

## Community Grant Program Guidelines



Coonooer Bridge Wind Farm (CBWF) is offering financial support to community projects through a grant program of up to \$25,000 each year. Organisations with suitable projects are encouraged to apply by filling out an application form available at [www.coonooerbridgewindfarm.com.au](http://www.coonooerbridgewindfarm.com.au).

The goal is to provide financial support for projects that contribute to the social, economic and environmental sustainability of the community in the vicinity of the CBWF.

### Applicant Eligibility Criteria

Applicants meeting the criteria below will be eligible for grants:

- Criterion 1.** Grants are only available to organisations with an ABN. They are not available to individuals.
- Criterion 2.** If a grant recipient has previously received funding under this scheme, further grants will only be available once that organisation has completed the reporting requirement for those previous grants.
- Criterion 3.** Grants are not available to political organisations or for political campaigns.
- Criterion 4.** Grants are not available to religious organisations for religious purposes.
- Criterion 5.** Applicants may submit an application for only one project each.

### Project Eligibility Criteria

Projects meeting the criteria listed below are eligible for grants:

- Criterion 1.** Projects must be within the localities of Coonooer Bridge or Yeungroon, or alternatively be able to demonstrate a strong connection to the district and its residents.
- Criterion 2.** Projects will only be eligible if their nomination is accompanied by a letter of support from a shareholder of CBWF.
- Criterion 3.** Projects must contribute to maintaining:
  - environmental sustainability,
  - economic sustainability and/or
  - social sustainability such as wellbeing, culture, recreation and education.
- Criterion 4.** Projects must be complete before applications open for the following year. Grants for multi-year projects must be applied for on a year-by-year basis.
- Criterion 5.** Applicants must accept that their project may be publicised as supported by CBWF.

## Grant Selection Committee

At the start of each year, a request for submissions to join the Grant Selection Committee (GSC) will be made. The GSC will consist of five people. Four GSC members will be selected based on received public submissions (two from Yeungroon and two from Coonooer Bridge, one person will be from the CBWF organisation). Local GSC members will be at least 18 years of age and reside within or are the title holder of land within 5km of CBWF. CBWF will randomly select the four public GSC members based on the above criteria out of all submissions received.

Membership of the GSC is for a maximum period of 2 years. Each year two out of the four public GSC members will be rotated. Applications for new GSC members will be advertised locally at the start of the year, the first year of the first GSC was 2019 and requires two members to serve for one year only, allowing the rotational roster to begin. (If no new applications for new committee members are received, consultation with the previous committee members will be undertaken, seeking to extend placements.)

The GSC will review the submitted projects as per project and applicant criteria above and will rank the submitted projects using a Multiple Criteria Decision Analysis. Submissions will be ranked in order of the MCDA outcome and a grant amount will be allocated up to the maximum amount as stated above.

In the case of eligible projects exceeding the funding budget, the GSC can allocate a lesser amount to (some) projects in order to stay within the budget for the year (including any supplementary budget(s) from previous years). Coonooer Bridge Wind Farm reserve the right to alter any or all funding amounts, should it see fit. In case the budget for the year does not get exhausted, the remainder will carry over to the following year.

In case the GSC cannot reach a direct decision, a decision will be reached by voting. Each GSC member has one equal vote. A majority vote will constitute a decision. For a vote of the GSC to be valid, a quorum of 5 members need to be present.

The GSC will meet as required between September and December of each year to decide which projects shall be funded based on the MCDA process set up by the GSC members in their first meeting. The GSC is to determine the MCDA criteria based on the Project Eligibility Criteria in the first GSC meeting each year. The MCDA process of the year before can be used.

A GSC member is not entitled to appoint an alternative to act as a GSC member on his/her behalf. All decisions on the expenditure of the Annual Grants shall be in accordance with the majority votes taken.

If any of the GSC members suspects fraudulent or dishonest behaviour of any of the GSC members, the CBWF representative in the GSC has the right to investigate the matter. If the investigation provides reasonable evidence of fraudulent or dishonest behaviour of a GSC member, the CBWF representative has the right to remove that GSC member from the GSC and appoint a replacement from previously received applications, using the GSC selection process. The CBWF will document this process and report to the CBWF Board within 10 business days.

## Summary of Grant Process

1. Download, complete and submit an application form to [info@coonooerbridgewindfarm.com.au](mailto:info@coonooerbridgewindfarm.com.au) by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023. Applicants will be notified of receipt of the application within 7 days.
2. CBWF will check that each application meets the criteria mentioned above. Applicants will be notified if their application does not meet the criteria.
3. The Grant Selection Committee will review all entries and will decide on the final grant allocations.
4. The final grant allocations will be published on the CBWF website in Nov/Dec and all applicants will be notified of the decision.
5. Successful applicants will enter into a funding agreement with CBWF.
6. Upon completion of the project, successful applicants will prepare a short report with photos of the project.

## Questions?

If your organisation has any questions regarding this grant program, please contact Coonooer Bridge Wind Farm through the contact form on the website, by phone on 1800 940 360 or email to [info@coonooerbridgewindfarm.com.au](mailto:info@coonooerbridgewindfarm.com.au)