

The Mildura Region Australia VICTORIA'S PREMIER SOLAR LOCATION

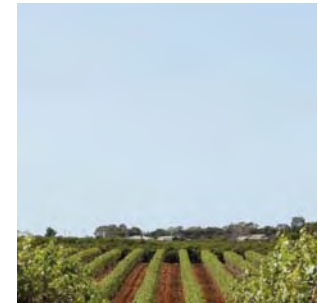
Overview document



mildura
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

www.milduraregion.com.au

Victoria's premier solar location



Make it happen in
**PROVINCIAL
VICTORIA**



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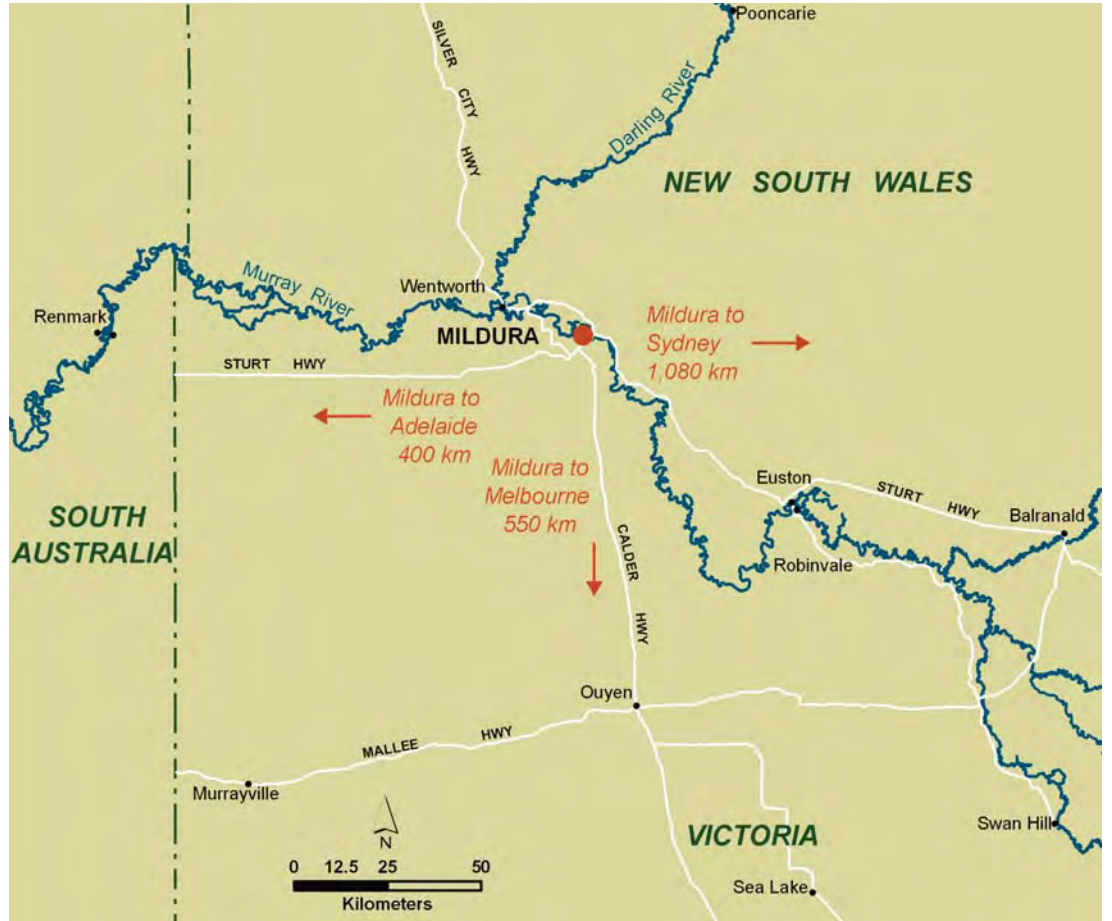
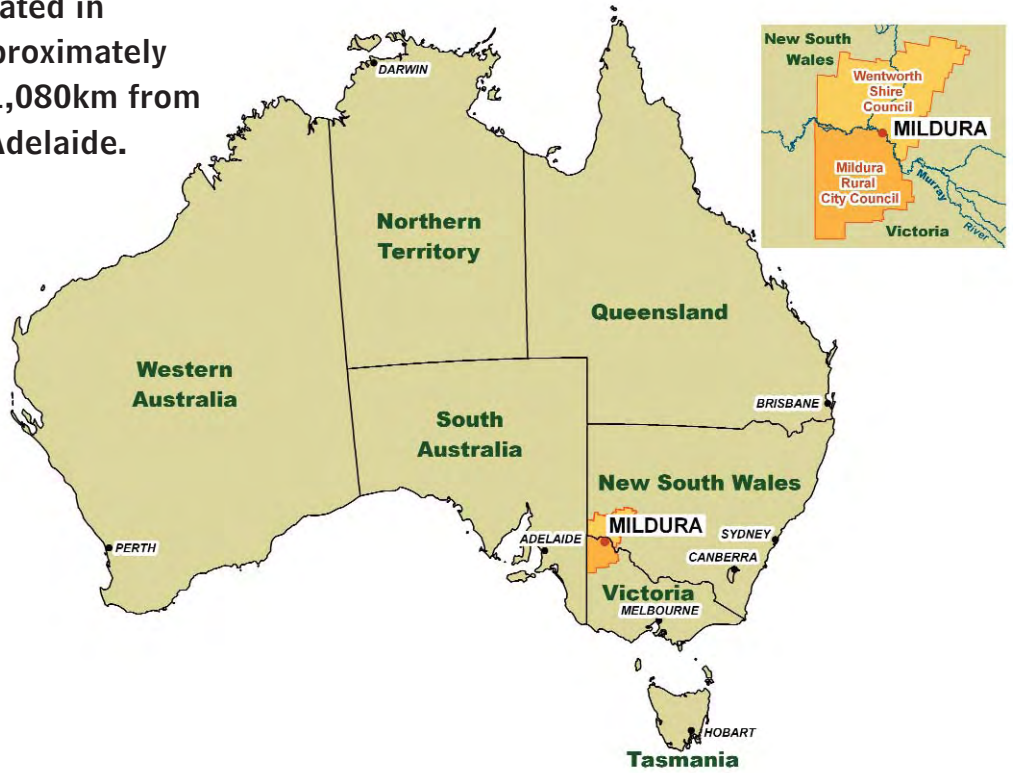


