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One of Australia's largest solar farms proposed for Queensland

• Alexandra Patrikios

A Queensland company is seeking council approval to build what it says would be Australia's largest solar farm, with hopes it could power more than 300,000 homes.

Solar Q lodged a development application with Gympie Regional Council on Tuesday for a 350-megawatt site, to be located about 30km northwest of Gympie, in the first of three development stages.



South of Canberra, the Royalla is one of the largest operational solar farms in Australia. Photo: Matthew Bedford

Managing director Scott Armstrong said, if approved, the \$2 billion solar farm and battery storage facility would aim to source labour from Gympie, and would not take up prime agricultural land.

Mr Armstrong said the project's "ultimate design" would result in the facility increasing to 800-megawatts - which translates into electricity for about 315,000 homes - and plugging directly into the Lower Wonga substation.

"That substation basically feeds all of southeast Queensland and Wide Bay," he said on Wednesday.

"That market that we're injecting into is twice the size of the whole South Australian market."

The project will create about 450 full-time jobs over a 18-month construction phase, but it will only need six to 10 staff in the long term.

Mr Armstrong said given the solar panels would be raised off the ground, livestock such as sheep or goats could be enlisted as lawnmowers.

It's expected the initial application will take months to be vetted by the council, as well as state bodies.

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