

Collector Wind Farm Newsletter December 2021 #26

We are coming to the end of our first year of operations at the Collector Wind Farm which means that we have now completed the first round of grants from the Collector Wind Farm Community Trust and the Collector Wind Farm s355 Community Fund. We are pleased to share details of the local community groups that received grant funding and how they are progressing with their projects.

The Collector Community Trust was advised by three local representatives - Penelope Marshall, Ed Geishofer and James McKay (who replaced Tony Walsh on the advisory committee earlier this year). All four residents provided valuable support and advice for the establishment of the Community Trust and in the decision-making for the grants, and the Collector Wind Farm team is very grateful for their contributions at many late night meetings.

The first round of grant funding from the Community Trust went to three local organisations:

- Collector Memorial Hall, which received \$20,110 to rewire the hall's electrical system and install new solar panels on the roof.
- Pot Black Bus, which received \$2,500 for much-needed maintenance for the bus.
- Collector Bushranger Reserve Trust, which received \$11,000 to conduct a hydrology and biodiversity survey and create a proposed design for the Bushranger Reserve.

Subsequently, the first round of grant funding from the Collector Wind Farm s355 Community Fund was allocated.

Many thanks to local representatives Katie Yeo and Bob Carter who helped the Council representatives, Mayor John Stafford and Upper Lachlan Shire Council General Manager Colleen Worthy, decide on the following grant recipients from the Collector Wind Farm s355 Community Fund:

- Collector Memorial Hall was granted \$30,210 to create an energy-efficient space with a new insulated roof; which was particularly appreciated by the youngest members of the community attending day care in the hall during winter.
- The Collector Oval Committee received \$65,500 for a new BBQ and Shade Sail for the children's play area that is due to be installed in the new year.
- Breadalbane Pony Club received \$10,000 to upgrade facilities and equipment.

In October, the remaining funds for 2021 from the Community Trust were distributed to more Collector community groups.

- Collector Public School received \$9,749.21 to establish the first stage of their outdoor learning space that will help kids understand positive food choices, food science and connection to country. The Principal Mark Wyatt has already installed raised garden beds and an irrigation system. (pictured)
- The Collector Oval Committee received a total of \$33,339.79 to fix the car park and install a new post and rail fence along the front of the oval.
- The Collector Memorial Hall received \$11,250 to install a new accessibility ramp, which was poured just in time for the local council elections. (pictured)

Collector Wind Farm Project Updates

Over the past months our team has commenced a number of studies to assess and demonstrate that the wind farm is operating in accordance with the development approval and the associated operation environmental management plans.

These include:

- Noise monitoring & assessment
- Bird and bat monitoring
- Biodiversity assessments

The noise monitoring has been occurring around the wind farm site since early June 2021 with the objective of assessing compliance with the operational noise criteria that are defined in the development approval.

Due to a range of unexpected events, including turbine maintenance and high levels of environmental noise (from frogs and rain), we have needed to extend the monitoring period.

We are working with the Dept of Planning to extend the monitoring to ensure a thorough assessment of compliance is completed. We anticipate that the final results and reporting will be completed in early 2022.

Once complete, these studies will be available on the project website at www.collectorwindfarm.com.au/operations

Landscape and visual screening

The approval timeline for landscape screening requests ended on 20 Nov 2021. We have completed works at 10 properties around the wind farm. Unfortunately, 16 properties jobs have had to be postponed due to the wet weather.

Work is currently on hold as the ground is too wet for effective landscaping & planting. Our landscaper Nick will be contacting the remaining residents in the new year when the weather is (hopefully) more favourable.

General Enquiries

As usual if you have any questions or concerns about Collector Wind Farm please don't hesitate to contact us via enquiries@ratchaustralia.com or via phone 1800 280 013.



Denise Duck, President



Mark Wyatt, Collector Public School Principal