. However, Sumitomo (a half-owner) has written down its share of the plant's value to \$0

<sup>2)</sup> Based on 22 March 2023 Reserve Capacity Mechanism Review Working Group discussion paper; Bluewaters would need to operate at a 50% load factor or less, or close one unit, to remain eligible for capacity credits based on a threshold of 4,000tCO2-e per MW of capacity. Sources: EPWA, AEMO, WA government



### Appendix 9 - Stage One – 120MW Solar/80MW 4-hour Battery

Superior and stable returns, increased funding optionality and lower development risk compared to alternatives. Frontier continues to assess opportunities, including in hydrogen, for future expansion







Solar (only)

Solar/BESS

Hydrogen

	Colai (Ciliy)		,
Market (price) Risk	<ul> <li>High</li> <li>Large rooftop solar (PV) penetration means risk of low solar price / curtailment</li> <li>Limited reserve capacity (10% or ~\$4m)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Low</li> <li>Reserve capacity – 100% (\$24m + \$4m) locked in</li> <li>Battery provides opportunity to 'shift' energy generated at low price periods to peak periods</li> <li>WA peak energy prices at all time highs</li> </ul>	High     Hydrogen market still in its infancy     Currently requires the development of our own offtake (e.g. a dual fuel peaking power plant)
Technical Risk	Low  • Mature and well-established technology	Low/medium  Industry is rapidly maturing in WA  High efficiency to store and release solar electricity (~85%)	<ul> <li>High</li> <li>Largest electrolyser in Australia currently 10MW, whereas 'right size' for WREP would be ~72MW</li> <li>Relatively low efficiency to convert solar electricity to H<sub>2</sub> and back into usable energy</li> </ul>
Funding Risk	<ul> <li>High</li> <li>Lowest capital investment; however,</li> <li>Without a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA), debt leverage likely to be limited</li> </ul>	Low  • Medium capital investment  • High debt leverage potential due to substantial fixed Reserve Capacity Payments	High     Largest capital investment, as investment in own offtake (e.g. peaking power plant) is required     Large Government support required to attract debt
Overall assessment / Comments	<ul> <li>Lowest capital and technical risk, however revenue not maximised due to low Reserve Capacity         Payment and curtailment risk     </li> <li>No PPA = minimal fixed returns, lowering fundability</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Best economic returns and technical risk</li> <li>~40-50% fixed income (RCP) = increased leverage</li> <li>Arbitrage exposure to energy price upside</li> <li>DFS confirmed</li> </ul>	Future market with excellent potential however still in its infancy     Existing infrastructure and Stage One development gives FHE major advantage to be first mover in the future