

Dulacca Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund

POWERED BY OCTOPUS INVESTMENTS AUSTRALIA

September 2024





ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Octopus Investments Australia respectfully acknowledges the traditional owners of the land on which the Dulacca Wind Farm is located, the Barunggam People. We pay our respects to their elders' past, present, and emerging.

INTRODUCTION

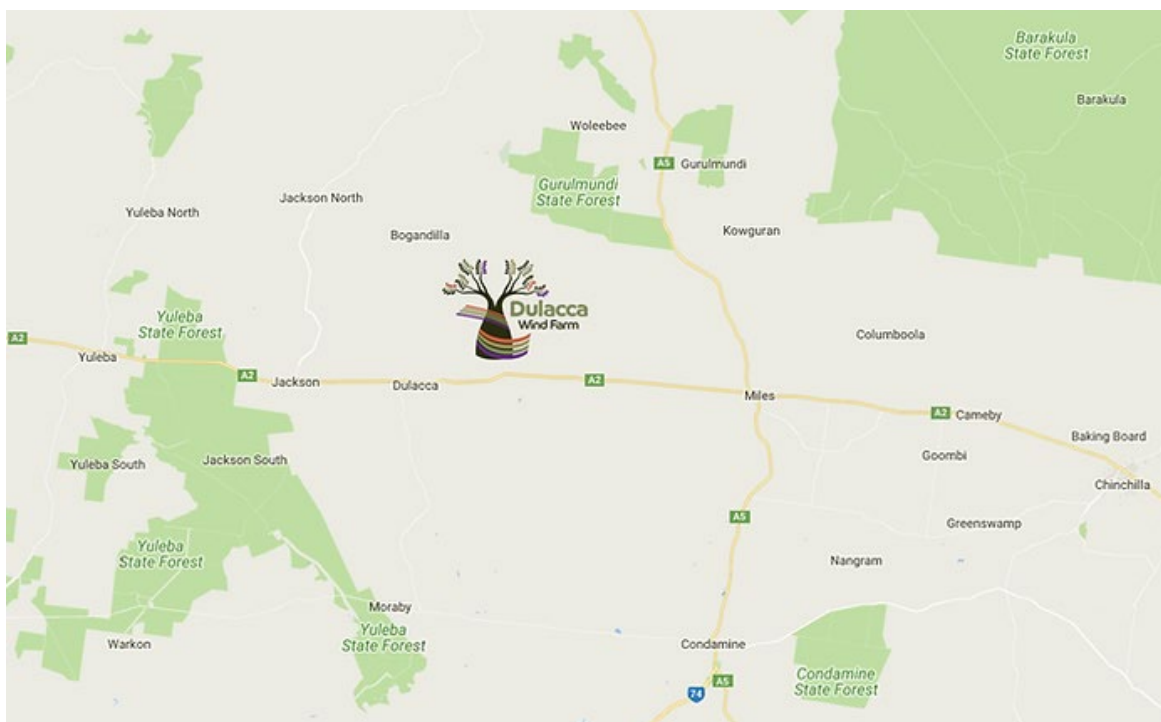
The Dulacca Wind Farm is a 43-turbine wind farm located approximately 7kms east of Dulacca and 11km west of Drillham in the Western Downs Region of Queensland.

The Barunggam People are the traditional custodians of the land upon which Dulacca Wind Farm is located. The project has worked with Barunggam representatives, throughout development and construction, to respect the cultural heritage of the area.

The project site is bisected by the Warrego Highway which links the Project with Roma (110km) to the west, and Miles (30km), Chinchilla (80km), Dalby (160km), Toowoomba (250km) and Brisbane (370km) to the east.

Construction commenced in mid-2021 and is currently going through commissioning phases. The wind farm is expected to be fully operational in the last quarter of 2023. The farm covers approximately 8,000 hectares of land, predominantly used for cattle grazing and cropping.

The Dulacca Wind Farm has committed to establishing a Community Fund for the benefit of the local communities. The value of the fund is A\$1.25 million and will provide funding opportunities for local projects, community groups and organisation which becomes available at the commencement of operations.





DULACCA COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND (DCBF)

ABOUT THE FUND

Octopus Investments Australia is committed to being a good neighbour, and like any good neighbour, we want to make a positive impact in the community. This is why we have created the **Dulacca Community Benefit Fund (DCBF)**, a discretionary fund designed to support local groups and organisations located within 40 km of the Wind Farm's boundary.

The DCBF is a 25-year program totalling over A\$1.25 million, run by the community, for the community! Grants of up to A\$20,000 will be available to support community-based organisations, projects, businesses, and communities.