Victoria
The Place To Be

Location of the Mildura region

The Mildura region is situated in Victoria's North West, approximately 550km from Melbourne, 1,080km from Sydney and 400km from Adelaide.

We are conveniently located in a tri-State region between Melbourne (Victoria), Sydney (New South Wales) and Adelaide (South Australia).



Mildura Region



The Mildura region has the best solar resources in Victoria, with an annual average:

- 8.6 hours of sunshine per day
- temperature of 23.7°C
- 132 clear days per year
- 18.9 MJ/(m*m) in solar exposure per day (5.3kWh/m2)

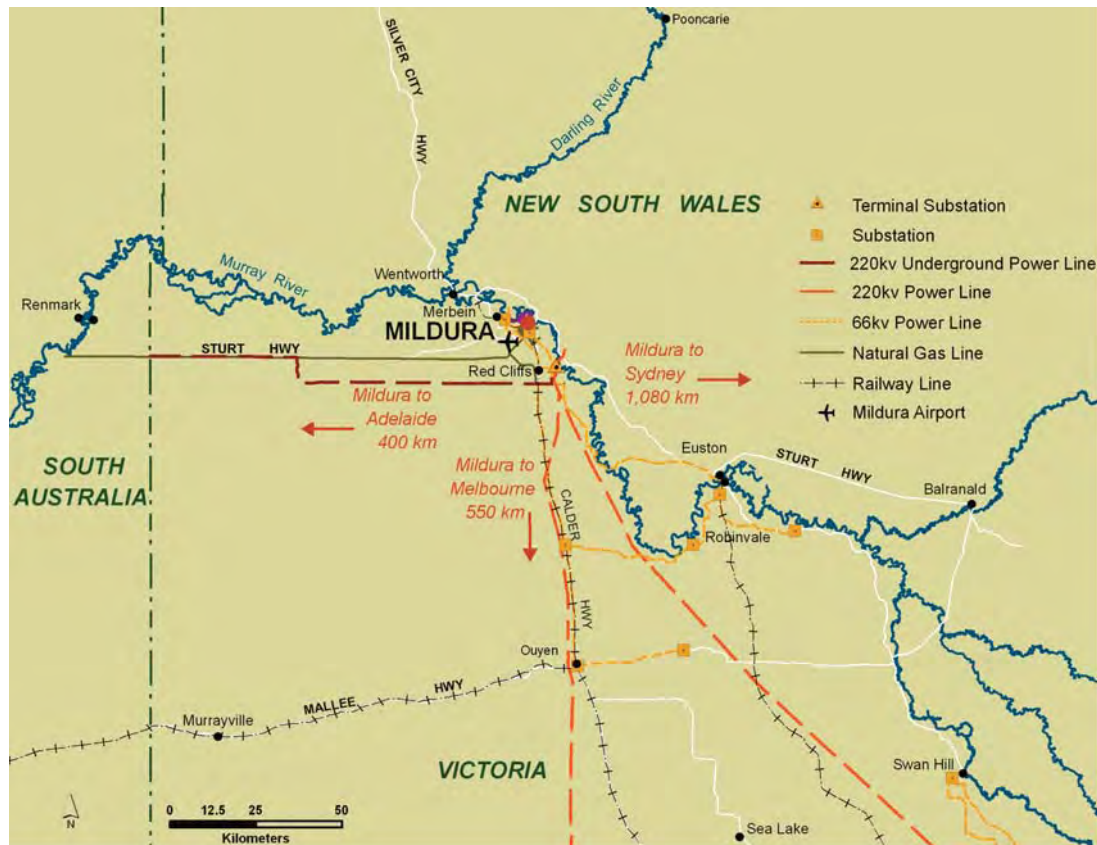
Climate

The region's climate is semi arid and sunny all year around, with mild winters and warm summers.

Land

The Mildura region topography is generally flat to gently undulating. The landscape ranges from Mallee vegetation and dryland farms to intensive horticulture along the Murray River.

There is access to affordable and available land of varying sizes.



Mildura Region Infrastructure

Infrastructure

The National electricity grid goes right through the Mildura region and there is a terminal substation located at Red Cliffs and another to be built near Wemen.

- Both 66kv and 220kv are available for grid connection
- The Mildura region's electricity distribution network is owned by Powercor
- The district's electricity transmission network (66kv and 220kv) is owned by SP Ausnet
- The Mildura region is situated on the Murray River and has access to potable, raw and saline groundwater
- Access to natural gas
- Excellent transport infrastructure including road, rail and air
- The Mildura Airport is the busiest regional airport in Victoria with 70 flights per week moving 199,774 passengers in the 2009–2010 financial year.





Labour

The Mildura region has an excellent pool of skilled workers and industrial manufacturing and assembly facilities.

Education & training

The Mildura region has excellent education and training options with La Trobe University, Sunraysia Institute of TAFE, TAFE New South Wales Riverina Institute and a number of adult education centres located in the region.

There are over 49 primary and secondary schools in the region including a specialist school and an English Language Centre.

Liveability

Two hospitals are located in the City of Mildura along with a vast array of health and allied health services, including community welfare and disability services.

Affordable house, land and rental properties are plentiful as are a large variety of retail outlets and franchises, making for excellent business and professional service opportunities.

We are renowned for the variety and quality of our sporting facilities, ranging from football, cricket, tennis and netball to golf, water sports and motor sports.

The region is home to the World Heritage listed Mungo National Park and Willandra Lakes System, and well as Hattah-Kulkyne, Murray-Kulkyne, Wyperfeld, Murray-Sunset National Parks and Kings Billabong Wildlife Reserve.

Over 300 events and festivals are held each year ranging from food and wine to arts and music.

Planning

Mildura Rural City Council's planning department is on hand to assist potential solar investments with zoning and planning approvals.

Green Door for Renewable Energy

To streamline development of renewable energy projects the Victorian Government is establishing a Green Door for Renewable Energy. The Green Door will be a 'one-stop shop' for energy projects that meet a low emission threshold of 0.5 tCO₂/MWh, which includes both renewable energy and low emissions gas projects. Every project will be assigned a case manager to help navigate the application and planning processes.

For projects larger than 30MW, the Green Door is also likely to identify them as 'State Significant Projects' and put them on a path to co-ordinated planning approvals if they commit to applying good practice consultation principles with local communities.

For further information about the Green Door project email greendoor@diird.vic.gov.au or phone +61 3 9651 9350.

Economic benefits & opportunities for the Mildura region

Solar power development in the Mildura region will inject significant funds into the local economy, both during construction and the ongoing operations stage.

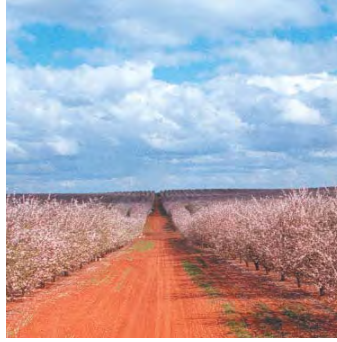
It will create employment and skills development, and the opportunity to value add to solar investment through manufacturing and assembly of components for future solar plant requirements in the region.

