Examples of agriculture and co-land use

From the Best Practice Charter 2025 reports

Developer	Project Name	Case Study
Ace Power	Nebo BESS – Cattle Corridor	A site boundary corridor was agreed to ensure minimal disruption to existing cattle farming operations on the host property.
Acen	New England Solar	Scaling land use value stacking: From proof of concept to ongoing collaboration Case Study In 2025, ACEN Australia and the University of New England (UNE) reached an in-principal agreement deliver the first formal, quantitative evidence in Australia on the productivity and environmental outcomes of grazing beneath utility-scale solar arrays, via a three-year, peer-reviewed research study. The partnership builds on the successful Solar Grazing program delivered at NES in 2023. Since then, host landholders have observed strong pasture growth and healthy flock integration under and around solar panels. What began as a practical land-use trial with local graziers is now scaling into a structured research program designed to provide robust evidence and create a replicable model for agrisolar practice across Australia.
AGL	Barn Hill Wind Farm	The Barn Hill Wind Farm has minimised impacts on highly productive agricultural land and explored opportunities to integrate agricultural production through comprehensive stakeholder and community engagement. Examples include: • Transmission lines are run in road verges with Council consents to keep infrastructure out of cropping land. • When encroachment on arable land is unavoidable, infrastructure such as transmission line poles is strategically placed along fence-lines to minimise disruption. • The micro-siting of wind turbine generators (WTGs) is carried out with careful consideration of primary producers' needs, ensuring minimal interference with farming activities. • The Land Access Protocol document underscores the project's commitment to cooperation and respect for the needs of primary producers. • The project identifies the best access routes to avoid crops and grazing stock, further reducing agricultural impact. • Bespoke Farm Management Plans are developed to support primary producers in continuing their farming enterprises with minimal disturbance during construction.
Alinta	Mari Wind Farm	For the Marri Wind Farm Project, which is currently in development, we're working closely with project landowners on road placement and turbine locations. This approach aims to harness optimal wind resources while minimising disruption to farming operations, ensuring the continued productivity of agricultural land.
Alinta	Reeces Plains	Reeves Plains Energy Hub demonstrates the compatibility of renewable energy with agriculture. We've committed to building the Reeves Plains Energy Hub Battery Stage 1, and while the project was at an advanced stage in its planning, sheep continued to graze on the surrounding land. This method maintains agricultural productivity and prepares the site for future energy storage infrastructure with minimal disruption to the farming community.
Acciona	Various projects	We work closely with primary producer landowners and incorporate their feedback into project planning to find mutually beneficial solutions ensuring projects and existing land uses can co-exist and renewable installations don't interfere with landowner operation. For example, a dual-use agrivoltaics model is being proposed with landowners. This involves the installation of solar panels above agricultural fields, allowing for continued farming activities underneath.
Ark Energy	Sun Metals Solar Farm	Ark Energy's wind energy projects are all proposed for pastoral properties that are currently used for livestock, with infrastructure to be located in areas less suitable for grazing. Impacts on operations will be minimised by working closely with host landowners and co-locating and integrating infrastructure with farming operations where practicable. Once operational the project and livestock will co exist. For example, the introduction of sheep grazing as a dual land use is being explored for the Sun Metals Solar Farm, which is located on land that had low agricultural productivity.
Atmos	Hayman Solar Farm	Atmos conducted a sheep grazing trial with approximately 1000 dorper sheep over 590 hectares at Daydream and Hayman Solar Farms from September to December 2024. The dorper breed were chosen because of their relative short wool length, low maintenance and suitability to more arid regions. The trial resulted in tangible benefits to both the landholder, by introducing an additional income stream to their farming operations, and Atmos due to a 50% reduction in vegetation management (mowing and slashing) time and cost (estimated to be a saving of ~$200,000/year). Other benefits include a reduction in diesel fuel use (~6,000L/year) and associated greenhouse gas emissions (~17,200 CO2e/year), reduced fire risk and herbicide use.

Cubico	Middle Creek Energy Hub	At the Middle Creek Energy Hub, Cubico has worked closely with host landholders to ensure the project is designed to integrate with existing rural activities. A key focus throughout the planning process has been to minimise disruption to farming operations and land management practices wherever possible. Project infrastructure has been shaped by direct input from landholders, with access roads and entry points planned to align with existing land uses. Where new access tracks are needed, Cubico has used best endeavours to align them with existing farm roads, fence lines, and natural ridgelines to reduce land disturbance, preserve water flow paths, and support the continued use of productive farmland. The overall footprint of the project's infrastructure has also been carefully considered. This includes limiting the size of new access roads and underground cabling. Property entry points have been refined in consultation with individual landholders to avoid interfering with day-to-day agricultural operations.
