

Wind Farm Advocacy Fact Sheet

Learnings

Moyne Shire Council and community have a very extensive lived experience of wind farm development over the past 20 years. This is what we have learnt:

- VRET supported projects (Dundonnell and Mortlake South) set new standards for community benefit sharing far in excess of previous small community grant programs experienced in Moyne.
- Developments with an onsite quarry reduce traffic and road impacts. Onsite quarries have many advantages and should be encouraged where feasible.
- The Mortlake South development has shown that underground transmission lines are economically and technically feasible.
- VRET supported projects stimulated south west Victoria's regional economy with benefits north to Lake Bolac, Ararat and Ballarat and south to Warrnambool with construction.
- Government intervention through support agreements has facilitated development of projects that did not have secure power purchase agreements but had planning permits.
- A range of development scenarios have been undertaken in the region that provide comparisons of construction impacts, opportunities and employment.

Fast Facts

- In the 2020 financial year, Council collected \$876,000 in rates from operating wind farms.
- Since 2005, wind farm community funding programs have allocated approximately \$960,000 to local community projects in Moyne and the south west region.
- 200 people were employed during the construction of Dundonnell Wind Farm.
- Having an onsite quarry for Dundonnell Wind Farm saved 3,000 traffic movements.
- The Dundonnell Minigrid Project enabled the installation of rooftop solar panels to 13 neighbouring houses.
- Salt Creek Wind Farm provides an educational scholarship for local students.
- The size of a blade at Hawkesdale Wind Farm will be the size of a turbine at Codrington and Yambuk.
- Council runs Community Engagement Committees for each project to foster communication between stakeholders.
- Council has created a dedicated team to resource the scale of work generated by energy projects in the Shire.