



# Bundaberg Sugar Industry Renewable Energy Project



## Adapting Renewable Energy Concepts to Irrigated Sugarcane Production at Bundaberg



### Cooperating Irrigator:

Killer Family Holdings Pty Ltd

### Subcontractors:



### Activity Steering Committee:

Dr Georgina Davis



Eddy Vickery



Axel Braunsberger



Maurie Haines





## ADAPTING RENEWABLE ENERGY CONCEPTS TO IRRIGATED SUGARCANE PRODUCTION AT BUNDABERG

### MILESTONE REPORT No: 1

#### Funding Agreement Details

<b>Recipient Name</b>	Bundaberg Regional Irrigators Group (BRIG)
<b>Project Commencement Date</b>	02/01/2017
<b>Project Completion Date</b>	15/09/2020
<b>Project Partners/ Participants/ Sub-contractors</b>	<i>Bundaberg CANEGROWERS Ltd      Bundaberg Sugar Services Ltd      Killer Family Holdings Pty Ltd.</i>
<b>Primary Contact Name</b>	Dale Holliss
<b>Contact Email</b>	Dale_Holliss@bdbcanegrowers.com.au

#### Milestone Summary

<b>Milestone Number</b>	1		
<b>Report Dates</b>	Due: 15/01/18	Submitted: 13/01/18	Reporting period: February 2017 to January 2018
<b>Comments if report is late</b>	Not applicable		

## **1. Provide a technical report of the milestone activities.**

The project was officially launched by Hon Keith Pitt at the Agrotrend Field Day in Bundaberg on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

A public call for expression of interest to be the participating irrigator yielded 6 responses. These were assessed by a technical committee and a recommendation was made to the Activity Steering Committee.

The successful candidate was contracted and the project commenced in earnest.

Two particularly difficult problems were encountered.

The first was that the proposed system had never been installed in conjunction with ERGON and we were required to go through the ERGON technical assessment process to get approval. This took a considerable amount of time and energy. Approval was granted in October.

The second problem encountered was the lack of clarity surrounding whether the system was eligible for STC's. A definitive ruling was sought prior to committing significant funds. This confirmation was received from the Clean Energy Regulators office on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December 2017.

An extension to the delivery of milestone 1 to the 15 January and reallocation of budget was requested and approved.

With the exception of engaging Aginnovators to deliver part of the knowledge sharing program all milestone activities have been achieved. Aginnovators are no longer in a position to provide our requirements and negotiations with Jannette Young Media to provide this aspect of the project are in process.

Milestone 1 was the build stage and this has been completed and the system is operating successfully and the project is on track to meet its outcomes.

**Technical delivery (Table 1)**

<b>Milestone (x) activity / deliverable</b> <i>Activities to be completed for this milestone (as set out in Schedule 2 of the funding agreement)</i>	<b>Completed / Not completed (comment)</b>
<p>1. D1.1 Provide a certified Risk Management Plan in accordance with clause 5(b)</p>	<p>A risk management plan relevant to the demonstration site was completed on 20/11/2017</p>
<p>2. D1.2 Provide a certified Community Consultation Plan in accordance with clause 6(b)</p>	<p>Preliminary publication consultation included public announcement and on the project to public attendees at the Bundaberg Agrotrend Field Day and an advertised public forum and local print and electronic media exposure. A notice of public forum was advertised in the local news paper, Bundaberg Canegrowers and Bundaberg Regional Irrigator Group Ltd. (BRIG) web site</p> <p>A certified community Consultation Plain relative to the project activities has been prepared and independently certified. This plan is available for public reference on the BRIG web site page - Adapting Renewable Energy Concepts to Irrigated Sugarcane Production at Bundaberg.</p>
<p>3. D1.3 Provide evidence of compliance with council land use category</p>	<p>Bundaberg Regional Council advised on 29/11/2017 that the proposed site was zoned rural and for the purpose of installing solar equipment for the use of irrigation pumping is an “Accepted Development”</p>
<p>4. D1.4 Provide evidence a competitive process was undertaken by the Recipient for the selection of a demonstration site including evidence of selection and contractual engagement of the desired farming partner</p>	<p>All Bundaberg Sugarcane farmers were advised of the call for expressions of interest to participate in the “Adapting Renewable Energy Concepts to Irrigated Sugarcane Production at Bundaberg” through the normal channels e.g monthly news letter to members, ABC radio rural report, Bundaberg CANEGROWERS website.</p> <p>Six respondents were selected for final consideration and after extensive investigation the project steering committee selected the site owned by Killer Family Holdings Pty Ltd for the</p>

