

## **NEW ENERGY SOLAR AUSTRALIAN ASSET SALE COMPLETES BUYBACK AND CAPITAL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES**

New Energy Solar Limited (**ASX:NEW**) advises that the sale of its two Australian utility-scale solar assets to Banpu Energy Holding Pty Limited announced on 7 June 2021 is complete. Consistent with the aims of the strategic review conducted at the end of 2020 to address the NEW share price discount to net asset value, the proceeds of the sale will be used for the repayment of debt and an off-market and on-market share buyback.

After transaction costs (including an estimate of stamp duty), the net proceeds of the sale are approximately \$88 million. The proposed use of proceeds includes:

- approximately \$44 million to repay corporate debt, reducing NEW's gearing to below the long-term target of 50%;
- up to \$30 million for an equal access, off-market buyback for up to 10% of the total number of issued shares of NEW; and
- the remainder will be used for an on-market buyback.

The combination of an off-market and on-market buyback provides investors with an opportunity to sell all or part of their holdings. The number of shares investors will be able to sell will be subject to the funds available for both buyback initiatives and restrictions on the number and percentage of shares which NEW can buy back under Part 2J of the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)*, and the approval which NEW obtained at its recent annual general meeting.

NEW expects to complete the off-market buyback in September 2021, following the release of NEW's half-year financial results for the period ending 30 June 2021. The terms of the off-market buyback will be contained in a buyback booklet (**Buyback Booklet**) which will be provided to shareholders in early September 2021 and be made publicly available via the ASX.

Investors will have the opportunity to tender the number of shares they wish to sell within a designated range of prices set out in the Buyback Booklet. The buyback pricing mechanism will be clearly set out in the Buyback Booklet with the final price at which the buyback is conducted (**Buyback Price**) and the number of shares acquired being determined by the board of NEW in its discretion taking into account prevailing market conditions.

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The board expects to launch the on-market buyback following the conclusion of the off-market buyback. RBC Capital Markets has been appointed to act as broker for the on-market buyback. In accordance with the ASX Listing Rules, NEW is limited to buying shares at a price which is not more than 5% above the volume weighted average market price of the preceding five days on which sales in NEW shares were recorded. Naturally, the volume which may be bought back each day through an on-market buyback is limited which is the reason an off-market buyback will also be undertaken.

NEW expects that the on-market buyback will remain operative until at least the end of 2021 or until the proceeds allocated to the on-market buyback are expended.

Following the conclusion of the off-market and on-market buybacks, NEW will advise the market of the resulting capital structure of the business and the outlook for the 2022 year.

For further information, contact:

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*Authorised for release by New Energy Solar Limited.*

### **About New Energy Solar**

New Energy Solar was established in November 2015 to invest in a diversified portfolio of solar assets across the globe and provide investors with exposure to the global shift to renewable energy. The Business acquires large scale solar power plants with long term contracted power purchase agreements. In addition to attractive financial returns, this strategy generates significant positive environmental impacts for investors.

Since establishment, New Energy Solar has raised over A\$500 million of equity, acquired a portfolio of world-class solar power plants, and has a deep pipeline of opportunities primarily across the United States. New Energy Solar's shares trade on the Australian Securities Exchange under the ticker, NEW.

For more information, visit: [www.newenergysolar.com.au](http://www.newenergysolar.com.au)

