



## Media Release

### **Yindjibarndi Energy Corporation launches EOI process for renewable energy offtake in the Pilbara.**

**25<sup>th</sup> February 2026 – Perth, Western Australia**

Yindjibarndi Energy Corporation (YEC), a partnership between the Yindjibarndi People and multinational renewable energy developers ACEN Corporation, has opened an Expression of Interest (EOI) process for commercial and industrial customers seeking renewable energy offtake from YEC's expanding portfolio of large-scale clean-energy projects across Yindjibarndi Ngurra and the broader Pilbara region.

The EOI process marks an important milestone in progressing YEC's development pipeline and supporting Western Australia's transition to low-carbon energy.

YEC's flagship Project Baru Marnda has been granted Strategic Project status by the Western Australian Government and is listed on the Australian Government's National Renewable Energy Priority List, in recognition of its potential to drive large-scale renewable generation, support industrial decarbonisation and contribute to long-term regional development.

The EOI also advances planning for the proposed Chichester Range Transmission Corridor (CRTC), a high-voltage, common-user transmission corridor designed to unlock renewable energy capacity in the western Pilbara and enable future connection options to the North West Interconnected System (NWIS). The CRTC has been awarded Project Priority status under the State Government's Pilbara Energy Transmission Plan and is also included on the National Renewable Energy Priority List, underscoring its strategic role in Australia's energy transition and regional growth.

These developments form part of YEC's large-scale renewable energy hub across Yindjibarndi Ngurra, which will combine high-quality coastal wind, Pilbara solar and firming battery storage to deliver stable, 24/7 green power. This integrated hub underpins the EOI process, providing the foundation for industrial decarbonisation, improved transmission access and long-term energy security across the Pilbara.

Craig Ricato, YEC CEO, said the launch of the EOI process reflects the strong and growing market demand for clean, reliable and commercially competitive energy solutions across the Pilbara.

"This EOI process is an opportunity for Pilbara operators to partner with a Traditional Owner-led energy developer capable of delivering high-quality renewable generation at scale. Our vision is to provide long-term, cost-competitive, low-emissions power that accelerates regional decarbonisation while delivering lasting economic and social benefits for both the Yindjibarndi People and the region."

The EOI is open to major energy users across mining, minerals processing, heavy industry, hydrogen production, infrastructure operations and other large loads requiring firm renewable energy or future transmission access.



YEC maintains its strong commitment to Traditional Owner leadership and best-practice engagement, and continues to work with industry, government and Traditional Owner partners to progress culturally respectful and responsible renewable energy development across the Pilbara.

### **EOI Process Details**

Opening: February 2026

Eligible Proponents:

Large energy users, heavy industry, hydrogen and battery developers, minerals processors, infrastructure operators, and major Pilbara projects seeking renewable energy offtake or transmission access.

Purpose:

To identify near-term and long-term demand for renewable electricity supply and transmission connection from YEC's CRTC, the Maitland Strategic Industrial Area and the NWIS.

<https://yindjibarndienergy.com.au/renewable-energy-power-offtake-expressions-of-interest/>

### **Background**

YEC's current development portfolio includes over 1.5 GW of wind, solar and battery energy storage systems (BESS) the Jinbi, Baru Marnda, CRTC and Eastern Development Zone (EDZ) projects.

Project Jinbi (stage 1) is a 75MWac solar array, with the ability to expand to 150MWac and an option to include BESS. The Jinbi project received key approvals, including environmental approval in early 2024, development application approval from the Shire of Ashburton, and Lead Agency Status in 2024. Construction of stage 1 of the Jinbi project is expected to commence in early 2026 and be operational in 2028, subject to satisfaction of all necessary conditions and approvals.

YEC is currently developing Project Baru Marnda in the northwest of Yindjibarndi Ngurra. This project comprises up to ~1GW wind plus solar and an option to include a BESS.

YEC proposes to develop the CRTC, a high-voltage, common-user transmission infrastructure proximate to the Chichester Range in the Pilbara. This project will link Yindjibarndi Ngurra and the western Pilbara region to the NWIS through the Maitland Strategic Industrial Area, a significant industrial development zone situated approximately 24 km west of Karratha and 39 km south of Dampier Port in Western Australia.

Formed in 2023, YEC is one of Australia's largest Indigenous-led renewable energy initiatives, aiming to develop up to 3GW of wind, solar, and energy storage projects within the 13,000 km<sup>2</sup> in the Yindjibarndi Native Title Determination Areas.

YEC is a partnership between Yindjibarndi Aboriginal Corporation (YAC) and the ACEN Corporation. YEC's projects represent a significant step towards decarbonising the Pilbara, showcasing our commitment to innovative energy solutions and the empowerment of Indigenous communities.



## **Contacts**

Please direct all enquiries to:

Erin Keenan

0451 114 190

Sustainability, Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Manager

[erin.keenan@yec.au](mailto:erin.keenan@yec.au)

[yindjibarndienergy.com.au](http://yindjibarndienergy.com.au)