

## Mediaportal Report

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▶ **Mines turn to renewable energy**

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RAVENSTHORPE mines are turning to renewable energy to power their operations. Emerging lithium producer Galaxy Resources is on track to commission its lithium mine by the third quarter of this year and this week announced it will install 15 large solar panels and two wind turbines generating a total 214 MWhr per year of clean green energy.



# Mines turn to renewable energy



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RAVENSTHORPE mines are turning to renewable energy to power their operations.

Emerging lithium producer Galaxy Resources is on track to commission its lithium mine by the third quarter of this year and this week announced it will install 15 large solar panels and two wind turbines generating a total 214 MWhr per year of clean green energy.

Meanwhile Tectonic Resources multi-metal Phillips Rover project will be powered by a hybrid wind-diesel generating system.

Both projects will be Australian firsts.

Tectonic will be the first mine to be powered by wind and Galaxy will be the first to install state-of-the-art-solar generation tracking technology.

Galaxy's unique tracking features will improve photovoltaic conversion efficiency by more than 40 per cent

over conventional fixed solar panels.

Managing director Iggy Tan said the company was playing its part in the push to use renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

"Our renewable energy installation will remove about 190 tonnes of CO2 emissions from the mine site each year which is the equivalent of planting 19 hectares of forest every year," Mr Tan said.

"The capital cost of the installation has already been factored in to the Mt Cattlin \$79 million construction budget and provides an attractive pay-back."

Mr Tan said effective energy storage is the key to unlocking the potential benefits of renewable energy.

He said renewable energy generation from wind, solar and wave is by nature, variable and often inconsistent, yet when coupled with energy storage systems such as large banks of lithium ion batteries provides a competitive energy source.

"Electric vehicles are now moving from a concept to a reality with many car manufacturers planning hybrid or

electric models in the coming years.

The only reason this is happening is the development of technology associated with lithium batteries," Mr Tan said. "These high density powerful batteries have allowed laptops, mobile phones and power tools to be smaller, lighter and with a longer lifespan in the last few years.

"This same technology is being applied to electric cars such as the Nissan Leaf EV and the Mitsubishi iMieV, which will dramatically reduce running costs and exhaust emissions.

"The bright future of lithium ion batteries all leads back to Galaxy as a company whose core focus is to supply the very important feedstock, lithium carbonate, for this growth industry".

Mr Tan said the demand for lithium is set to triple before the end of the decade and Galaxy will be a world class player in the global industry.

"We are excited about the important contribution of lithium towards a cleaner, greener planet and we are pleased to be playing our part at the Ravensthorpe mine site," he said.

**"We are pleased to be playing our part."**

- IGGY TAN