



Community Benefit Fund

Meadow Creek Solar Farm is a proposed renewable energy development located around 27km south-east of Wangaratta. At around 566 hectares, the site could host up to 330MW of solar energy – powering around 110,000 homes.

SHARING THE BENEFITS OF RENEWABLE ENERGY

Meadow Creek Solar Farm is committed to sharing the benefits of the project with the local community.

Renewable energy infrastructure can lead to changes, including visual and amenity impacts. In response proponents should lead initiatives to support communities in which they operate and contribute to a positive legacy for the project.

Benefit Sharing is a common practice for renewable energy projects in Victoria and around Australia.

BENEFIT SHARING AT MEADOW CREEK

We've looked at benefit sharing programs of other renewable energy developments in the region, and the positive contributions Meadow Creek Solar Farm could make locally.

As one of the larger solar energy facilities in Victoria, we've committed a proportionate amount to supporting local community initiatives.

We're committing \$100,000 annually to a community benefit fund. The fund could be distributed to the local community through grants, sponsorships and partnerships programs.

WHAT KINDS OF PROGRAMS SHOULD WE FUND?

We want to hear from local community on initiatives you would like to see funded.

Before the fund is finalised, we'll develop a clear framework for how the community benefit fund will be allocated. This will include objectives of the fund and how it will be allocated.

WHEN WILL THE FUND BE AVAILABLE TO COMMUNITY?

The fund would be available to the community once the project is built and operational.

WHO WILL BE ABLE TO ACCESS THE FUND?

The fund will be available to local community groups, stakeholders and organisations. We want to focus the fund on supporting local initiatives near the project area. It is important to ensure we are directing the benefit to the community who are most impacted.

HOW WILL YOU BE SUPPORTING IMPACTED PROJECT NEIGHBOURS?

We are looking at developing a Neighbour Benefit Program. There is some work to do to understand the impacts of the project we can progress a neighbour benefit program further and what could be included as part of this.