

Commercially Sustainable CSP Scalable, High Efficiency, Low Cost

ASTRI Symposium 11 February 2015

Commercial in Confidence



Vast Solar Demonstration Facility, Forbes, NSW, Australia – December 2011

Collaboration - strategic partners

Micro turbines

Over 5 years, Vast Solar has developed key partnerships to support innovation & commercialisation



Australian Renewable Energy

Agency



Australian Government Green Bank





Sodium supply



Sodium engineering, process design





Investor

Grid integration

Agricultural Group



Air cooled condensers





resources & energy

Project design







Control System & Instrumentation



2

Low-cost, small module design

Competitive advantages in solar array and heat transfer systems, biodiversity and amenity

Key Differentiators

- **1. Low cost heliostats = low cost solar energy:** Reduces cost of the largest capital component of the CSP plant
- **2. Small modular solar array high efficiency:** Modules 100x120m, 27m tower, ~300kWe No need for large EPC contractors, competitive subcontracting using local/regional contractors & trades
- **3. High efficiency thermal energy transfer & storage:** High flux heat transfer medium = higher efficiency Small receiver reduces thermal shock issues and significantly reduces overall system costs



Research, Development & Demonstration Facility, Phase 1 200 heliostats, ; 300kW_{th}, HTF cycle - completed December 2011 (Forbes, NSW)



Demonstration and test facility Forbes NSW



• 200 heliostats

- Thermal performance independently verified
- Mirror manufacture processed developed
- Control and communications systems



Research, Development & Demonstration plant: Phase 2 '1U' Module – 1.2MWth system (2012-2014)

- 700 heliostats manufactured onsite 'factory in the field' manufacturing system
- Solar array control, self-calibration and communications systems tested and refined
- Validation of performance projections ٠
- Extensive third party technical due diligence



Jemalong 1U – February 2013

Partners:







Jemalong Solar Station Pilot Project Forbes, NSW, Australia

6MWth (1.1MWe) grid connected power generation CSP pilot plant

- 5 Vast Solar modules –3,500 heliostats; 3 hours' thermal energy storage
- Construction completion Q2 2015, commissioning mid 2015





Commercialisation Program

Phased approach has progressively reduced risk and opened market opportunities





Vast Solar plant design

Focus on cost reduction in solar array and heat transfer systems



1. Solar Array2. Sodium HTF3. Molten Salt Storage4. Conventional Steam Cycle

- 700 heliostat module
- <130m focal distance
- Low cost (<\$100/m²) 3.6m² heliostats
- 30m towers
- 2.25m² high flux receivers
- High thermal
- conductivityWide operating range (low melt
 - point)
- High heat capacity
- Proven technology
- Multiple providers
- Room for significant cost innovation
- Proven technology
- Multiple suppliers, emerging lowcost providers
- Innovations in deployment, packaging reducing cost
- Oversupply as new coal build wanes
- Wet or dry cooling



Vast Solar Design Logic

Design parameters of the system were driven from fundamental optimisation decisions

Objective: Deliver cost-effective dispatchable, large-scale solar power

What gives us the best performance thermal to electric conversion?

What is the most cost effective storage for this turbine?

How do we deliver the energy to our storage media? What is the lowest cost way to collect the solar energy?

Steam Turbine

- + Proven technology
- + Many suppliers
- + Plant efficiency/capital cost ~538°C for 40-43% performance

Molten Salt

- + Proven technology
- + High heat capacity
- + Can deliver steam at 538°C
- + Low cost

Sodium HTF

- + High thermal conductivity
- + Low freezing point (98°C)
- + Enables distributed arrays
- Reactive with water

Modular Arrays

- + Smaller components reduce materials cost
- + Economies of scale through replication
- + High array efficiency
- + Simplified deployment/ construction systems



Design Hits Receiver Efficiency Sweet-Spot

Modular array design and high thermal conductivity of heat transfer media deliver high receiver efficiencies





Note: 1 Efficiency of the solar receiver versus T_{abs} and versus solar concentration ratio, assuming $T_{amb} = 20^{\circ}$ C, $\phi = 770$ W/ m^2 and $a = \epsilon = 0.95$. Handbook of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy

Vast Solar - cost reduction innovations

'Root and branch' reappraisal of how CSP systems are delivered

- 30 year utility grade components
- Modular systems to provide redundancy, replicability (volume)
- Commonly available materials and components
- Simple manufacturing, enabling high levels of automation at low tooling cost
- Simplicity and ease of deployment
- Automated O&M
- Collaboration with like-minded OEMs to drive out integration costs



Contacts

Andrew Want CEO Sydney, Australia +61 (0) 408 956 210 Andrew.Want@VastSolar.com

James Fisher CTO/Founder Forbes, Australia +61 (0) 403 312 111 James.Fisher@VastSolar.com



