


# Moorabool Wind Farm Community Fund Guidelines

April 2024



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## 1 Introduction

The Moorabool Wind Farm Community Fund (MWFCF) gives financial support to community groups, organisations and projects that provide a benefit to a broad proportion of the local community.

MWFCF provides \$2,500.00 per installed wind turbine annually. The total is a combination of Moorabool North Wind Farm (MNWF) \$125,000 and Moorabool South Wind Farm (MSWF) \$135,000 (CPI adjusted each year).

MWFCF is split into three streams:

- Community Grants - \$200,000 (plus any CPI adjustment)
- Community Groups Sponsorship Packages – (Sub group of Community Grants)
- Community Scholarships - \$30,000
- Scholarships for local students attending Federation University in Ballarat - \$30,000

The funding will open annually. Dates will be advertised in advance of each round.

This document sets out the Guidelines for applying for funding through the Community Grants stream of the MWFCF. For guidelines for Community Scholarships and information on Federation University scholarships can be found on the Moorabool Wind Farm website.

## 2 Key Aims

The key aim is to enable local not-for-profit groups, organisations and projects to make a positive and enduring contribution to the local community.

The Community Fund Committee (CFC) has been appointed to evaluate all applications and to provide recommendations on how best to distribute funds. The aim is to maximise long-term benefits for communities around the wind farm.

All applications must align with the following:

- Substantial positive and long-term benefits to the local community, including social, economic and environmental,
- Strengthen the local community and aim for better connections between groups / areas,
- Promote the local awareness of the Community Fund and Moorabool Wind Farm.

The Community Fund Committee will hold yearly presentation meetings to receive funding where successful applicants are encouraged to attend.

Notes:

- The number of applications for funding may exceed the total funds available. Therefore, not all projects may be successful in receiving support.
- Applications with a dollar-for-dollar contribution or with in kind support will be favourably considered.
- The CFC recommends successful applicants, and the final amount of funding is at Moorabool Wind Farm's discretion.

### 3 Fund Area

Projects supported by MWFCF should show benefits for communities that are local to Moorabool Wind Farm Project. Priority will be given to areas within the 10km radius, and any funding that may be available, may be used for areas outside this demarcation line.

See Appendix 1 – Map of Area within 10km radius. The Fund area may be revised in future years to incorporate a larger geographical area.

### 4 Applicants eligible to receive funding

- Not-for-Profit Organisations
- Have a valid Australian Business Number ([www.abr.business.gov.au](http://www.abr.business.gov.au))

Groups that do not have an eligible ABN will require a Project Partner / Auspice. A Project Partner / Auspice is:

- An organisation who has an eligible ABN and;
- Willing to support and work with you to deliver your project

### 5 What Projects will be supported?

Area	Example
Public Health and Wellbeing	Activities to encourage a healthy lifestyle, community participation, emergency services support.
Environmental Sustainability	Conservation, protection and rehabilitation projects, enhancement of the natural environment, energy saving projects.
Skills and Education	Supporting skills development and providing access to adult or early childhood education locally, scholarships, apprenticeships.
Recreational and Cultural Activities	Events and activities to promote a diverse community, sporting activities, renovation, or upgrade of community buildings.

### 6 What will not be funded by the MWFCF?

- Individuals
- Political organisations or campaigns
- Religious activities
- Private / commercial entities
- Irresponsible use of alcohol / drugs / gambling
- Repayment of debts or loans
- Administration expenses
- Overseas travel
- Applications seeking retrospective funding
- An organization's ongoing operational costs (e.g. rent, salaries etc)
- Activities usually exclusively funded by government.

## 7 Selection and Assessment Criteria

All applications will be evaluated by the CFC. Selection criteria may include:

Project Benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Direct and Indirect community benefits</li> <li>• Quality of life/community enhancement</li> <li>• Project operation efficiency</li> <li>• Demographics reached</li> <li>• Long term benefits</li> </ul>	25%
Targeted Community Need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outline specific need within the community and how the project aims to meet that need</li> <li>• Council / community support for the Project</li> <li>• Who will benefit?</li> </ul>	25%
Project viability and success	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Background of applicant, organisation size, prior experience</li> <li>• Duplication of existing projects</li> <li>• Prior Funding of applicant</li> <li>• Demonstration of need for financial assistance e.g. treasurer reports, bank statements, project quotes</li> <li>• Collaboration with other groups and other funding sources</li> <li>• Ability to complete project</li> <li>• Dollar for dollar contribution or “in-kind” work</li> </ul>	25%
Alignment with Key aims	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Substantial positive and long-term benefits to the local community, including social, economic and environmental</li> <li>• Strengthen the local community and aim for better connections between groups / areas</li> <li>• Promote the local awareness of the Community Fund and Moorabool Wind farm</li> </ul>	25%