	trial project
5. D1.5 Provide evidence of the executed contracts engaging cooperating irrigator and technical service providers	<p>The cooperating irrigator Killer Family Holdings signed a Farm Trial Agreement with the Bundaberg Regional Irrigators Group Ltd on 11/09/2017</p> <p>Bundaberg CANEGROWERS (BCL) is an activity participant and has a signed agreement with BRIG</p> <p>Bundaberg Sugar Services Ltd (BSSL) is an activity participant and has a signed agreement with BRIG</p>
6. D1.0.6 Provide evidence of the purchase and installation of solar trial equipment including any required pumping infrastructure.	<p>Evidence of purchase and installation solar array and pumping equipment is provided in the Income and Expenditure Report</p> <p>Photos illustrating installation progress of the project are available on web site <a href="http://www.brig.org.au">www.brig.org.au</a>.</p>
7. D1.7 Provide evidence of the purchase and installation of infield monitoring equipment e.g. Soil moisture (capacitance probe) and climate monitoring (weather station)	<p>Evidence of purchase and installation capacitance probe and weather station is shown in the attachments</p> <p>Photos illustrating installed are on the web site <a href="http://www.brig.org.au">www.brig.org.au</a>.</p>
8. D1. 8 Develop project web facility (provide evidence of site activity)	The dedicated project web facility is operational and is found at <a href="http://www.brig.org.au">www.brig.org.au</a>
9. D1.9 Provide the names of the Activity Steering Committee Members and the minutes from any meetings.	<p>Dr Georgina Davis (QFF)</p> <p>Gemma Ansell (ARENA)</p> <p>Axel Braunsberger (Ergon Energy)</p> <p>Maurine Haines (Bundaberg Sugar Services Limited)</p> <p>Secretariat is Provided by Dale Holliss.</p>
10. D1.10 Provide a Milestone Report and associated items in accordance with item 1 of Schedule 3 and Schedule 5 (Knowledge sharing)	In accordance with item 1 of the Knowledge Sharing Plan (Schedule 5) Bundaberg irrigators and the public have been informed of the project and its objectives through public forums, industry dedicated publication ( Expression of interest) and print/electronic media and project dedicated web site

**2. Provide a statement as to whether the timeframes for the project are being met and an explanation of any delays that have occurred.**

Initial project timelines were delayed by unforeseen issues related to compliance of proposed equipment with grid connection standards which are now resolved and construction of the system is complete in accordance with the amended milestone date 15/01/2018.

**3. Are there any proposed changes to the project, including to scope, personnel or partners?  
If yes, please outline below.**

No

**4. Have there been any changes to the risk management plan (including changes to actual risk & risk ratings)?  
If yes, please provide a copy of the updated risk management plan.**

No

**5. Comment on progress toward achieving each of the project outcomes listed in Schedule 3.**

<b>Project Outcomes</b> <i>List project outcomes as set out in the funding agreement.</i>	<b>Achieved / Not achieved (comment)</b>
1. Develop project Risk Management Plan	Achieved
2. Develop project Community Consultation Plan	Achieved
3. Execute contract engaging cooperating irrigator	Achieved
4. Purchase and install solar array/pumping equipment and field moisture/weather monitoring equipment	Achieved
5. Develop project web facility	Achieved