



FOR RELEASE : 27 NOVEMBER 2020

Deputy Prime Minister Welcomes 'Big Battery' Pilot Project

- Deputy Prime Minister The Honourable Michael McCormack welcomes partnership signed between Fletcher International Exports, University of Newcastle and Magnis.
- Ground-breaking collaboration to deploy 'big battery' at Dubbo meat processing facility, in the heart of NSW's developing Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone.
- Pilot project will deliver Fletcher energy cost-savings and operational efficiencies, safeguard regional employment and future-proof export markets.
- First of a series of energy technology and storage pilot projects, aiming to help upgrade the energy mix in Australia's industrial, agricultural, processing and manufacturing sectors without risking operational continuity or economic productivity.

Magnis Energy Technologies Limited ["Magnis", or the "Company"] [ASX: MNS] is pleased to announce that a Tripartite MoU has been executed by Magnis, The University of Newcastle [UoN] and Fletcher International Exports [FIE], for a pilot demonstration project to integrate a 'big battery' into the meat processing giant's flagship Dubbo processing facility.

The project, which will commence in mid-2021 and involve the transport and installation of a 2.2 MWh 'plug and play' battery from the company's New York inventory, will incorporate a program of R&D overseen by UoN's Institute of Energy and Resources [NIER], exploring the cost and efficiency gains unlocked by the integration of battery storage into a meat processing facility's operational power profile.

The project may evolve to include the phased incorporation of renewable energy inputs and aims to break new ground in an energy-intensive meat processing sector which to date has struggled to incorporate innovations in energy use, due to prohibitive costs and an untenable risk of operational disruption.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development and Leader of The Nationals Michael McCormack welcomed the partnership.

"It is good to see the agriculture sector working closely with some of our brightest minds to develop new technology that will help the \$31 billion industry grow," he said.



Figure 1: Signing Ceremony: L to R Front Row. Professor Janet Nelson, Roger Fletcher OAM, Frank Poullas, Back Row. Hon Mark Coulton MP, Dugald Saunders MP.

The MoU was signed yesterday at a public ceremony in Dubbo by Magnis Executive Chairman Frank Poullas, FIE Director Roger Fletcher OAM, and University of Newcastle Deputy Vice Chancellor Professor Janet Nelson, during the annual State of the Region luncheon hosted by Regional Development Australia's Orana network. Mr Poullas and Professor Nelson also signed a Standing Research Deed, complementing the recent four-way MoU involving Magnis, UoN, Binghamton University and Charge CCCV.

The University of Newcastle's Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research and Innovation, Professor Janet Nelson said that with a focus on fostering industry collaboration and partnerships, the MOU connects the University with industry and major projects in the Orana and Central-West, bringing research expertise and capabilities to the region through the O2N initiative.

"We recognise that the Orana and Central West regions of NSW are major focal points for renewable energy, METS and infrastructure projects for the state, and welcome the commitment to this important relationship between the University of Newcastle and the region," Professor Nelson said.

“The University is renowned for its world-class research, industry collaboration, education and innovative solutions,”

“This partnership will provide the pathways for industry partners of O2N to tap into the expertise and multidisciplinary capabilities of the University's researchers, specialised equipment and infrastructure.”

“Our aim is to have our researchers and students integrated with local industry, building on regional successes and unique attributes to drive innovative outcomes for these key sectors,” she said.

The event provided a showcase for several exciting initiatives being stewarded and hosted by RDA Orana, part of a federally funded network that brings together all levels of government to enhance the development of Australia's regions.

As part of this initiative, The University's Newcastle Institute for Energy & Resources (NIER) is committed to working with partners including Fletcher International Exports and Magnis Energy Technologies, to pursue the development of a utility scale battery for integration into agricultural production in the region.

“The greatest reward offered by Australia's energy transition lies in successful integration of renewables into the industrial, manufacturing, processing and agricultural sectors,” Chairman of the Orana RDA Mr Brad Cam said.

“Battery storage such as this can enable viability which may have been previously difficult to achieve.”

Fletcher International Exports

FIE is one of Australia's most integrated processors and exporters of lamb and sheep meat products. A private, family-owned company, it operates two highly efficient, world-class processing facilities, with a combined processing capacity of more than 90,000 sheep and lambs per week, or 4.5 million head per year.

Commenting on the signing, Mr Fletcher said: “We welcome this agreement and the opportunity to explore the potential of a ‘big battery’ alongside Magnis and the University of Newcastle. We have a responsibility to our people, our consumers and our environment to continuously improve our operations. The project is a natural progression for us, fitting in with our sustainability achievements to date and our strategy moving forward. As individuals, communities and as a nation, we must strive for energy efficiency wherever possible. For us to achieve, we must take a united approach.

Magnis Executive Chairman Frank Poullas commented: “Establishing a battery project with FIE and supported by all forms of government in a region which is highlighted as a future renewable energy hub is exciting for all parties. Following yesterday’s agreement between Magnis, UoN, Binghamton University and Charge CCCV we are starting to see a strengthening company framework for collaborative research in energy transition and integration.”

“Agreements like these are a vital element in the company’s strategic plan to expand Lithium-ion battery cell offtake partnerships, as production in New York and then our plans for Australian manufacturing scales up.”

This announcement has been authorised for release by the Board of Magnis Energy Technologies Limited [ACN 115 111 763].

For further information:

Frank Poullas

Executive Chairman

Ph: +61 2 8397 9888

www.magnis.com.au

Suite 9.03 Aurora Place, 88 Phillip Street, Sydney NSW 2000