## 8 When and How to Apply

Moorabool Wind Farm will advertise the timeframe for applications each year. Dates will be advertised via local papers, website, post to interested parties and to the local Council.

Information and training sessions will be held prior to the opening of each round, locally. The application form will be available to preview at this time.

- Applications must be received within the allocated timeframe
- Applications must be completed online using SmartyGrants
- Applications must be received before the closing date. No late applications will be accepted.
- Applications will be acknowledged immediately, and applicants will be notified of the status of their application within 3 months of the closing date
- Funds will be dispersed as soon as possible after this time

To begin an application please visit [www.mooraboolwindfarm.com](http://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com). For help or to ask questions please contact [info@mooraboolwindfarm.com](mailto:info@mooraboolwindfarm.com), 1800 019 660.

## 9 Assessment of Applications

The process for the assessment of all applications for funding is as follows (on the following page):



- 1 Applications recorded and acknowledged immediately.
- 2 Applications are then assessed for eligibility against the criteria. Applications that do not meet the criteria will be notified as soon as possible.
- 3 Applications meeting the criteria will then be forwarded to the CFC for formal assessment.
- 4 CFC members will be given 4 weeks to review applications before a special assessment meeting will be convened to determine applications.
- 5 Applications will be assessed against the assessment criteria.
- 6 The CFC recommends successful applicants, and the final approval is at Moorabool Wind Farms
- 7 discretion.
- 8 Applicants will be notified of the outcome of the application by email and/or telephone. Successful applicants will be sent a letter of offer and a Community Fund Participation Agreement (CFPA). This contract is between the MNWF & MSWF and the applicant outlining the approved funding and payment terms and conditions. A draft copy of the CFPA can be seen in Appendix 2 of this document.
- 9 Once this is returned signed, with banking details and a tax invoice, funds will be transferred via EF

## 10 Implementation of Project after Funding

It is a requirement that all projects are implemented within 12 months of receiving funding or an alternative timeframe outlined within the CFPA. A required completion date will be notified within the CFPA.

It is anticipated that all projects will be implemented as per the application.

If the project is delayed, a revised timeframe must be requested in writing. This will be reviewed and where possible a revised timeframe will be provided by variation to the CFPA. If a variation is not requested or unable to be provided, all unspent funds must be returned to Moorabool Wind Farm within 30 days from notification.

Revisions to a project or applications to amend a successful project will not be allowed without written approval from Moorabool Wind Farm. If the project cannot be implemented as per the application, Moorabool Wind Farm should be notified and alternatives proposed. Should no alternative be agreed, then any unspent funds must be returned to Moorabool Wind Farm within 30 days.

Successful applicants can reapply for funding in subsequent rounds if they have successfully completed past projects and all reporting requirements. Failure to comply with this requirement may impede future applicants from applying for funding under future rounds.

## 11 Reporting and Evaluation

An Acquittal form will be required to be completed online. A link to this will be provided to all successful applicants at the time funding is provided. Funds must be used solely for what was specified in the initial application. Any unused funds will need to be returned. Should the actual project costs be less than the proposed project costs, the recipient must repay the difference to MWF at the time of providing the acquittal form unless the Recipient has been given approval, in writing, by MWF for an appropriate extension of scope to cover the remaining funds.

This must include sufficient evidence of expenditure (receipts etc).

## 12 Privacy

Please refer to the GWA Privacy Policy available at [www.mooraboolwindfarm.com](http://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com) or by request to [info@mooraboolwindfarm.com](mailto:info@mooraboolwindfarm.com)

## 13 Contact

For further information please contact:

Freecall: 1800 019 660

Email: [info@mooraboolwindfarm.com](mailto:info@mooraboolwindfarm.com)

Web: [www.mooraboolwindfarm.com](http://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com)

## Appendix 1 – Map of Eligible Areas

