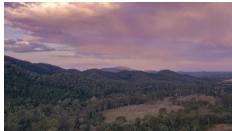


Hydro project recognises cultural groups

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The site for Sunshine Hydro's Flavian Superhybrid project in Miriam Vale. Photos: Sunshine Hydro



A cultural ceremony between Sunshine Hydro, Gidarjil Development Corporation and Burnett Mary Regional Group (BMRG) formalised the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding last week.

The ceremony comes after Queensland-based company Sunshine Hydro launched its \$2 billion Miriam Vale pumped hydro renewable energy project in early May this year.

Gidarjil Development Corporation managing director Dr Kerry Blackman said the project's indigenous name, Djandori gung-I, means 'spirit in the water' and symbolises traditional links to the area, while referencing the use of water in the within the pumped hydro renewable energy system.

"It was powerful to be on country to explain the rich cultural heritage of these lands, while being respectfully and meaningfully engaged in their future," Dr Blackman said.

"The MoU outlines the deep partnership and commitment among parties to optimise environmental, social, and economic benefits, including local employment and further recognition of our cultural values."

Sunshine Hydro will lead future planning and approvals for the project but said BMRG and Gidarjil Development Corporation will be involved as key partners.

The Flavian Superhybrid project plans to deliver sustainable and reliable (firm) renewable energy by using a closed loop pumped hydro system to generate net



renewable energy.

Water is pumped to higher storage and then released to flow under gravity through turbines to generate electricity.

This energy can be sent to the grid or power the production of green hydrogen or other forms of energy.

Sunshine Hydro said energy used to power the pumps is likely to come from other projects planned within the Gladstone Renewable Zone and elsewhere.

The project is set to abate around 2.5 per cent of Queensland's current level of annual carbon emissions.

Sunshine Hydro chairman Michael Myer said reliable renewable energy will genuinely meet the challenges of climate change by decarbonising industry.

"Sunshine Hydro is committed to demonstrating how the renewables industry and traditional owners can work together on innovating power generation in Australia and beyond, while respecting and protecting the natural environment," Mr Myer said.

He also said the pumped hydro project will create local jobs during its construction and operational phases.

BMRG CEO Sheila Charlesworth said she was pleased to work with the project.

"An added benefit for the community and environment from this project will be the availability of a permanent water resource to respond to future bushfire threats," Ms Charlesworth said.

Sunshine Hydro will also offer two PhD candidates a chance to undertake applied research into pumped hydro and green hydrogen production through funded scholarships with Central Queensland University.

This is to help ensure Queensland and the Gladstone region is at the forefront of world knowledge and applications within the renewable energy sector.

The community can provide reviews and comments on the project by contacting flavian@sunshinehydro.com.au or by visiting www.flavian.sunshinehydro.com

