TBB PLANNING

Our Expertise
RENEWABLES

Planning for our future

tbbplanning.com.au

WORKING WITH CLIENTS FOR A NET ZERO FUTURE

Introduction

WE ARE A TEAM OF URBAN DESIGNERS AND PLANNERS WHO EMBRACE CURIOSITY AND COLLABORATION TO HELP OUR CLIENTS NAVIGATE COMPLEX CHALLENGES, UNLOCK OPPORTUNITIES, AND DELIVER PLACES THAT HAVE A LASTING, POSITIVE IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES.

For 55 years, we've shaped some of WA's most recognisable developments—creating places for people to live, work, and thrive. From masterplanned communities and vibrant urban neighbourhoods to commercial & industrial hubs and energy transition projects, our expertise spans the full spectrum of urban and regional development.

What sets us apart isn't just our expertise—it's how we work. We genuinely care about our clients' goals, and it shows in our approach. We're responsive, pragmatic, and collaborative, bringing the right people and insights together to make decisions that matter.

As WA's largest dedicated urban design and planning team, we lead complex projects and bring together multidisciplinary expertise to deliver seamless project outcomes. We've built trusted partnerships with developers, government, and communities, and are highly valued for our collaborative approach to delivering shared success.

Our services focus on Future Cities & Regions Planning, Development Approvals & Strategies, and Policy & Planning Advisory. From transforming urban precincts to securing approvals for site-specific projects, we help clients navigate complexity with confidence—providing clear advice, strategic insights, and innovative solutions to shape sustainable, liveable, and adaptable places.

We work with renewable energy project developers, electricity companies and government to solve complex planning issues, guide developments, and open the door to decision makers.

INTEGRATING PLANNING FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY TRANSITIONS TO SUPPORT A CLEANER, MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE.

Renewable energy projects, from solar and wind farms to battery energy storage systems and EV charging stations, are pivotal to Western Australia's transition to sustainable, low-carbon energy solutions. In this rapidly expanding industry, navigating complex and evolving planning frameworks, securing suitable sites, and obtaining timely project approvals are significant challenges.

Our experts streamline the planning process by leveraging their deep understanding of planning requirements, helping you gain approvals efficiently and allowing you to focus on delivering innovative renewable energy technologies. As lead consultants, we also connect you with a trusted network of specialists in environmental, traffic, engineering, design, acoustics, and cultural heritage fields, ensuring a seamless and collaborative project journey.

Projects powering a more sustainable future

WA HAS SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST RELIABLE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESOURCES. THE STATE GOVERNMENT IS WORKING ON INITIATIVES TO REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND LEVERAGE ITS NATURAL RESOURCES.

Whether it’s large-scale or small-scale renewable energy projects, the planning framework supporting this needs to be both robust and flexible to ensure that investment and development opportunities can be achieved in a timely manner. Our expert planners support the global transition to net zero emissions by working with our clients to deliver a range of renewable energy transition projects across Australia. Our portfolio of renewable and energy projects spans solar, wind, green hydrogen, EV charging stations and battery storage.

Our project delivery experience has enabled our team to acquire considerable knowledge and expertise specific to the needs of the industry.

SOLAR

WA has vast expanses of sunny land ideal for large-scale solar energy projects. The state already hosts several solar farms and has potential for more, particularly in regional areas. As solar farms are often located in regional and rural areas, we work with clients to ensure the relevant considerations are addressed.

STORAGE & CHARGING

Battery storage is becoming critical in WA to stabilise the grid, particularly as the state integrates more intermittent renewable sources like solar and wind. The growing network of EV charging stations further drives the need for reliable energy infrastructure.

WIND

With its long coastline and open inland areas, WA offers excellent conditions for wind energy. Existing wind farms like those in Albany and Geraldton demonstrate the viability of this energy source. The next chapter looks at offshore wind farms to further boost the state’s energy mix.

HYDROGEN

WA is positioning itself as a global leader in green hydrogen production, leveraging its renewable energy capacity and export infrastructure, such as in the Pilbara region.

Projects

TBB has facilitated the development approvals for several major solar farm developments in regional WA and NT.

SOLAR FARMS

Regional Western Australia and Northern Territory

Northam PV Solar Array

TBB facilitated the development approval for a 10MW photovoltaic solar array northeast of Northam. The project included four solar arrays with approximately 36,000 ground-mounted panels that track the sun. It also featured a substation, transformer, inverter, and site office. After a site visit and visual assessment in early 2017, TBB prepared a comprehensive Development Application, which was approved by the Shire of Northam and the JDAP on June 15, 2017. Construction began in 2018, with energy generation starting later that year and operational approval granted in early 2019.

