



## Ruakākā Energy Park

December 2025 Update | EDITION #6

Kia ora koutou,

Welcome to this update on the Ruakākā Energy Park.

All the action at the moment is at the solar farm sites, where you may have seen our contractors at work over the past few weeks clearing vegetation and carrying out other preparatory works.

We've also started installing the piles on site 2, on the corner of McCathie Road and Port Marsden Highway. These metal uprights will form part of the supporting structure for the solar panels. We apologise if you're affected by this work – we'll get through it as quickly as we can.



Metal piles that will be part of the supporting structure for the solar panels

## Solar equipment arriving at Northport

Our first shipments of solar equipment are arriving at Northport, including the mounting structures, frames and inverters. We're fortunate to have the port's secure storage facilities so close at hand.





Recently delivered  
inverters at Northport.

On the other side of the ocean, some of the team recently travelled to China, where they were able to see some of the actual panels we'll use being produced. These will also arrive at Northport at a later date.



The JA Solar  
factory in China.

### Archaeologist on site

We've had an archaeologist working with us on site over the past few weeks. The area is culturally significant to Māori and we're aware of various middens.

We're alert to the possibility of discovering other archaeological sites or items. If anything is found, we have a protocol in place that involves stopping work immediately and notifying hapū.

### Power Up Ruākākā funding recipients announced

We're thrilled to support 10 awesome local projects in the first round of Power Up Ruakākā funding, making a real impact for the communities, people, and whenua closest to Ruākākā Energy Park.

Congratulations to:

- Whangārei CARE Centre – Budget advice services for Ruākākā residents
- Patuharakeke Māori Rugby League Tournament – Match gear and medical kits
- Bream Bay Hockey & Cricket Club – Cricket pitch upgrade
- Bream Bay Scouts – Outdoor learning space
- Alzheimers Northland – Ruākākā day programme equipment
- Ruākākā Surf Lifesaving Patrol – Rescue tube replacements
- Bream Bay United AFC – Equipment shed
- One Tree Point School – Garden to Table programme
- Access to Adventure Trust – Inclusive boating experiences
- Ruākākā/Kukunui Forest Restoration Society – Kukunui forest trapping group.

A panel of local community members and Meridian staff made the funding decisions.

The next round of funding will be in April 2026. For funding criteria and to find out how to apply, visit [Power Up community fund | Meridian Energy](#).

## Villy Day Out

The organisers of the Villy Day Out pulled off another wonderful event last month. The Meridian team and our contractors Ethical Power had a ball, slinging sausage sizzles and chatting with locals. What a great community to be part of.



The Meridian crew  
at Villy Day Out.

## Any questions?

If you have questions about the Ruakākā Energy Park, check out our website at [www.meridianenergy.co.nz/ruakaka-energy-park](http://www.meridianenergy.co.nz/ruakaka-energy-park), or email us at [ruakaka@meridian.co.nz](mailto:ruakaka@meridian.co.nz).

If you know of anyone who would be interested in the progress of the project, please ask them to subscribe to this newsletter by emailing us at the address above.

Ngā mihi,

**Robert Batters**

Project Manager  
Ruakākā Solar