Solar power development also opens up opportunities for tourism, education and training and research and development.

Introducing a Large Scale Solar Feed-In Tariff

The Victorian Government has announced its intention to increase Victoria's electricity supply from large scale-solar power to five per cent by 2020 as part of the Victorian Government's Climate Change White Paper. This will be backed by the nation's first feed-in tariff for large-scale solar. It is anticipated that this will see the establishment of between five and ten large solar plants across regional Victoria.

For further information please contact the Victorian Department of Primary Industries Energy Sector Development Division email largescale.solar@dpi.vic.gov.au



Demographics

Mildura region key demographics

Population	2008	60,281
Labour Force	2008	30,850
Unemployment Rate	2008	7.5%
Median House Price (Mildura Local Government Area)	2008	\$194,000
Median Rent (3 bedroom house) (Mildura Local Government Area)	2009	\$220
Annual growth rate (Mildura Local Government Area)	2006-2008	1.5%
Gross Regional Product	2007-2008	\$2.8 billion

The Mildura region produces the following share of Australia's produce

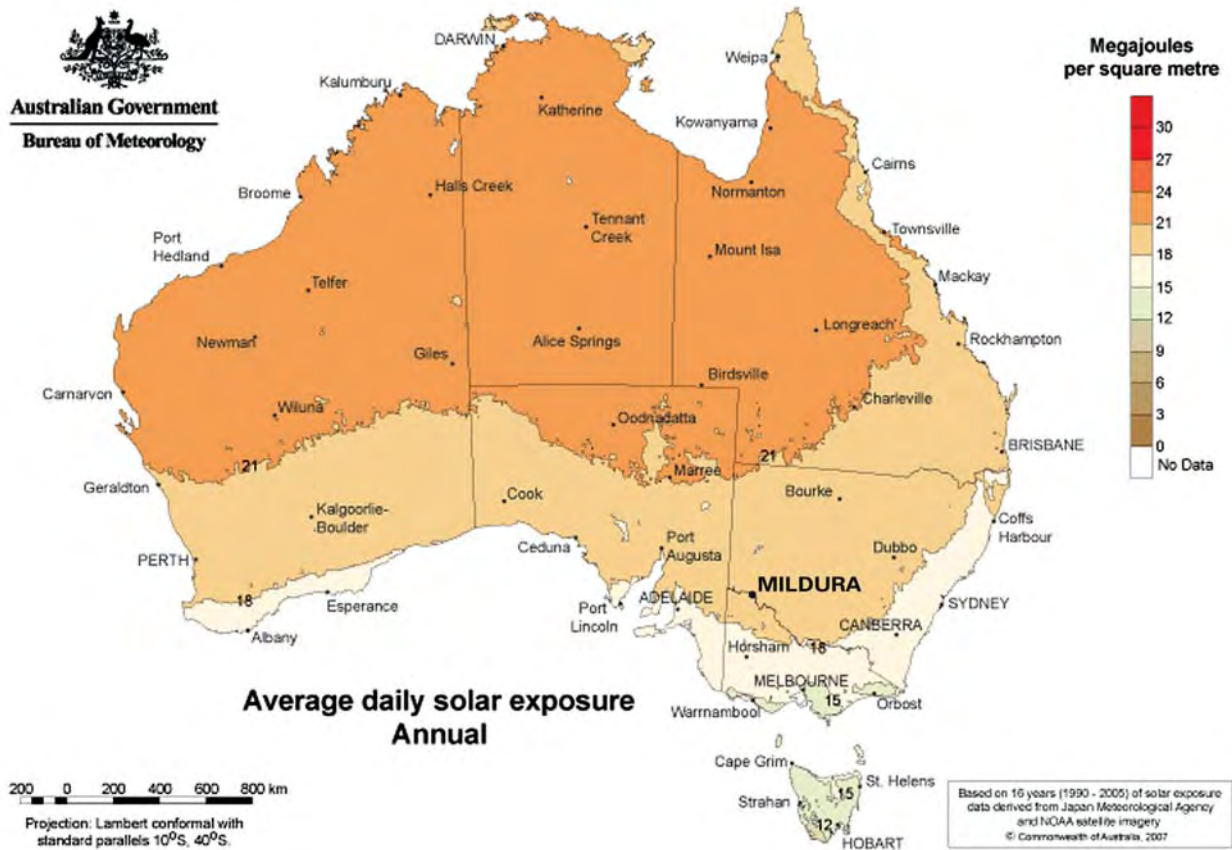
Dried grapes	98%	White wine grape crush	20%
Table grapes	74%	Red wine grape crush	12%
Almonds	65%	Asparagus	16%
Pistachio	41%	Carrots	11%
Citrus	24%		