The aim of the fund:

- To provide the opportunity for community groups and organisations to develop innovative and sustainable environmental projects.
- To provide the opportunity for improved health and education across the community by developing long term partnerships and cohesive community projects.
- To strengthen community connections and social wellbeing in developing projects focusing on long term sustainability.
- To develop projects that enhance and encourage healthy and active communities.
- To develop projects which enhance cultural diversity, creative community activities and projects.

DULACCA COMMUNITY BENEFITS FUNDING PANEL

We recognise that the community is best positioned to determine its own needs. The **Dulacca Community Benefit Fund Panel** will function within a consultative framework, tasked with reviewing, consulting, and serving as the primary decision-makers for determining successful applicants for the DCBF.

The Funding Panel will be selected from applications based on achieving a broad community representation. Nominees may nominate as individuals or represent on behalf of a local organisation, interest, or business group.

ELIGIBILITY

Applications for the DCBF are open to entities within 40 kilometres of the Wind Farm's boundary, with particular importance on towns within a 25-kilometer radius.

Eligible entities include:

- Incorporated not-for-profit community organisations
- Groups auspices by not-for-profit community organisations
- Local businesses
- Incorporated not-for-profit community organisations may take various forms, including but not limited to: Charities
- Organisations with Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) or Public Benevolent Institution (PBI) status
- Cooperatives



- Companies limited by guarantee and/or limited by shares (non-distribution of profits or dividends)
- Trusts that are registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC)
- Associations (under the Associations Incorporation Act 2009)
- Local Aboriginal Land Councils
- Organisations established under an Act of Parliament

To be eligible for a Dulacca Community Benefit Fund grant, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Be based within 40 kilometres of the Wind Farm's boundary or conduct activities benefiting members of these communities.
- Propose a project in which the majority of participants and/or beneficiaries are residents of a town near the Wind Farm, demonstrating that the project can be successfully executed within 18 months of the funding announcement.
- Have an Australian Business Number (ABN).
- Have current public liability insurance (PLI).

Applicants will be deemed ineligible if they:

- Derive income from gambling or propose activities that promote gambling.
- Have a debt owing to the local council where the project will be undertaken.

As part of the application process, the following documentation is required:

- Quotes for goods/services valued between A\$1,000 - A\$5,000 (one quote) or more than A\$5,000 (two quotes).
- Letter of support from the applying organisation (**compulsory**).
- Letter of support from supporting partner/s (**compulsory for large grants, optional for small grants**).
- Written approval if the group/organisation uses a facility controlled by a Committee of Management, and the project will impact the facility.
- Most recent Bank Statement to demonstrate financial viability and competence.
- Annual Financial Statement (**for large grants only**).
- Copy of Public Liability Insurance if applicable.

Once an application is submitted, the Funding Panel may contact the applicant for additional information. Original documents should not be included with the application; copies will be sufficient unless otherwise specified.

ELIGIBLE PROJECTS

Proposed projects should improve community connectedness and cohesion and meet community's needs.

More information about the assessment criteria is provided **below**.

Projects are due to be completed within 18 months of the funding announcement. If any projects happen to be affected by any unforeseen circumstances, this will be flexible, with extensions and variations available at the discretion of the Dulacca Wind Farm.



Projects are not eligible to receive a Dulacca Community Benefits Fund if they:

- have the single purpose of promoting religion or political parties.
- are currently fully funded by local, state, or federal governments.
- are intended to fund operational or core business costs including salaries and administration costs.
- are deemed as core curriculum activities of educational institutions.

GRANT PRIORITIES

To be eligible for a Dulacca Community Benefits Fund, applications should support the strengthening of community connectedness and cohesiveness, as well as align with at least one of the following priorities:

Health and Wellbeing - supporting programs and opportunities which promote healthy living and wellbeing.

- Promotion and enhancement of community participation and social cohesion.
- Promotion, enhancement and development of health, health care, childcare, aged care.
- mental health and assistance to disadvantaged persons.
- Programs/ initiatives that encourage medical and health professionals to practice in the region.
- Emergency services support.
- Sport and social clubs.

Environment and Sustainability - enhancing and conserving green spaces and the environment.

- Conservation, protection, restoration and/or enhancement of the natural environment.
- Programs that support prevention of local environment degradation.
- Initiatives that enhance the natural environment of the community, and
- Community awareness of environment and sustainability.

Education and Training - providing information, skills, and new opportunities to members of the community.

- Advancement of education, research and analysis and the grant of scholarships.
- Early childhood and youth education enhancement programs.
- Tertiary education/ TAFE scholarships.
- Apprenticeships and Traineeships.
- Programs that promote cross sector skill development.
- Work placement programs in partnership with local high schools, prizes for students.
- Programs encouraging flexible learning, further education, and improved employability.

Community Development

- Promotion of industry, commerce, agriculture.
- Renovation and upgrade of community buildings.
- Projects that encourage local economic development and skill development.

