DGA Consulting completed a Cyber Security Assessment for a major renewable energy operator.

The renewable energy generator required assistance in undertaking a Cyber Security assessment of their Operational Technology (OT) environment. The OT environment was comprised of new and legacy systems and required an understanding of their current level of security risk and maturity. To overcome these challenges the company required an audit and remediation plan to meet their cyber security regulatory reporting requirements and improve their overall cyber security posture.

The opportunities were broken down into three main areas:

- Completion of OT audit against AESCSF Framework
- Provide assessment of the future state OT architecture.
- Identify, assess and develop remediation plan for legacy OT equipment

Overview of the Project Approach

DGA Consulting's project approach involved four distinct phases each of which had collaboration through a series of workshops with the client across several business lines alongside update sessions with the executive sponsors of the project.
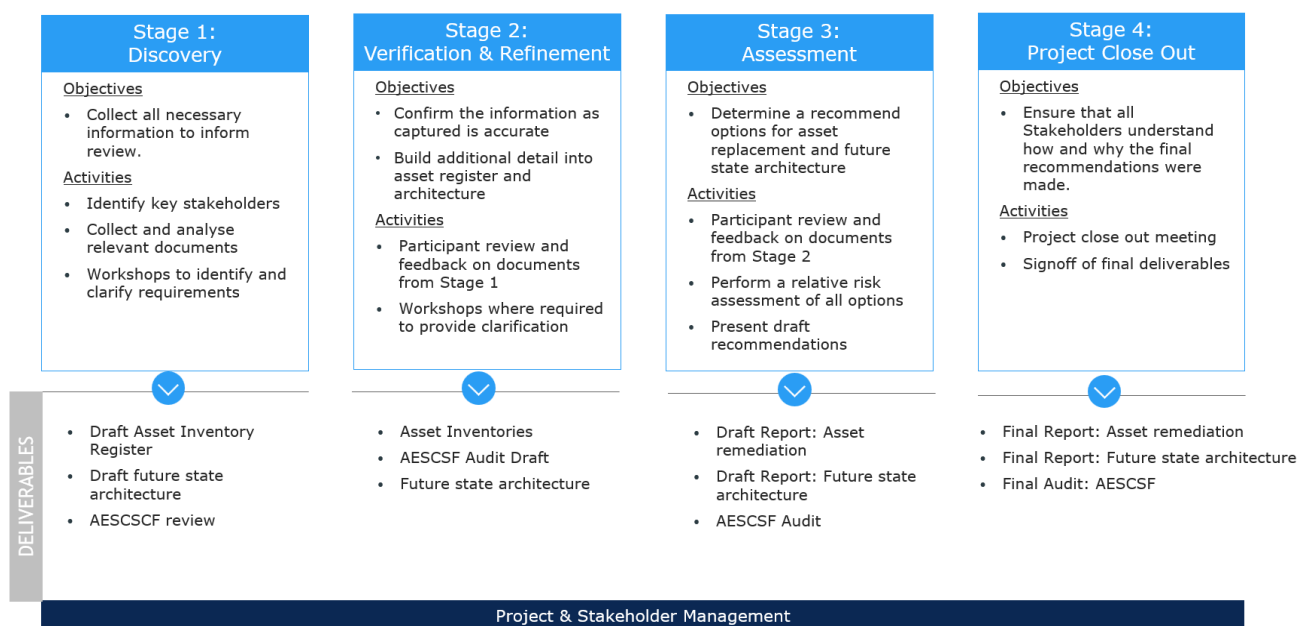
Stage 1: Discovery	Stage 2: Verification & Refinement	Stage 3: Assessment	Stage 4: Project Close Out
Objectives • Collect all necessary information to inform review. **Activities** • Identify key stakeholders • Collect and analyse relevant documents • Workshops to identify and clarify requirements	**Objectives** • Confirm the information as captured is accurate • Build additional detail into asset register and architecture **Activities** • Participant review and feedback on documents from Stage 1 • Workshops where required to provide clarification	**Objectives** • Determine a recommend options for asset replacement and future state architecture **Activities** • Participant review and feedback on documents from Stage 2 • Perform a relative risk assessment of all options • Present draft recommendations	**Objectives** • Ensure that all Stakeholders understand how and why the final recommendations were made. **Activities** • Project close out meeting • Signoff of final deliverables

DELIVERABLES

• Draft Asset Inventory Register • Draft future state architecture • AESCSCF review	• Asset Inventories • AESCSF Audit Draft • Future state architecture	• Draft Report: Asset remediation • Draft Report: Future state architecture • AESCSF Audit	• Final Report: Asset remediation • Final Report: Future state architecture • Final Audit: AESCSF

Project & Stakeholder Management

Figure 1: Overview of Approach

Phase 1 – Project Discovery

Discovery focused on soliciting information from the IT, OT, operations and risk teams and a review of existing policies, procedures, and architecture diagrams. An asset register template was built to accurately capture OT asset hardware and software.

Phase 2 – Verification and Refinement

The verification and refinement phase involved conducting review meetings with key stakeholders across IT/OT and operations to produce the AESCSF audit framework draft, future state architecture and OT asset inventory. Information was disseminated to stakeholders for comment and normalisation.

Phase 3 – Assessment

This phase of the review identified assets that would require replacement based on the state of the asset as assessed during the update of the asset inventory. The future state architecture and maturity indicator level scoring against the AESCSF framework were also performed.

Phase 4 – Project Close Out

The final phase of the assignment was to produce a future state architecture and asset replacement recommendations, inclusive of an asset replacement roadmap which displays a logically sequenced holistic list of tasks to realise its future operationally focused business outcomes. The AESCSF framework audit was completed in conjunction with the business in preparation for regulatory submission.