A Sample of the Number of Businesses and Employment by Industry Sector – Mildura Rural City Council, 2008

Sector	Number of Businesses	% of Businesses	Number of People Employed	% of People Employed
Retail Trade	492	9%	3,646	17%
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	1,641	31%	2,954	13%
Manufacturing	138	3%	2,427	11%
Health & Community Services	528	10%	2,157	10%
Property & Business Services	762	14%	1,546	7%
Construction	648	12%	1,440	7%

Solar Exposure

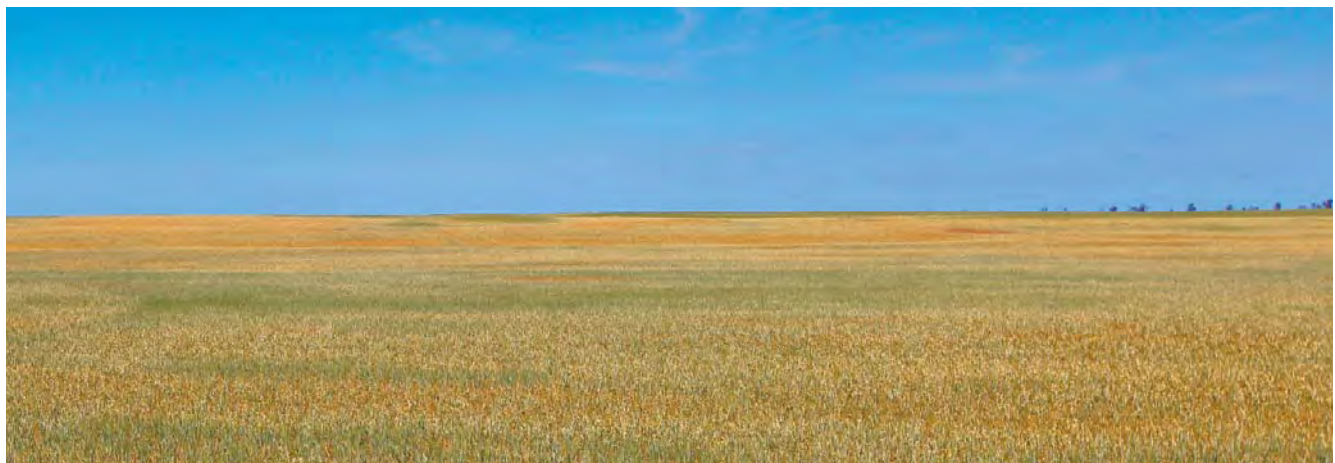
The Mildura region receives the highest solar exposure in Victoria.



