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## Queensland vanadium developer Vecco Group scores energy storage contract

The Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) congratulates our Queensland member company Vecco Group on today's announcement of their contract to supply a Vanadium Flow Battery (VFB) to be deployed by Energy Queensland.

Vecco Group has contracted Sumitomo Electric to supply the battery hardware and the vanadium electrolyte will be produced at Vecco Group's Townsville facility.

"The news that Energy Queensland is deploying a VFB into the energy grid is exciting news for Queensland's developing critical minerals sector, and specifically the development of the emerging vanadium industry in the State's northwest," said AMEC Chief Executive Officer, Warren Pearce.

"Vanadium Flow Batteries are Australia's opportunity to establish the full battery supply chain, from pit to battery and into our grid."

"Queensland has some of the most ambitious decarbonisation and renewable energy targets in Australia. Achieving these targets requires a comprehensive plan of action to not only build solar, wind and pumped hydro projects to generate clean energy, but storage systems to capture it and Vanadium Flow Batteries will be a big part of the solution."

VFBs and their use as a grid battery outperform alternatives for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, being able to handle a range of climatic conditions and not fail under the pressure; lasting for more than 20 years; fully and easily recyclable; handling the surge of peak demands experienced in Australian summers and winters; and only requiring vanadium – no other minerals.

"Here in Australia, and in particular Queensland, in the remote areas of Julia Creek and Richmond are some of the richest vanadium deposits globally."

According to Geoscience Australia, Australia has 31% of global vanadium and the potential to be the number two supplier, however Australia doesn't currently mine any vanadium. At the moment, 80% of the world's vanadium comes from China and Russia.

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“On a recent delegation to Canberra to meet Federal Ministers with AMEC’s consortium of Queensland vanadium project developers the one question we were asked repeatedly was, “where are VFBs being used now?” Vecco Group is providing Australia with proof that the technology can be built onshore and deployed successfully.”

“The Queensland Government has delivered significant support to the critical minerals sector, and in particular the emerging vanadium industry.”

“The next step that must be taken is to enable development of the deposits in Julia Creek and Richmond by addressing key challenges such as water security and ensuring our regulations and assessment are fit for operations and risk.”

“Government has the opportunity to be an enabler and remove obstacles to decarbonisation.”

“Today’s announcement is proof of what can be achieved when government and industry work together.”

“Development of a mine to grid supply chain for Queensland is the industry equivalent of running the full field to score. It’s fitting that the day after the men’s State of Origin and on the morning of the women’s game in Cowboy Country that the team at Vecco Group score this winning try in Townsville.”

“AMEC also commends Energy Queensland and the Queensland Government for deploying the Vanadium Flow Battery and taking the next step in firming up a pit to grid battery supply chain,” said Mr Pearce.

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