# Australian Industry Participation (AIP) plan Summary – Project Phase

## 1. Project Details

**Designated project proponent:** UPC New England Solar Farm Pty Ltd

**Project name:** New England Solar Farm

**Description of the project:** UPC New England Solar Farm Pty Ltd (UPC) is proposing to construct the New England Solar Farm with approximately 720 MW capacity across two solar fields near Uralla in the New England region of NSW. Rows of solar photovoltaic (PV) panels will be installed on a single axis tracking system that follows the path of the sun. UPC will engage an EPC Contractor to provide detailed engineering design, procurement and construction services for the solar farm and associated high voltage electrical infrastructure. Subject to achieving final project approvals, construction is expected to commence in late 2019 and continue for a period of 3 years.

**Estimated project value:** $600 million

**Project location:** Uralla, NSW

**Link to project information:** [www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au](http://www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au)

**Project contact for procurement information:** Tim Greenaway, 0448 472 244, [info@newenglandsolarfarm.com.au](mailto:info@newenglandsolarfarm.com.au)

**Other project proponents involved in the project:** An EPC Contractor will be engaged for the project.

## 2. Opportunities to supply Goods and Services

| **Expected opportunities** | **Opportunities for Australian entities** | **Opportunities for non-Australian entities** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Goods** |  |  |
| Steel Piles | Yes | Yes |
| Single axis solar trackers (SAT) | Yes | Yes |
| Solar PV Modules | Yes | Yes |
| Electrical Cable | Yes | Yes |
| Electrical protection equipment, combiner boxes, DC junctions | Yes | Yes |
| Inverters | Yes | Yes |
| Transformers | Yes | Yes |
| High voltage electrical switchgear | Yes | Yes |
| Civil engineering structures including road construction and fencing | Yes | Yes |
| **Services** |  |  |
| Engineering Design | Yes | Yes |
| Owner’s Engineer / Contract Management Services | Yes | Yes |

Disclaimer: The information provided in the table above is based on an initial assessment by the company. Any questions or issues should be raised with the project contact.

**Explanation for item(s) in list above where it is indicated ‘No Opportunities for Australian entities’**

| N/A |
| --- |

## 3. Standards to be used in the project

* Australian Standards are used throughout the Principal’s Requirements for the project.

## 4. AIP activities to be undertaken by the Project Proponent

* UPC will appoint an EPC Contractor whose role will include procurement of materials and services for the construction of the solar farm. The EPC Contractor will be required to demonstrate its plan for engaging and consulting with the Australian market prior; the EPC Contractor may choose to use a vendor identification agency to assist in this regard. If the EPC Contractor chooses to use a vendor identification agency the details of this agency will be published on the project website.
* Potential suppliers to the project can register their interest to participate in the construction of the project via the project website – www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au/enquiry. This register of suppliers will be shared with the EPC Contractor.
* The project specification has been prepared with reference to Australian Standards to ensure Australian entities have the ability to meet the requirements of the specification.
* UPC will require the EPC Contractor to comply with this AIP Plan, which will include the implementation of a documented formal policy and plan for AIP including the collection of evidence for the production of the Compliance Report.

## 5. AIP activities to be undertaken by procurement entities

* UPC has established the project website at [www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au](http://www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au). The EPC Contractor may choose to make use of other websites or procurement streams; a link to the alternate websites or procurement streams will be provided on the above website.
* The EPC Contractor is to publish on the procurement websites the requirements potential bidders must satisfy in order to supply goods and services for the project.
* UPC will require that the EPC Contractor provide all potential suppliers with the same opportunity to participate in the project as existing or global supply chain partners by making EOI/RFT documents available to all possible suppliers at the same time, allowing reasonable time frames for companies to respond to EOIs and RFTs, structuring EOI/RFTs for Australian and overseas suppliers on the same basis and keeping the cost of tendering as low as possible by using web portals and email as a key communication and submission tools.
* Where appropriate and feasible, UPC will require the EPC Contractor to use local businesses to undertake works that are within their capability and experience and encourage local participation in undertaking specialist works through partnership arrangements or upskilling.
* Where appropriate and feasible, the EPC Contractor must arrange discussions with global manufacturers briefing them on the capabilities and past achievements of Australian entities engaged on the project and potentially capable Australian suppliers, where known.
* The EPC Contractor is to support Australian suppliers to adopt world’s best practice standards by undertaking supplier audits, where practical, to benchmark and disseminate best practice and providing in our contracts with foreign suppliers to actively engage in the development programs to identify capable Australian manufacturers and encouraging technology transfer, where appropriate. Also, where appropriate, encourage foreign suppliers to engage with and undertake technical consultations with Australian entities engaged on the project and other potential and capable Australian manufacturers.