Mean Daily Solar Exposure (MJ(m*m)) in Mildura, 1990-2009

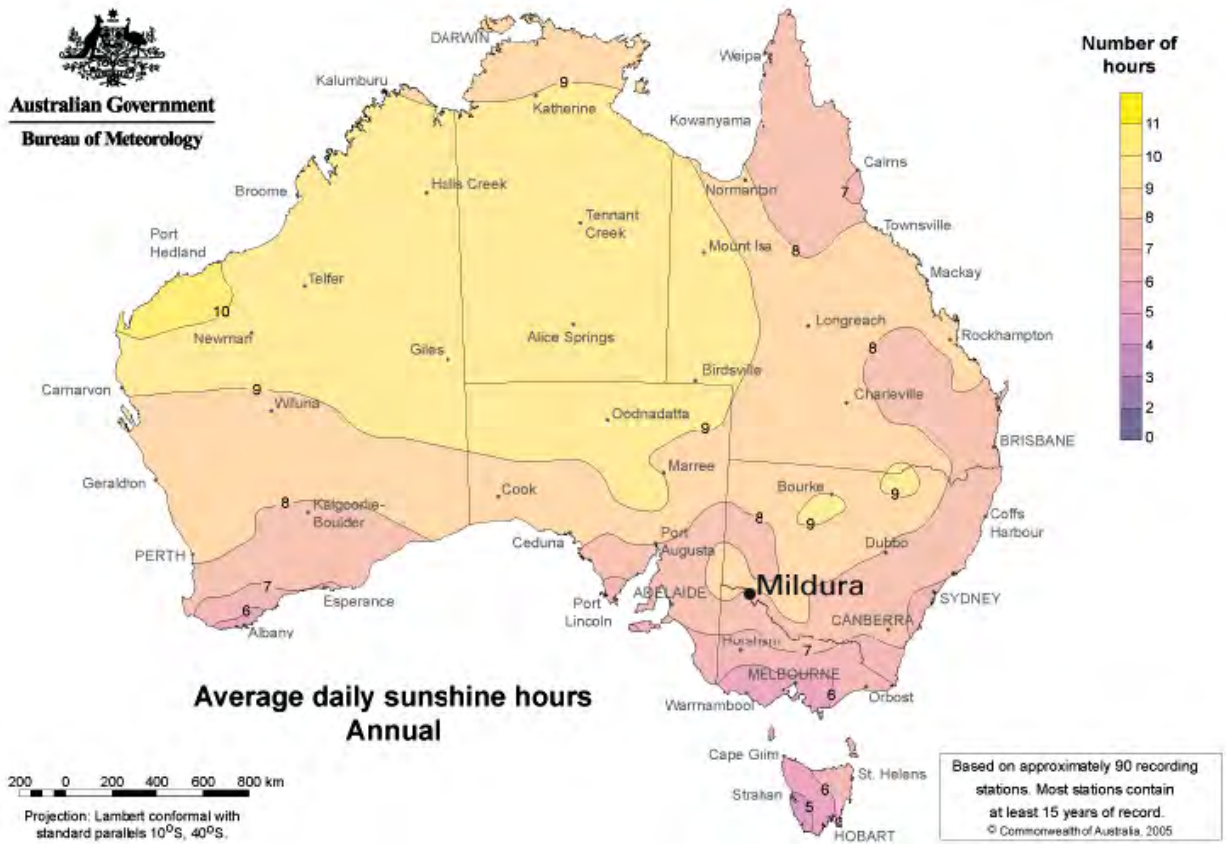
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mildura	28.5	25.2	21.3	15.4	10.9	8.7	9.4	13.1	17.3	22.6	26	28.1	18.9

Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology



Sunshine Hours

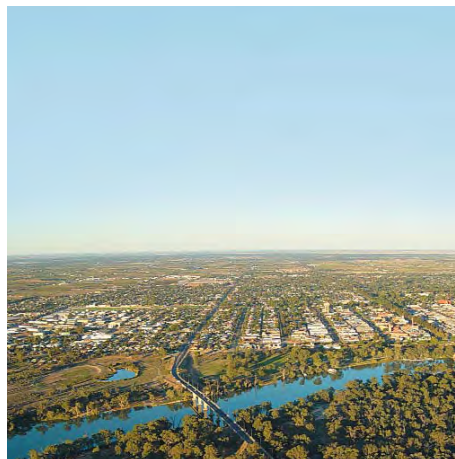
The Mildura region receives the highest average sunshine hours in Victoria.