Energy Australia	Tallawarra Lands	Land owned by EnergyAustralia at Tallawarra is an example of leasing unused lands for agriculture where various agistment agreements are in place. EnergyAustralia is also in a multi-year process to release otherwise unused land around Tallawarra for residential and commercial development, playing our part in creating vibrant communities and employment opportunities in the Illawarra.
Genex	Bulli Creek Clean Energy Project	The BCCEP is planned on land that is not classified as highly productive agricultural land. This strategic site selection ensures that the project does not displace agricultural activities. Notwithstanding this, Genex intends to integrate the use of sheep for vegetation management over the operating life of the project.
Iberdrola	Avonlie Solar Farm	Our Avonlie Solar Farm, near Narrandera, NSW, is an example of agrivoltaics, combining sheep grazing with solar energy production. This approach to coexistence with farming is proving successful. The 245 MW solar farm operates across two Merino wool properties. Each spring—during the peak sheep growth season—around 2,500 sheep graze across the site for four months. Sheep grazing has also proven to be an effective means of reducing bushfire risk by lowering the vegetation fuel load, while simultaneously reducing tractor and mower emissions and associated workforce hazards.
Iberdrola	Lake Bonney Wind Farms and BESS	Through a low-cost grazing arrangement, a local farmer runs sheep and cattle on the land. In return, the farmer maintains fencing and provides water for the livestock. This partnership enables our team to manage vegetation naturally, reducing active maintenance and lowering bushfire risk—reinforcing the value of integrated land use.
Engie	Willogoleche 2 Wind Farm project	During development of the Willogoleche 2 Wind Farm project, the team is working closely with landholders to ensure agricultural priorities are respected throughout the planning process. In response to landholder preferences, turbines and related infrastructure have been deliberately positioned on grazing land rather than high value cropping areas, enabling continued sheep grazing alongside wind farm operations. Additionally, access roads and fencing adjustments were designed in alignment with landholder input to preserve and enhance the agricultural productivity of the affected land.
Engie	Goorambat East Solar Farm,	During construction of the Goorambat East Solar Farm, ENGIE has implemented a range of measures to minimise disruption to neighbouring residents and respect local agricultural practices. These adjustments to operational timing and logistics were guided by community feedback and a commitment to being a considerate neighbour and included: • Piling works were strategically scheduled around the movement of nearby horses to prevent distress and ensure the safety of both animals and owners. • The bulk of the workforce was brought in by bus each day to reduce daily traffic volumes and avoid unnecessary wear on local roads. • Additional water sprays were applied during periods of dry and windy weather to mitigate dust impacts. • Construction deliveries were carefully timed to avoid clashing with periods when farmers travel with machinery for regular agricultural activities. These thoughtful adaptations reflect ENGIE's commitment to responsible construction practices and maintaining positive relationships with the local community.
Kilara	Wilan project	Kilara primarily focuses on wind energy development in regions with relatively sparse populations, underpinned by extensive broadacre cropping or rangeland grazing activities. Our Wilan project site is a case in point, with the majority of the land under development being extensive grazing lands within which wind energy generation activities are highly compatible and will utilise only two per cent of the total land available. Projects are designed in consultation with local landowners to ensure complementarity with existing farming operations. The Wilan design process has been an iterative one in which participating landowners have been consulted at every stage of project design to ensure an optimised outcome with respect to existing land uses and values. Further, Clearly articulating relevant commitments to biosecurity protocols with project landowners and preparing a project design consistent with ongoing agricultural activities across the site.

Lightsource BP	Wellington Solar Farm	We're proud to be partnering with local farming leader, Tony Inder, to demonstrate the potential for agrivoltaics at our Wellington site. Tony's been integral to trialling and testing the co-existence of sheep grazing with solar panels and how this impacts wool production. Our Wellington site was showcased on ABC Landline, the respected rural current affairs programme, in a feature highlighting how solar energy and traditional agriculture can work hand-in-hand. The segment followed farmer Tony Inder as he described the practical benefits of grazing sheep beneath solar panels, including increased pasture growth and improved wool quality – even in times of drought. The episode also featured insights from our Head of Planning, Diana Mitchell, who explained how integrating sheep into our solar farms helps manage ground cover, supports local agricultural productivity, and demonstrates our commitment to collaborative land use with local communities.
