

The Challenge:

Australia is currently experiencing a fraught public discussion around renewable energies, with solar energy production on agricultural and environmental landscapes at the forefront of debate.

Robust and targeted consultation with industry partners from farming and energy sectors has identified challenges to the deployment of utility-scale solar energy production, in the form of cost vs benefit for farmers, and social license to operate for the energy sector.

Large-scale land transformation is needed to achieve climate resilience

A fully decarbonised agricultural supply chain will set Australia apart and enhance our access to sustainability-conscious international markets. To meet emissions targets, both existing and proposed, agrisolar can be a major driver in the transition to a climate-positive economy. A full exploration of Agrisolar in Australia via a CRC will mature the decarbonisation community, grow the economy through innovative PV solar usage, and help Australia reach climate resilience through application.

Utility-scale solar, which focuses on vast-scale deployment of photovoltaic (PV) panels over agricultural land, is perceived by some local communities as an eyesore with little or no local benefit.

Behind the farmgate, Australian farmers plough on amid an energy crisis, where the financial costs of grid connected solar energy far outweigh many emissions reduction considerations. The integration of PV technology on-farm without inclusion of energy storage solutions, often leaves the farmer without energy security and, as a result, farming communities lack climate resilience.

For Agrisolar trials that do exist, Australia is reliant on foreign technology and designs which have been developed for farming conditions overseas, rather than our own unique climate and soils.



Our Mission:

The CRC will accelerate Agrisolar to the point where it constitutes a mainstream approach to the renewables transition and becomes the first choice of energy developers and farmers in many land use settings.

The R&D in the CRC will unite farming and energy sectors by way of exploring commercially viable outcomes in a placebased, collaborative environment.



~\$33M cash + in-kind





WESTERN SYDNEY UNIVERSITY



Our project & place-based approach

The CRC bid team is seeking for our partners to engage in collaborative project planning prior to bid submission in 2025 (anticipated). This means that we will be able to map the first few years of projects for the CRC in time for submission and, if funded, pull the trigger quickly on tangible highimpact outcomes that lead us toward our 10-year vision.

To help our partners get these projects to the shovel-ready stage, we have created a 'plan on a page' template which is available for download on our website.



Got questions about what your commitment looks like? Head to our FAQs page!