Mean Daily Sunshine (hours) in Mildura, 1989-2008

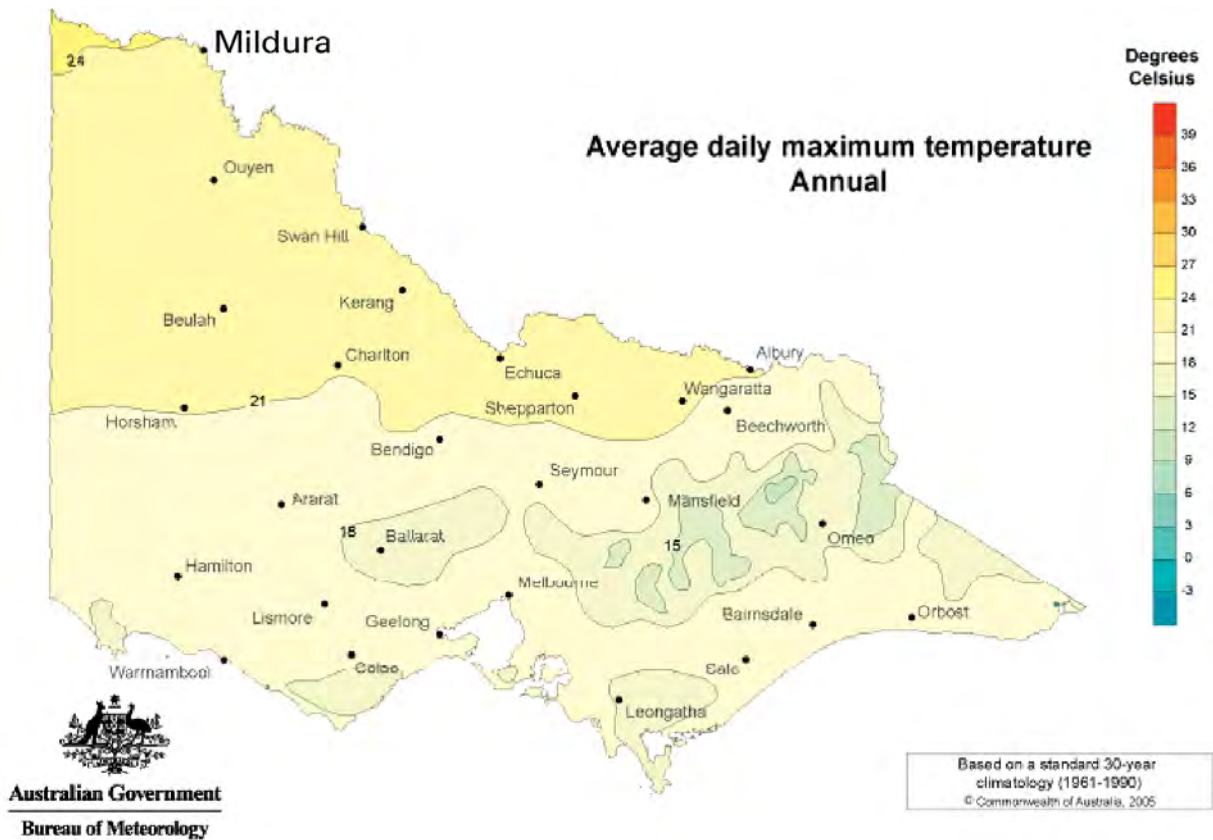
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mildura Airport	10.9	10.5	9.9	8.4	6.6	5.5	5.9	7.5	8.2	9.5	10	10.6	8.6

Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology



Maximum Temperature

The Mildura region has the highest average daily maximum temperature in Victoria.



Mean Maximum Temperature for Mildura, 1946-2008

