

## Grant amounts, objectives and purpose

Round Two of Uralla Grants - as part of the UPC\AC Renewables Community Benefits Sharing Initiative - is an innovative model of community support developed by UPC/AC Renewables and the Uralla community. The grants are to provide assistance and support to the community to promote community resilience, prosperity, sustainability and recreation.

In total \$100,000 in grants for the Uralla Community will be delivered in the first and second round of the program.

Applications can be made to a maximum of \$5000 per project. Community groups, businesses, organisations and individuals may apply.

## Eligibility

To be eligible to apply for Uralla Grants, an applicant must reside in the defined community area. This is the entire Uralla Shire Council area and parts of Kellys Plains and Dangarsleigh. A detailed map can be accessed here:

[www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au/urallagrants](http://www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au/urallagrants)

No applications from proponents outside this area will be considered.

In addition applicants must:

- a) Demonstrate how their project supports the Uralla Grants community across the defined area and promotes the wellbeing of their residents with regard to the grant objectives.

- b) As part of the application be able to provide a breakdown of all, or a substantive part, of the expected costs of the project (for example quotes, evidence of retail price for intended items);
- c) Specify a timeline for activities and/or expected completion date.
- d) Indicate how they intend to acknowledge the role of UPC/AC Renewables in their delivery of the project.

All activities must be completed within 12 months of the funding agreement being made.

## Ineligible activities

Applicants are restricted to one application per round but are not precluded from applying for later rounds if they are unsuccessful.

Examples of projects that may be ineligible include:

- Projects that involve activities exclusively outside the Uralla region, noting this would not preclude Uralla residents being supported to attend a relevant event outside the geographic area bounds
- Projects that have previously been the subject of community concern

The above list is not exhaustive. UPC/AC Renewables reserves the right in extraordinary circumstances to decline funding for a project.

## Fraudulent Claims

By entering into a funding agreement with UPC/AC Renewables Australia, you are declaring that the information you are providing is true

and accurate. Providing inaccurate, untrue or misleading information may be a breach of criminal law for which serious penalties may apply.

## Assessment

The Community Reference Group will assess all projects on their merits. Applicant are encouraged to submit detailed applications; however, the process is not designed to be onerous.

Quotes and a thorough description of the project and how it aligns with the grant objectives will in most cases be sufficient for an application to be considered, provided all other eligibility criteria are met. Applicants are encouraged to note that thorough quotes being provided upfront as part of the application assists both the assessment and acquittal processes in this grant scheme.

Applicants are encouraged to contact the New England Solar Farm Project Coordinator Rob Bell on 0448 472 244 if they have any specific inquiries.

## Acquittal

Applicants must show within 12 months of receiving Uralla Grant funding that they have acquitted their projects. Successful applicants will be provided with a form as part of their application to fill in and attach relevant documentation (for example invoices, pictures, media clippings).

Unspent funds may be utilised by the applicant; however, they may only be spent in support of the project they had funded.

For example, a community group installed a new fridge and dishwasher in their kiosk. Due to a sale price on the fridge, they had an underspend of \$300. The group provides receipts showing this funding went to BBQ items for a fundraiser to support their organisation or further activities at the kiosk.

Alternatively, a group may, with Community Reference Group consent, donate an underspend to a local community organisation. A receipt for this donation would be required.

A group who is unable to deliver their project due to reasonable circumstances may apply to the Community Reference Group for a sixmonth extension. At the end of this time frame, if the project cannot be completed the funds should be returned and will be used for other community works at the discretion of UPC\AC Renewables in consultation with the Community Reference Group.

Any applicant who wishes to return their funding in full due to a change of circumstances should email [urallagrants@upc-ac.com](mailto:urallagrants@upc-ac.com) as soon as possible.

## Applications

Applications for grants up to \$5000 for Uralla Grants open 15 June 2021 and close 5pm 30 July 2021. Successful applicants will be notified within eight weeks of the closing date.

Applications can be submitted emailed to [urallagrants@upc-ac.com](mailto:urallagrants@upc-ac.com)

UPC\AC takes their community responsibilities seriously. We welcome feedback on the Uralla Grants and the New England Solar Farm development and construction. To get in touch please email [info@newenglandsolarfarm.com.au](mailto:info@newenglandsolarfarm.com.au)