

From Paddocks to Power – The Deakin Renewable Energy Microgrid

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In 2019 Deakin began construction of an industrial scale, renewable energy Microgrid at the Waurm Ponds Campus in partnership with AusNet Services and Mondo Power.

Forming a part of the Geelong Future Economy Precinct at the campus, the Microgrid will utilise 14.5 hectares of land, and will consist of a 7 megawatt solar energy farm, battery storage system, and 250 kW of distributed rooftop solar on key campus buildings.

Overall the Microgrid will deliver a range of outcomes for the University, relating to energy supply, emissions reduction, sustainability, teaching and research. It will also realise the full potential of otherwise underutilised land at the campus.

This presentation will provide an overview of the Microgrid project, and will focus on how renewable energy projects can be leveraged to deliver a broad range of valuable outcomes, including the enhanced management of campus grounds.

BIO

Working in Deakin's Organisational Sustainability team since 2015, Michael leads the development of the University's sustainability strategies to respond to the environmental, social and economic impacts of Deakin's operations.

Partnering with various areas of the University, Michael has driven a range of successful initiatives that have delivered outcomes across Deakin's Sustainability Aspirations, and commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Michael is also member of the G21 Renewable Energy Working Group, and is a passionate about contributing to the sustainable development of the region.