Collie PV Solar Farm

TBB supported the development approval for a 20MW photovoltaic solar farm northwest of Collie. Originally approved on April 24, 2018, a change in land ownership required an amendment to relocate the solar facility to the northern and eastern parts of the site, allowing the western area for industrial use. The amended approval was granted by the Shire of Collie Council on March 12, 2024. TBB collaborated with the client and consultant team to prepare a robust Development Application that met the Shire's standards.

Barragoon Road PV Solar Farm

TBB secured development approval for a 9.9MW photovoltaic solar farm adjacent to the Woodridge Rural Living Estate. This three-stage project features about 36,000 ground-mounted panels on a single-axis tracking system. The proposal included security fencing, vegetation screening, and consideration for future road alignments. TBB managed statutory planning, agency engagement, and the development application package. The proposal was presented to the Shire in November 2017, and following site visits with Shire Councilors, the application was approved by the Mid-West/Wheatbelt JDAP on October 23, 2018.

BATTERY ENERGY STORAGE SYSTEMS

Northam, Picton East, Geraldton, Hopeland and Baldivis

Our planning experts have long been pioneers in renewable energy projects. Recently, we've taken the lead in securing approvals for innovative battery storage systems, crucial for accelerating the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy.

Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) operate by storing surplus electricity when the grid is abundant and redistributing it during peak demand times.

TBB is working with several companies to deliver BESS projects within the Perth metropolitan area, and in proximity to regional towns including Northam, Bunbury and Geraldton.

TBB has been engaged to undertake consultation with local governments and to prepare applications for determination by local governments and development assessment panels.

WIND FARM

Various

Our team have supported various clients with wind farm projects, addressing key challenges such as a visual landscape assessment to determine turbine visibility. Working closely with the DPLH we coordinate various impact studies, ensuring compliance with local guidelines.

The projects include assessing grid connection requirements and ensuring all amenity considerations were addressed, including noise, biodiversity, Aboriginal heritage, and aviation impacts. Wind farm projects such as these seek to enhance renewable energy generation in the regions while optimising community involvement.

Projects

RENEWABLE ENERGY MICROGRID

Perth, Western Australia

Renewable energy solution to support future growth

TBB developed a bespoke planning framework to enable the delivery of a residential microgrid within a coastal marina development. The microgrid will allow all residential, abd commercial developments to connect to renewable energy generated by an onsite solar farm, supplemented by solar panels installed on building rooftops. Operated by a renewable energy provider, the microgrid will generate sufficient power for the entire precinct without relying on the existing energy network.

TBB secured approval in 2022 for the creation of a dedicated freehold lot to house the solar farm, with further approvals in 2025 to support the microgrid's future connection to the broader power grid. This included tailored subdivision conditions to facilitate the transition. Additionally, TBB developed a policy framework promoting on-lot solar panels, contributing to the self-sustaining microgrid.

