

THE COOBA SOLAR PROJECT

COMMUNITY BENEFIT PROGRAM

Venn Energy, the proponent of Cooba Solar Project at Colbinabbin, is committed to an annual community benefit fund of \$200,000 per year. This equates to \$6M over the 30-year operational life of the project. This program will be designed to evolve with the community over time, in order to deliver positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

Venn Energy acknowledges and pays respect to the past, present, and future Traditional Custodians and Elders of this nation and the continuation of cultural, spiritual, and educational practices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.



VENN ENERGY

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Venn Energy are committed to ensuring the economic benefits of the project are shared with the wider Colbinabbin community in a meaningful and lasting way.

In this respect, Venn Energy is committed to establishing a community benefit sharing fund with annual funding from the Cooba Solar Project of \$200,000 per year, throughout the operational life of the project.

This program will be designed to evolve with the community over time, to deliver positive social, economic, and environmental outcomes.

The structure and governance of the community benefit fund will be developed through cooperation and consultation with the local community. It is intended that the fund will be established and administered by an independently governed community-led committee with direct input into the allocation of funds across the various priority initiatives, programs, and projects throughout the community. This can be facilitated through a purpose-made organisation, an existing trusted community charity or foundation, a community board, or a community committee working in partnership with Venn Energy.

The initial guiding principles of the fund are:

Empowerment – such that the Colbinabbin community may be empowered with the resources, support, and authority to address the issues of greatest importance and direct local benefit.

Resilience – funding initiatives that build resilience within the community and its environment.

Alignment – ensuring funding is mutually beneficial, aligned with existing programs and initiatives in the community, and in collaboration with Council, local institutions, and authorities.

Funding may include initiatives that support health and wellbeing, local skills development and training, education, population growth and retention, economic development, and sustainability of the

natural environment, among others.

Venn Energy's intention is that the community benefit fund will support and further strengthen the positive legacy of the Colbinabbin community.

Indirect Initiatives to enhance support of Local Economy

As well as the direct benefits from a Community Benefit Program, The Cooba Solar Project will deliver a number of positive socio-economic benefits including increased employment opportunities. Approximately 250 direct jobs will be generated on the project during construction, and 6 full-time jobs during operation. These employment opportunities or procurement of goods and services from local businesses may include:

- Construction Trades and Labour Hire
- Concrete and Raw Material Supply
- Landscaping Services
- Surveyors
- Cleaning Services
- Security Services
- Training Service Providers
- Building Providers (Temporary and Permanent)
- Waste Contractors
- Accommodation and Hospitality Service Providers
- Machinery Hire

Venn Energy is committed to sourcing goods and services from the local region as much as possible, to ensure the Cooba Solar Farm is an active and positive part of the local community.

Venn Energy welcomes feedback from the community on the proposed Community Benefit Program. If you would like to find out how you could be part of the committee, provide suggestions and feedback, or to find out more scan the QR Code below.

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