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mildura	32.1	31.5	28.3	23.5	19	16	15.3	17.2	20.4	23.8	27.4	30.1	23.7

Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

Clear Days

Mean Number of Clear Days for Mildura, 1946-2008

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual
Mildura	15.4	14.4	15.7	12.1	8	7.2	7.2	7.9	9.7	10.3	11	13.2	132.1

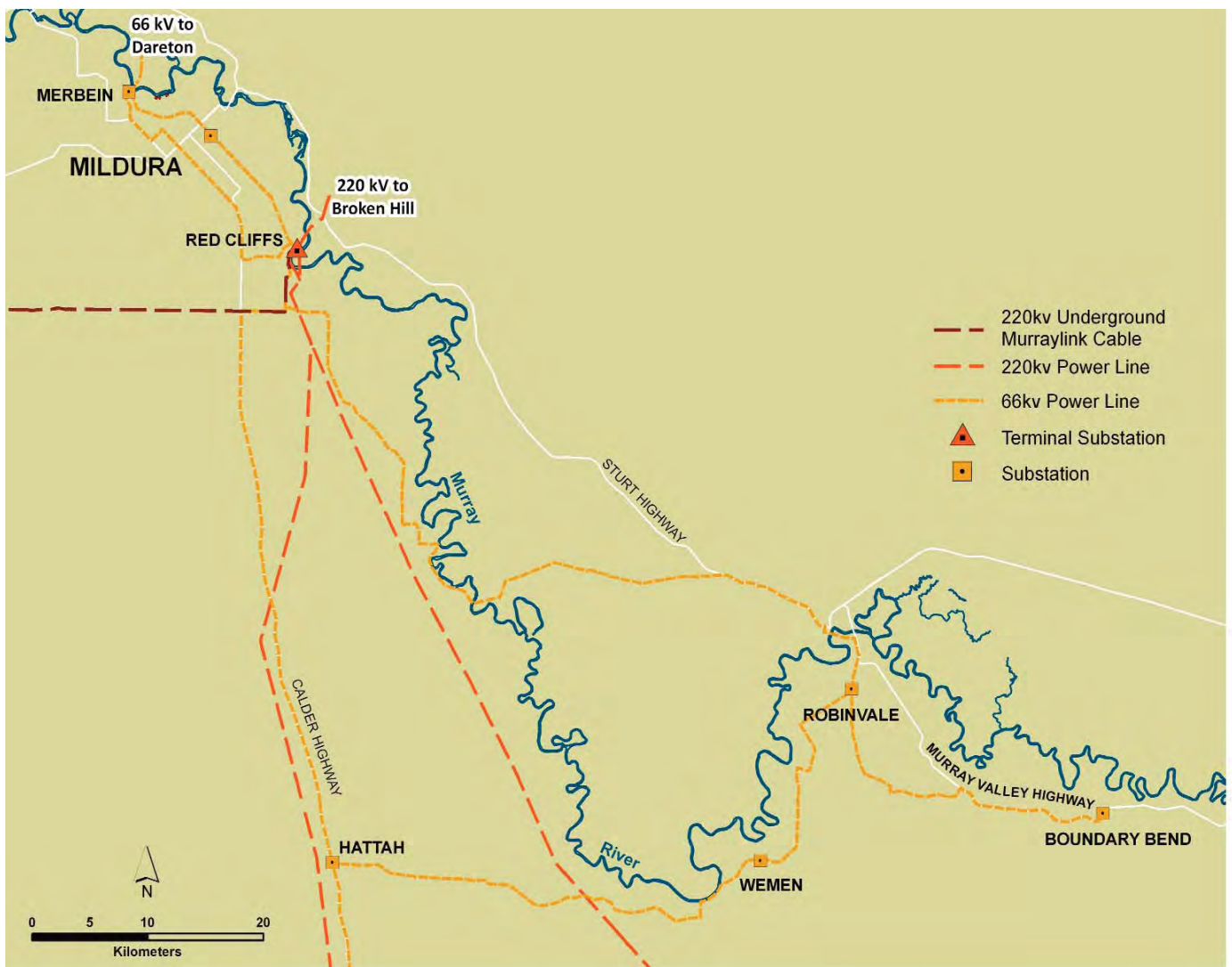
Source: Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology



