

GULLEN RANGE

WIND FARM



Clean Energy Program

AUG 2016

Introduction

This brochure is about the Gullen Range Wind Farm (GRWF) Clean Energy Program, or CLEP for short.

The CLEP provides financial contributions towards implementing clean energy improvements in the community.

The CLEP is part of the Community Enhancement Program. This program can be downloaded from the GRWF website, or if you contact us, we can post you a copy. This brochure is a summary of information from the Community Enhancement Program. However, if you want to know all of the detail, you should read the full program.

Who is Eligible?

To be eligible for the program you must meet the following criteria:

- You must be an owner or a tenant of a residential or commercial building within 5 kilometres of the wind farm. The actual building which is the subject of the application needs to be within this 5km distance. Use the map on our website to determine whether you are eligible and if you are unsure contact us and we will check for you.

- You can't be receiving an income from the wind farm through a lease or easement.
- You can't be a tenant of somebody who is receiving an income from the wind farm through a lease or easement.
- The building which is the subject of your application must have received Development Approval on or before December 23rd 2014.

In most cases you cannot apply for the program twice. This brochure assumes that the reader meets these eligibility criteria.

Summary

The Clean Energy Program is split into two Stages. Stage 1 must be completed before Stage 2 can be applied for.

Stage 1 'Energy Efficiency Package' – Submit an application form and our Energy Efficiency Expert will complete an energy efficiency audit on your house. You'll get a report and a \$150 voucher to spend at Bunnings on small items recommended in the report.

Stage 2 – Use information from the energy efficiency audit you received in Stage 1 to make improvements to your house or business. We will provide a grant of approximately \$6500 towards the cost. Stage 2 is split into two different packages and you can only apply for one of these, depending on how you want to use the grant:

Stage 2A 'Solar Reimbursement Package' – Use the grant to install a solar PV, solar hot water or battery storage system.

Stage 2B 'Home Energy Efficiency Improvement Package' – Use the grant to make other improvements to your house that will make it more efficient, such as wall insulation or double glazed windows.

Application Forms

Forms are available on the Gullen Range Wind Farm website. You can also contact us for a paper copy.

There are separate application forms for Stage 1 and Stage 2, so make sure you fill out the correct one.

How does Stage 1 work?

Stage 1, the Energy Efficiency Package, involves our Energy Efficiency Expert completing an Energy Efficiency Audit at your house or business.

To apply, fill in a Stage 1 application form. You'll need to provide some supporting information, such as your last 12 months of energy bills. Our Energy Efficiency Expert uses this information to assess how you go about using energy in your home. The information required is clearly stated on the form.

Our consultant will contact you within seven days to arrange to visit your home and perform an audit. The home visit is a friendly chat about your house and how you could save energy. You will be provided with a customised report describing how you can improve your energy and water efficiency. You will also receive a \$150 voucher to spend at Bunnings on small bits and pieces recommended in the report, such as rubber strips to better seal windows or more efficient light bulbs.

Stage 1 is designed to inform you about how you can best make use of the grant we offer in Stage 2 of the program.

How does Stage 2 work?

You must have completed Stage 1 of the program before you apply for Stage 2.

Stage 2 is split into two packages – The Solar Reimbursement Package (Stage 2A) and the Home Energy Efficiency Improvement Package (Stage 2B).

Eligible Residents can only apply for one of these packages, so you need to decide which to apply for. At present, you can only apply for Stage 2 once during the lifetime of the wind farm, although this may be revised in the future depending on the uptake of the program.

Under the Solar Reimbursement Package (Stage 2A), you can apply for a grant to install a solar PV, solar hot water or battery storage system on a house or business premises.

Under the Home Energy Efficiency Improvement Package (Stage 2B), you can apply for a grant for works that will materially improve energy efficiency for a house or business premises, such as wall insulation, double glazing, or other similar improvements. The primary purpose of the proposed improvement must be to materially improve energy efficiency, and you must be able to describe how this is achieved in your application.

The Energy Committee is responsible for assessing applications. The Committee aims to approve applications of no more than \$6500, although there is some flexibility if there is an aspect of your installation that is particularly complex.

You may elect to 'top up' the CLEP grant of \$6500 with your own money if you wish. This is called 'Partial Funding'.

Your best chance for approval for Stage 2 of the CLEP is to apply for \$6500 or less, or elect to 'top up' the \$6500 grant with your own money.

If your application is successful, you will need to enter a short contract called a Funding Agreement. This agreement is between us and you and sets out the terms by which the funding will be provided. It is very important that you read it carefully and discuss it with your supplier.

We will pay your supplier directly for the works. We will make only two payments, a 15% deposit and the balance of the system.