Lightsource BP	Various projects	Lightsource bp selects sites that have the potential to incorporate agricultural activity in the development of our solar farms (agrivoltaics). Whilst we've focused on optimising productivity gains from grazing sheep in Australia – especially at our Wellington site, globally we're investing in research to understand the benefits and the practicalities of farming dairy cattle and growing a range of crops. These trials are in their early stages but are showing the opportunities for diversified land uses to co-exist with renewable energy. Key 2025 activities include: • Industry support – major sponsorship of the 2024 25 Agrivoltaics Conference in Germany which promoted knowledge sharing among landholders, researchers and developers. • Operational grazing – established projects continue to use managed sheep grazing to maintain vegetation within arrays, reducing fire risk and herbicide use. Today, we're grazing 1,336ha across three operational sites. • Growing our internal team – We've increased our internal capability through the appointment of a Head of Agrivoltaics and increased resourcing to help drive improvements across our global portfolio, including Australia. • Promoting agrivoltaics – Actively raising awareness about the benefits of agrivoltaic systems through engagement with media, including recent participation in high-profile programs such as ABC Landline
Mint	Dederang BESS	Potential impact to high quality agricultural land and ongoing agricultural productivity is a key consideration in the design of our projects. BESS present unique challenges when it comes to balancing agricultural land use with infrastructure development, unlike solar and wind projects, which can often coexist with farming activities within the same area. This consideration played a key role in selecting the location for the Dederang BESS. By situating the project adjacent to the existing Dederang Terminal Station, we are able to minimise impacts on productive agricultural land by utilising an already industrialised area and reducing the need for additional connection infrastructure (the connection will be placed underground). Furthermore, the location and design of the BESS and its supporting infrastructure, including access routes and fencing, have been carefully planned to support the continued agricultural use of the broader property. The Project will occupy approximately 4 hectares of the property once construction is complete, with the remaining land continuing to be available for the hosting landholder's agricultural use. Any temporary disturbance to the land, such as construction laydown zones, will be carefully rehabilitated once construction concludes.
Mint	Various projects	We are also working closely with landholders on early-stage wind farm developments in cropping regions, to understand their operational requirements and integrate them into our designs. This includes optimising the dimensions and alignment of access tracks to accommodate large harvesting, seeding, and spraying equipment, minimising disruption to farming operations.
Origin	Northern Tablelands Wind Farm	Origin recognises the strong agricultural ties within the regions where we develop renewables and work to support coexistence with farming activities. We conduct all the requisite studies throughout the project lifecycle to inform management plans and minimise potential impacts. Community engagement is central to our approvals process, helping us to tailor our approach and maximise shared benefits. For example, at Northern Tablelands Wind Farm in the New England REZ, a land use agreement has been established with an agricultural operator. Under this arrangement, cattle grazing activities will continue, with the operator maintaining livestock management and making improvements to the land.
OSMI	Delburn Wind Farm	When working with host landowners, OSMI's Operational Protocols ensure farm or forest management activities and renewable energy developments allow flexible and practical work practices for the benefit of all parties. This includes biosecurity and livestock management, site access, security and safety protocols, interparty and external communications, rehabilitation of disturbed areas, reinstatement and remediation of landowner assets, shared use of project infrastructure, aviation operations, fire regulations and environmental management. Operational Protocols are reviewed jointly by the parties at key project milestones and other agreed triggers such as changes to regulatory settings. OSMI works with landowners on the layout of wind farm infrastructure to drive operational improvements to the productive capacity of the land. The Delburn Wind Farm will not impact surrounding farming properties as it is being built above the existing HVP Thorpdale plantation. OSMI has worked with HVP to ensure the wind farm design minimises impacts on their tree production and business operations.

OX2	Various projects	We work closely with primary producer landowners, incorporating their feedback into project planning to ensure renewable energy infrastructure can coexist with ongoing agricultural operations. By integrating renewable energy with farming, we aim to reduce impacts on primary and secondary productivity. There is growing interest in combining solar energy with complementary agricultural uses, leveraging benefits such as: • Partial shading and weather protection • Improved soil moisture and vegetation growth • Shelter for livestock, particularly sheep We actively encourage the adoption of Agrisolar practices, with 75% of our managed solar farms already incorporating this approach. Wind farms also coexist well with agriculture, occupying only a small portion of land, allowing farming to continue largely uninterrupted. We are committed to promoting dual land use across our projects and, at the end of a project's life, we will decommission infrastructure and aim to restore or enhance the land for continued agricultural use.
Potentia	Cohuna Solar Farm & Agriculture Victoria	Research conducted at the Cohuna Solar Farm by Agriculture Victoria (Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action) aimed to measure microclimate and soil characteristics below solar panels in a commercial solar farm and identify potential plant and livestock production systems that could successfully co-exist within, beside and around large-scale solar farms. The ultimate outcome is to support co-development of land to combine agriculture production and energy production that contributes to the region's viability and resilience.