Renewable energy companies investigating establishing in the Mildura region should speak with Powercor, the electricity network owner.

Powercor will need the following preliminary information regarding connection of large power sources:

- Type of plant (eg gas turbine generating unit, wind turbine, solar plant, etc)
- Preferred site location (also list any alternatives in order of preference)
- Maximum power generation or demand of whole plant (maximum MW and / or MVA, or average over 15 minutes or similar)
- Expected energy production or consumption (MWh per month)
- Plant type and configuration (eg number and type of generating units)
- Nature of generation (size of disturbing component MW / MVAR, duty cycle, nature of power electronic plant which may produce harmonic distortion)
- Technology of proposed generating unit (eg Synchronous generating unit, induction generator, photovoltaic array, etc)
- When plant is to be in service (eg estimated date for each generating unit)
- Name and address of enquirer, and, if relevant, of the party for whom the enquirer is acting
- Single line diagram
- Site layout plan including intended location for point of connection to Network.



Mildura Region Electricity Network

For further information please contact:

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Email jhardie@powercor.com.au

Mr Joe Thomas

Network Development Manager

CitiPower Pty and Powercor Australia Ltd

Locked Bag 14090, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 8001

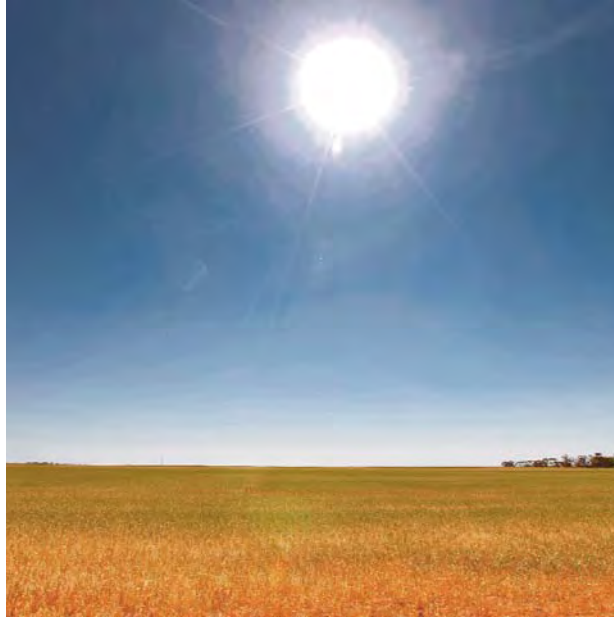
Phone +61 3 9683 4545

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Web www.powercor.com.au





Mildura Development Corporation can assist with site selection, facilitation, provision of economic data and information on the region's economy and demographics, land holder introductions, etc.

Mildura Rural City Council can assist with planning approvals, zoning, State Government introductions and general advocacy.

For further information please contact:

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Data Sources

GHD

Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology

CitiPower Pty and Powercor Australia Ltd

SunRISE21 Inc

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