Our approach

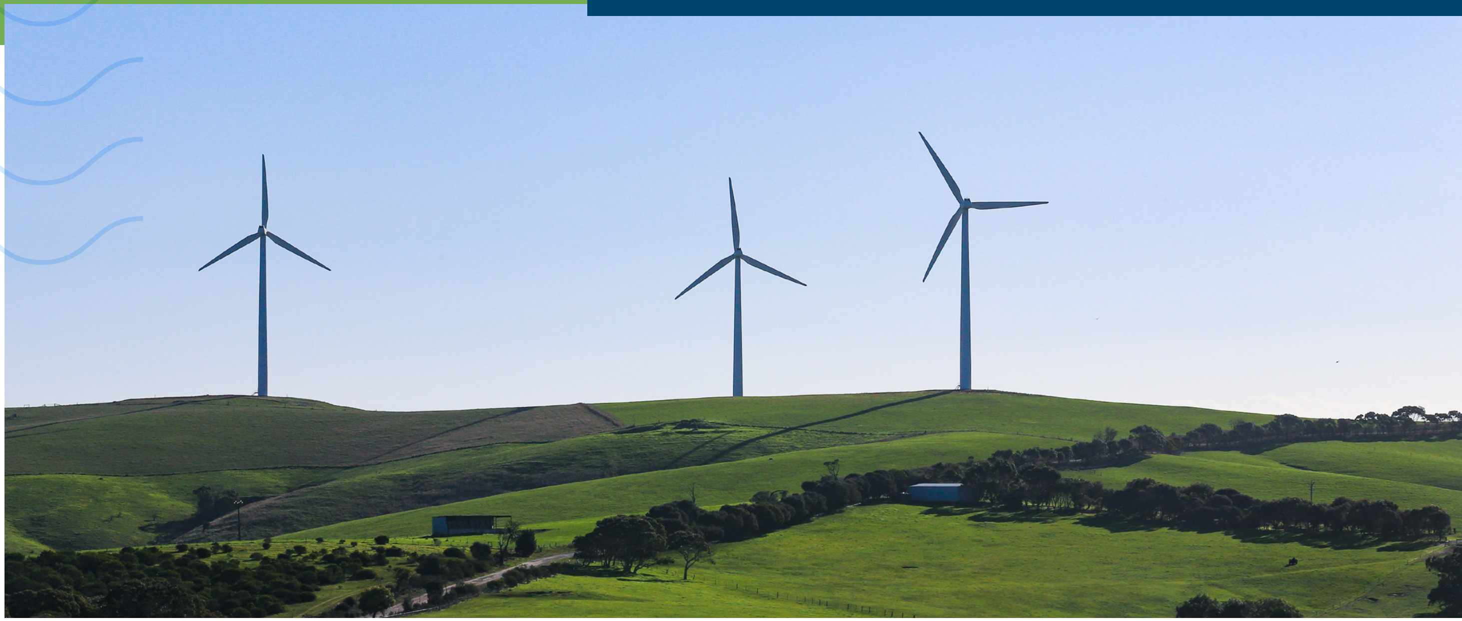
DRIVING POSITIVE CHANGE WITH YOU

As your renewable energy project planners, we work alongside you to deliver innovative energy solutions, driving progress and making a lasting impact in the renewable energy sector.

How we can help you?

- Conducting comprehensive site assessments to identify opportunities and challenges.
- Navigating complex planning frameworks to align your project with regulatory requirements.
- Helping you to understand land status, facilitating crown land transfers, and securing tenure to meet your project requirements.
- Fostering collaboration with stakeholders to build support and address community concerns.
- Streamlining the approval process through thorough preparation of necessary documentation.
- Partnering with environmental specialists to ensure compliance and sustainability.
- Championing your project with decision-makers for optimal outcomes.
- Driving positive change in the renewable energy sector through advocacy and engagement.

We work collaboratively, bringing the right people and insights together to solve the challenges of today—and to better understand those of tomorrow.



Our renewable experts

AT TBB PLANNING, OUR EXPERT TEAM IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY PLANNING, BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN DEVELOPERS, GOVERNMENTS, AND LANDOWNERS.

We provide end-to-end support for your project, from site selection and due diligence to navigating planning applications, securing approvals, and engaging with stakeholders, ensuring a seamless path to success.

Rachel Chapman
Director - Planning

Rachel has led a number of TBB teams on renewable projects in WA including rezoning land to support new proposals and development applications for wind and solar farms, as well as strategic advice and due diligence for proposed hydrogen and green steel projects. In her prior role as a Deputy Presiding Member on the South-West Metropolitan Joint Development Assessment Panel, Rachel was also part of the panel that assessed and determined the Carnegie Clean Energy CETO wave energy pilot project off the coast of WA. Rachel is an advocate for early identification of renewable energy opportunities in the planning frameworks through preparation of local planning strategies and new planning schemes which recognise the compatibility of renewables with the rural zone and their contribution to a thriving, diversified rural economy.

Michael Willcock
Senior Associate

Michael has been with TBB since 2010 and has extensive experience in renewable energy projects since 2017, managing approvals for solar farms, BESS projects, and other sustainable energy initiatives. He is an advocate for planning reform to support the energy transition, including presenting at the National Environmental Law Association WA State Conference on related challenges and opportunities. Michael provides clients with expert advice to streamline planning processes, reduce costs, and enhance investor confidence. His deep understanding of efficient approval pathways, regulatory frameworks, and sustainability objectives makes him a valued advisor in driving renewable project success.

Our renewable experts

Trent Will
Principal

Trent's areas of expertise include large and complex development applications, statutory planning and infrastructure and industrial planning. Trent's renewable experience extends to solar farms and green hydrogen, particularly complex proposals which require strategic advice, due diligence investigations, rezoning of land and access to land.

James McCallum
Associate

Since joining TBB in 2022, James has been involved in numerous sustainable initiatives, including precinct-wide geothermal heating and rainwater capture and reuse. He has significant experience applying Green Star rating systems and developing planning frameworks to support renewable developments, particularly residential solar microgrids.

Melanie Cox
Senior Consultant

Melanie joined TBB in 2024 bringing with her previous experience and a strong passion and understanding for renewable energy developments. She has been involved in numerous projects for Synergy, Horizon Power, BP Renewable Energy, Ampol and more. This included obtaining planning approvals for two EV charging station rollouts in WA.

Luka Martins
Senior Consultant

Luka joined the TBB team in 2023, working on a wide range of projects. Luka believes that urban planning is about creating sustainable, equitable and innovative urban environments for people. Luka has been involved in development applications for solar farms and BESS projects.

Are you ready to help power the future of renewable energy in Western Australia?

Explore our projects

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