Potentia	Various projects	Appreciating that agistment is a beneficial feeding option when feed is short on the livestock's home property, Potentia Energy has agreements with local stockowners to place their livestock on project land for grazing purposes. At Bungala Solar Farm, Girgarre Solar Farm, Cohuna Solar Farm and Royalla Solar Farm these arrangements are ongoing while the solar farms are in operation. PE projects that are currently in construction and development, such as Quorn Park Hybrid Farm and Tallawang Solar Hybrid Farm, have already made commitments on future dual use of land for agrivoltaics projects, during the operational phase of the plants. Agistment Programs have the mutual benefit for Potentia Energy of keeping vegetation low and mitigating grassfire risk, whilst enabling a dual use of land on site for agricultural practices.
Ratch	Collector Wind Farm	We work with landowners from day one, incorporating their farming activities into our construction and operational plans. This was demonstrated at Collector Wind Farm (NSW) where existing agricultural activities were maintained throughout construction, through the implementation of agreed farm management plans, and close coordination of programs and activities of the construction contractors and RAC with the landowners. In particular, this included specific activities such as avoiding specific paddocks during lambing or calving season, consultation & agreement on project design revisions, and providing personnel to assist with movement of livestock across public roads during wind turbine deliveries.
Ratch	Various projects	RAC is working with landholders at several NSW sites on an agistment and land management framework to be used in future (solar and battery energy storage systems) developments to facilitate dual use agri-solar, maintaining the productivity of the land.
RES	Various projects	Through careful site selection, detailed design and close liaison with host landholders, the RES team seeks to minimise the impacts of projects on highly productive agricultural land. RES is committed to fostering long-term, mutually beneficial relationships with landowners and stakeholders by promoting effective co-existence between renewable energy infrastructure and ongoing agricultural operations. A key component of this commitment is early and ongoing consultation with landowners to ensure the design and construction of the Project supports existing farming and business activities. Through the Land Access Management Protocols, RES seeks to gain a comprehensive understanding of each property's operations, including cropping and grazing patterns, machinery types, GPS systems and accuracy, as well as crop and paddock rotations. Landowner input plays a pivotal role in shaping project design. RES integrates the landowners' recommendations where possible — particularly in relation to access track placement and design — into the planning process to minimise disruption and maximise operational compatibility. Utilising the Landowners recommendations ensures that project infrastructure minimises the unusable areas of the property with design considering current and potential future farming practices (i.e. larger machinery for planting, fertilising, spraying and harvesting). RES undertakes multiple rounds of co-design consultations to ensure that project infrastructure can be integrated into the working farm. Once RES has an understanding of the landowners' property and business, it can focus on further consultations regarding the project's key infrastructure needs, specifically: • Wind turbine locations, hardstands, and associated temporary laydown areas (codesigning with direction of farming, existing tram lines, GPS, tractor and planter, spray rig and harvesting machinery). • Internal access track alignments. • Preferred locations for substations. • Internal transmission routes. • Siting of construction compounds, concrete batching plants, additional temporary laydown areas, and Operations & Maintenance facilities.

RES	Kerrs Creek & Murra Warra	The proposed Kerrs Creek Wind Farm is located on land which will continue to be used for grazing purposes while providing supplementary income to landholders. The overall footprint of the wind farm and associated infrastructure will take up only a small portion of the overall project site, (approximately two percent), with the improvements to on-farm infrastructure such as tracks and fencing supporting day-to-day management of the existing grazing enterprises. Another example is throughout development of the Murra Warra Wind Farm (VIC), the team worked closely with the grain farming land holders to ensure that tracks and turbines were appropriately aligned to maximise their cropping operations within their paddocks and take up as little as two per cent of their paddock footprint. Where possible, tracks were aligned to fence lines and spaced to best match with their farming equipment operation. The success of this is evident on the now operational wind farm, with farmers positively integrating the turbines into their cropping operations.
Spark Renewables	Bomen Solar Farm	Spark Renewables partners with landowners from early investigation, through project development, construction, and during operations. Our long-term partnerships with our host landowners are of critical importance. Minimising the impacts on highly productive agricultural land and exploring opportunities to integrate agricultural production serves to achieve that outcome. We plan for grazing and agriculture activities to continue within the project areas throughout wind farm operation largely undisturbed. Spark Renewables avoids placing infrastructure in more productive cropping zones as much as possible, and locates turbines in areas where they can co-exist with grazing activities. We have a particular focus on supporting research and trials that drive the successful long-term co location of agricultural and renewables projects to maximise the productivity of the land through co existence of solar and agriculture work, also known as 'agrivoltaics' and 'agrisolar'. At Bomen Solar Farm, which is an operational agrisolar farm, Spark Renewables invested in critical farm infrastructure to make sheep grazing viable, enabling hosting Merino wethers and dry ewes on the site.
