

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

#### 1. What is the purpose of the new Land Use Policy?

The Land Use Policy aims to provide clear guidelines for the establishment and operation of renewable energy facilities, such as wind turbines, within the Shire of Moora. It ensures that these projects are developed responsibly, with minimal negative impacts on the community and the environment while maximising benefits to the broader community.

# 2. Why is the Shire of Moora adopting this policy now?

The renewable energy transition is gaining pace, and it is essential for the Shire to have a robust framework in place to manage the development of renewable energy projects. This policy will help us align with state and federal government goals for net-zero emissions and ensure that our community benefits from these developments.

#### 3. How will this policy benefit the community?

The policy includes provisions to ensure that developers engage with the community, provide just compensation to landholders, and contribute to a Community Benefit Fund. The Community Benefit Fund will help secure the future of Moora and its community through developing local projects and initiatives, ensuring that the economic benefits of renewable energy projects are shared with the broader community.

# 4. What kinds of projects are covered under this policy?

The policy covers the development, assessment, and regulation of renewable energy facilities, including wind turbines, associated transmission and storage infrastructure, and future technologies.

# 5. What are the environmental protections included in the policy?

The policy requires developers to conduct comprehensive environmental impact assessments and implement measures to mitigate potential impacts on local flora, fauna, and landscapes. It also includes provisions for noise management, visual impact assessments, and safe work practices.



#### 6. How does the policy address community consultation?

Developers are required to engage in meaningful community consultation throughout the project lifecycle. This includes public meetings, information sessions, and other methods to ensure that residents are informed in a timely manner and have opportunities to provide feedback.

#### 7. What is the Community Benefit Fund?

The Community Benefit Fund is a best practice model where developers contribute to a fund based on the capacity of their renewable energy facilities. This fund is used exclusively for the betterment of the community, supporting local projects and initiatives that contribute to the community's future.

#### 8. How will the policy protect agricultural land?

The policy includes measures to preserve the region's productive agricultural estate, ensuring that renewable energy projects do not negatively impact farming activities and land use.

# 9. What are the requirements for developers regarding end-of-life decommissioning of projects?

Developers must submit detailed decommissioning plans that include recycling, repurposing, and rehabilitation of project sites. Financial provisions must also be made to cover the costs associated with these activities.

#### 10. How can community members provide feedback on the policy?

Community members can review the policy document and submit their feedback in writing during the public consultation period. Details on how to provide feedback will be available on the Shire of Moora's website and through local communication channels.

We encourage all residents to participate in this process and share their thoughts and concerns to help shape the future of renewable energy in our community.