

Hexham Wind Farm

FACT SHEET

Neighbour Benefit Sharing Program

JANUARY 2026 (UPDATED)



The proposed Hexham Wind Farm would play an important role in contributing to a sustainable and efficient energy future.

Located in the proposed South-West Renewable Energy Zone within the Moyne Shire Council, the Hexham Wind Farm would incorporate up to 106 wind turbines, on-site terminal station and Battery Energy Storage System (BESS). Once operational, the Project would provide enough energy to power up to 515,000 households annually.

Supporting the local community through benefit sharing

Since the early development of the Project, Wind Prospect has been supporting the local community through a Community Sponsorship Program. This program provides up to \$20,000 annually to support local community groups, schools and associations to host events, upgrade services and facilities and enhance initiatives.

If the Hexham Wind Farm is approved, the Community Sponsorship Program would be replaced by a new, more substantial Neighbour Benefit Sharing Program. Additional financial benefits would be available to the local community, and near neighbours, to ensure those living closest to the development share in direct benefits.

About the program

The proposed Hexham Wind Farm Neighbour Benefit Sharing Program has been developed in consultation with the community, Moyne Shire Council and other key stakeholders, and is in line with industry standards and government guidelines. If the Hexham Wind Farm is approved, a Neighbour Benefit Sharing Program would commence from construction (via a one-off construction stage payment for near neighbours) and continue once the wind farm is commissioned (for the Neighbour Benefit Sharing Payments, Energy Cost Offset Plan and the Community Benefit Fund), and would continue annually for the life of the Project. Under the Neighbour Benefit Sharing Program there are separate initiatives for those living within 6 kilometres (km) of a proposed turbine and the local community.

Benefit Sharing snapshot





Neighbour Benefit Sharing Payments

The Neighbour Benefit Sharing Payment would provide annual payments to the owners of eligible dwellings and/or operating retail premises of up to \$30,000 per annum.

Eligibility:

- All dwellings and/or operating retail premises located within six kilometres of a constructed turbine, and in existence at the 1st of July 2019. Eligibility of any dwellings or retail premises established after 1st July 2019 is subject to discretion.
- Payments are for every dwelling and/or operating retail premises located on land with a unique registered proprietor. For situations where more than one dwelling or operating retail premises is owned by the same registered proprietor, the amount payable is calculated by establishing the highest calculated benefit for a dwelling and/or operating retail premises and adding \$1,000 for every additional dwelling and/or operating retail premises located within six kilometres of a constructed wind turbine subject to the maximum payment described below.

Term:

Payments would commence at the commissioning of the wind farm and continue annually for as long as the relevant turbines are operational.

Payments:

Annual amounts payable are equal to the sum of:

- \$3,500 per constructed turbine located within two kilometres of the dwelling and/or retail premises.
- \$1,000 per constructed turbine located between two kilometres and three kilometres of the dwelling and/or retail premises.
- \$100 per constructed turbine located between three kilometres and six kilometres of the dwelling and/or retail premises.

This initiative would have a minimum annual payment of \$1,000 and a maximum annual payment of \$30,000 applied to each individual proprietor. All payments would be indexed annually to the Consumer Price Index, from the commencement of the program.

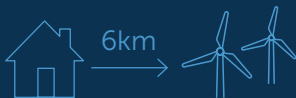
Recipient:

Payments are made to the registered proprietor of the land (as provided on the property title) on which the dwelling or retail premises is located.

Construction Payment:

All eligible participants of the Neighbour Benefit Sharing Payment would also be eligible for a one-off Construction Payment of \$1,000, payable at the substantial commencement of construction.

Example Neighbour Benefit Sharing Payment:



Project neighbour lives and/or operates a retail premises within 6km of 12 constructed turbines

4 x turbines within 2km = \$14,000 (\$3,500 per turbine)

+

6 x turbines within 2-3km = \$6,000 (\$1,000 per turbine)

+

2 x turbines within 3-6km = \$200 (\$100 per turbine)

+

\$2,000 annual Energy Offset

=

\$22,200
Total annual payments

One off construction payment of
\$1,000
at substantial commencement of construction

+

At commissioning of the wind farm
\$22,200
first annual payment



Energy Cost Offset Plan

The Energy Cost Offset Plan is designed to assist the occupants of neighbouring dwellings and operating retail premises with the cost of electricity, with an annual value of up to \$2,000.

Eligibility:

All dwellings and operating retail premises located within six kilometres of a constructed turbine, and in existence at 1st July 2019, are eligible for the Offset Plan. Eligibility of any dwellings and/or retail premises established after 1st July 2019 is subject to discretion.

Term:

The Energy Cost Offset Plan would commence at the commissioning of the wind farm and continue annually for as long as the relevant turbines are operational.

Value:

The value is up to \$2,000 per annum, and is indexed to the Consumer Price Index, from commencement of the Offset Plan.

Recipient:

The occupier of the dwelling and/or operating retail premises and regardless of the presence of existing auxiliary energy systems such as solar/battery systems or the installation of new auxiliary energy systems.



Community Benefit Fund

A fund which contributes \$1,000 per year per turbine, for the operating lifetime of the wind farm to the local region.

Eligibility:

A formally established fund committee would assess eligibility and acceptance of applications for funding. The fund committee would determine eligibility associated with distance from the project, whether funds could be used for large infrastructure and whether funds are pooled with funds from other infrastructure programs.

Term:

The fund would commence at the commissioning of the wind farm and continue annually for as long as the wind farm is operational.

Payments:

The fund would comprise \$1,000 per operational turbine per year (up to \$106,000 per annum) indexed annually to the Consumer Price Index from commencement of the fund.

Administration:

The fund committee would comprise a number of community representatives and representation from the wind farm owner. The Moyne Shire Council may also participate with non-voting representation.



Optional Community Co-Investment Program

Community co-investment involves a community investment body investing in a renewable energy project, acquiring rights to a portion of a project's profit but gaining no decision-making power or control over a project.

In this arrangement, the community has no formal ownership or responsibility over the project. Co-investment is a common method for large-scale renewables globally, including Denmark where it is legislated that every wind project must offer local community investment.

Subject to sufficient interest from the local community, this program would provide an opportunity for community members and organisations to invest in the operational project and participate in the financial benefits.

If planning approval is provided and the project becomes operational, a formal process would be established to assess community interest in investing in the project.

If there is sufficient interest, the program would be developed to provide for investment into the wind farm by local community members and organisations.


Further information on co-investment is provided in the Community Engagement and Benefit Sharing in Renewable Energy Development publication (DELWP 2017), which can be easily found online by searching the publication title.



Wind Prospect respectfully acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land on which our office and each of our projects are located. We also acknowledge and uphold their continuing relationship to the land and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Find out more

To find out more about the Hexham Wind Farm Benefit Sharing Program, get in touch with the Project team:

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If you need an interpreter, please call 13 14 50. If you are deaf and/or find hearing or speaking with people on the phone difficult, please contact the National Relay Service on voice relay number 1300 555 727, TTY number 133 677 or SMS relay number 0423 677 767.