Tilt Renewables	Coopers Gap Wind Farm	At Coopers Gap Wind Farm, located primarily on beef grazing land, landholders raised concerns about the potential spread of foot and mouth disease through wind farm maintenance activities. In response, the Operations and Maintenance provider implemented a biosecurity system that includes educating workers during site inductions and integrating screening questions into the daily check-in app to identify individuals who have recently travelled to Indonesia. This proactive approach has reassured landholders that the risk of disease transmission from returning workers is being effectively managed. Tilt Renewables has collaborated with landholders at the Liverpool Range Wind Farm, located primarily on sheep grazing land, to develop and implement Property Management Plans (PMPs) for the construction, operation, and decommissioning phases of the project. These PMPs address a broad range of potential impacts on both agricultural and project activities, outlining mitigation strategies that can be applied by landholders as well as the project proponent and contractors. Key measures include fencing requirements, traffic management, aerial agricultural operations, biosecurity protocols, livestock movement and reduction strategies, and rehabilitation of farming land.
Total Energies	Various projects	We work with the landowners to ensure the design of the wind farm (and necessary access tracks) can work alongside the landowner's use of the land, where appropriate. The access tracks built for the wind farms are generally able to be used by the landowner and are maintained by the owner of the wind farm. This arrangement means that the landowner has the opportunity to potentially use their land more productively, while maintaining the agricultural production, as the access around the land has been upgraded in certain areas.
Total Energies	Various projects	We currently own an operational solar farm in our portfolio that hosts sheep and have other projects in the pipeline that include provisions for this in the landowner agreements and the application documents. We have introduced this initiative on this project, as it provides agricultural opportunities and aids with maintaining low vegetation, which helps reduce fire risk.
Vestas	Captains Mountan Wind Farm	As an example, Captains Mountain Wind Farm has been designed to minimise impacts to productive agricultural land by using existing farm tracks where possible and carefully considering alternatives before final design decisions are made. Where feasible, infrastructure is aligned along ridge lines and designed to avoid intersecting contour banks, helping to maintain existing drainage and support continued agricultural use.
Vestas	Various projects	Vestas designs our projects to avoid and minimise biodiversity impacts, and where required, we offset residual impacts to ensure a net positive outcome to the natural environment. We design our projects to minimise soil and water impacts. Farm management protocols are built into our agreements with host landowners. We seek to ensure that our activities during project development, construction and operation have limited impacts on existing agricultural operations.

West Wind	Various projects	Throughout a project's development, we work closely with each host landholder to design the layout to avoid impacts on highly productive agricultural land. This often involves multiple design iterations, relocating turbines and access tracks, and improving drainage to support farming needs. When complete, wind farms occupy only about 2% of the site, leaving most of the land available for ongoing agricultural use. Livestock grazing and cropping can continue right up to the edge of turbines, hardstands, and access roads. The impact of renewable projects on agricultural productivity is often greatly overstated. We have created dedicated resources for landholders and the community on this topic – visit WestWind's Host Landholders webpage to learn more, and watch videos about Farming with Turbines and Farming with transmission.
Wind Prospect	Various projects	Typically, the income generated from hosting wind farm infrastructure is significantly greater by an order of magnitude compared to the loss of income from lost agricultural output from the land used by wind farm infrastructure, which is usually only around 1.5 to 2% of the land. Additionally, the construction of all weather tracks in many instances improves accessibility and agricultural operations. Agreements with landowners include provisions that require the wind farm owner to liaise with the landowner to minimise disruption to farming activities. On one of our projects, we worked closely with a landowner to design the project to cause no direct impacts to his cropped land, utilising existing tracks between paddocks and tight spaces to find a solution that works for both parties.
WIndlab	Bungaban Wind Energy Project	Bungaban has been designed to complement the region's agricultural industries. Around 1% of the project landholder area will be utilised during operations. Host landholders helped shape the footprint which includes: y Integration with farming, grazing, and resource industries to ensure ongoing agricultural productivity y Incorporation of mustering laneways, paddocks, yards, and watering points y Adoption of biosecurity protocols to protect agricultural activity. The project will also deliver upgrades to public roads, property access tracks, gates, and grids.
X-Elio	Various projects	Our Sustainability Department is actively exploring agrivoltaic solutions to integrate agricultural production with renewable energy projects, ensuring a harmonious coexistence with the land and reducing any potential impacts on farming (WIP).