Innovation

- supporting projects and events which help the community to solve future challenges.



Leadership

- supporting and training future leaders to advocate for their community.

Beautification

- supporting opportunities to improve the aesthetics and facilities of the community.

ASSESSMENT

Applications will be assessed by an independent funding panel convened by the Dulacca Wind Farm. Applications will be assessed based on their ability to address the selection criteria as well as the perceived benefit to the local community. All applications must meet the eligibility criteria and comply with the Dulacca Community Benefits Fund Terms of Reference.

General selection criteria may include:

Project benefits

- direct and indirect community benefit.
- quality of life/community wellness enhancement.
- program/ project operational efficiencies.
- demographics served.

Target community need

- public safety/improved access.
- provide a direct service to the community.
- Council/community support Availability of funding.
- prior funding to applicant.
- demonstration of need for financial assistance Project/program viability.
- background of applicant (i.e. organisation size/representation, prior experience).
- the extent to which project or program duplicates other available facilities or programs in the area.

HOW TO APPLY

Application forms are attached to this document or can be downloaded from the Dulacca Wind Farm website under '**Community Benefits Fund**' at <https://www.dulaccawindfarm.com.au>

Ensure all required information is completed before submission, for questions or assistance with your application or to submit your completed application please email to dcbf@dulaccawindfarm.com.au.

Dulacca Wind Farm reserves the right to accept or reject any project proposal submitted after the closing date or not in accordance with the Grants Terms of Reference.



ACQUITTAL PROCESS

The Recipient must keep accurate and complete written records relating to the expenditure of the funding granted for the project. Recipients must also provide written reports on the progress and results of the funded project to Dulacca Wind Farm, including details of funding expenditure. Funding recipients must also submit receipts and details of expenditure of funds to determine if the grant has been properly spent.

1. **Successful applicants** will be required to enter into a written agreement with the Dulacca Wind Farm to receive funding. This Agreement will provide details of when the acquittal process, including a full project report, must be completed.
2. **Successful applicants** will be required to complete and acquit their activity within the date stipulated in the funding agreement. If the activity is not going to be completed within the prescribed timeframe an extension must be requested in writing prior to the original expiration date. Payment arrangements will be negotiated depending on the size of the project and level of investment.
3. **Offer of a grant** in no way implies any ongoing funding commitment or obligation by Dulacca Wind Farm. Any assets funded through this grant program become the responsibility of the applicant.
4. Any variations to the original submission must be approved in writing by Dulacca Wind Farm.
5. The activity must incur the full expenditure as outlined in the application budget to guarantee full funding of the agreed amount. If the project budget falls short of this amount, Dulacca Wind Farm reserves the right to make a pro-rata payment only.



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Dulacca Wind Farm Community Benefits Fund Application Form

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Section 1 – Contact details

Please provide the name and address of your organisation, and a point of contact.

Name and address of organisation:

Contact Name:

Phone:

E-mail:

Website:



Section 2 – About your organisation

Please provide an overview of your organisation, including your aims and objectives.

In no more than 150 words please tell us about the main activities of your organisation and the service you provide.

In which area does your organisation operate?

When was your organisation established?

Is your organisation a registered charity? Yes No

-If so please state charity number:

How is your organisation structured and managed?

Does the organisation have any conflict of interest with the funding panel? If so, please clarify:



Section 3 – Reason for application

Funding will be made available to for projects, initiatives or events that benefit the local community. Please read the Terms of Reference for details on the types of projects, initiatives and events that are eligible for funding.

Please describe the project, initiative or event (for which you are seeking funding).

Please describe the outcomes you expect to achieve, including the benefits the local community will receive.

Please identify the location of the project, initiative or event.



Section 4 – Details of the funding requested

Please provide details on how your organisation will spend the funding being requested.

How much are you requesting from the Dulacca Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund? (Please provide a detailed breakdown of the costs in the table provided below.)

Item	Qty	Cost
Total		\$

What other sources of funding has your organisation applied to for this project? Include the name of the funder, the amount you have applied for and the date you received or expect a decision.

Name of Funder	Amount Requested	Amount Approved	Successful? Y/N Pending	Application refused? Y/N



Declaration: I certify the information contained in this application is correct, and that I am authorised to make the application on behalf of the above organisation.

Name (please print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Checklist - Applications close on 30 September 2024

Please ensure all relevant boxes are completed and required supporting documents are provided. Incomplete applications will be returned for completion.

- A copy of your constitution, Articles of Association or other governing document**
 - A copy of your most recent approved annual accounts, or for new groups a projection of the first year's income and expenditure**
 - If your grant request is for equipment, vehicles, refurbishment or a new building please supply at least two competitive quotes**
 - If your work is with children or vulnerable adults you must send a copy of your protection policy.**
 - Do not forget to sign and date the application**
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