How to apply for Stage 2

1. Obtain a Stage 2 application form
2. Decide which package to apply for
3. Obtain two quotations for the works from an appropriately accredited supplier. Decide who is your preferred supplier.
4. Ensure you and your supplier are happy with the terms of the Funding Agreement.
5. Fill out the form and submit it. You can submit it at any time.

What happens after you apply?

We will acknowledge receipt of your application in writing.

Your application will be provided to our Energy Efficiency Expert consultant. They will confirm whether your application is consistent with the recommendations of your Stage 1 Energy Report.

Once a quarter the Energy Committee will meet and decide which applications are to be approved, which are to be waitlisted, or which are not valid under the terms of the program. The Energy Committee will consider the Energy Efficiency Expert's advice. The Energy Efficiency Expert does not decide which applications are approved and is not a member of the committee.

The Committee will use the following criteria in assessing applications:

1. Ensuring that the average approved application value across all approved applications is \$6500.

2. How far you are from the nearest turbine on the wind farm.

3. The length of time you have been on the waiting list.

You will be notified in writing by GRWF of the Energy Committee's decision.

If your application is approved, you will receive a letter from us including a copy of our Funding Agreement. You must sign and date this and post it back to us. We will countersign this and post you a copy. Once you have received the countersigned agreement you may engage your supplier.

GRWF will not provide any funding unless a Funding Agreement is entered into before the applicant enters a contract with their supplier and before any works have commenced.

GRWF, the Energy Committee and the Energy Efficiency Expert will not be responsible for the poor performance, malfunction, maintenance or associated property damage of any scheme approved under the CLEP, and do not warrant the performance of any such scheme. This is clearly stated in the Funding Agreement.

How does payment of the grant work?

Arrangements for payment of the grant are stated in the Funding Agreement.

After you have engaged your supplier, you fill out a 'Direction to Pay' form which you send to us. We will pay a 15% deposit to your supplier once we have received that form. We can only pay via bank transfer to your supplier, not by cheque or cash.

On completion of the work (and when you are satisfied with the quality of the work), you provide us with another 'Direction to Pay' form and we will pay your supplier the balance of the grant value.

If you are 'topping up' our grant, the process is the same other than that you will need to arrange to pay your supplier directly for the value of the works above our grant value.

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Each 'Direction to Pay' form needs to be accompanied by certain information, such as an invoice, proof of your supplier's insurance and photos of the installed system. The Funding Agreement contains details on exactly what information must be provided.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why is the target value for the grant set at \$6500?

This value enables us to fund as many people as possible and reduces the likelihood that applicants will be placed on a waiting list. Note that the \$6500 target value will increase with inflation (CPI) annually.

What are the timescales for Stage 2 applications?

- December 23 – March 22 – will be reviewed between April 01 and June 30
- March 23 – June 22 – will be reviewed between July 01 and September 30
- June 23 – September 22 – will be reviewed between October 01 and December 31
- September 23 – December 22 – will be reviewed between January 01 and March 31

Who is the Energy Committee?

The Energy Committee consists of a person from GRWF and an independent member. Check the CLEP Guidelines on our website for the details of the independent member.

How much money is available in the CLEP?

Every year that the wind farm is operational, \$60,809 is available to the CLEP. This sum increases by CPI every year with a 2010 baseline. GRWF is able to draw on a future year's CLEP funds to control the application waiting list, although this is at GRWF's discretion.

If not all of the money is spent, the excess rolls over into the Community Fund. This is a fund administered by Upper Lachlan Shire Council providing funds to community groups on an annual basis. Check our website for more details about this program.

What happens if there is not enough money in a given year for all applications?

We will create a waiting list in this situation. You will be notified in writing if you are placed on a waiting list. We will act to minimise the waiting times wherever possible.

Who is the Energy Efficiency Expert?

This person is an independent consultant that GRWF has engaged to help with the CLEP. Check the CLEP Guidelines on our website for the details of the current Energy Efficiency Expert.

Who will administer the Clean Energy Program?

GRWF in consultation with the Energy Committee will administer the Clean Energy Program. The Program will be independently reviewed and audited annually.

Can you help me find a supplier?

On our website, there is a list of suppliers who have contacted us or have appeared on applications we have received. We don't recommend one supplier over another.

Contact Us

We are happy to talk through any aspect of the CLEP. We can provide you with assistance or post paper copies of our application forms.

Phone: 1800 509 711 (leave a message and we will call back)

Email: info@gullenrangewindfarm.com

Write: NGRWF, Suite 3, Level 21, 1 York Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000

Visit our website: www.gullenrangewindfarm.com