



Newsletter

(L-R): Clare Lugar (Synergy), Chris Binstead (SynergyRED, presenting on behalf of BEI), Moira Girando (Shire of Coorow, accepting on behalf of Coorow Playgroup), Mia Maxfield (Shire of Coorow), Judy Wallace & Glenise Just (Leeman Townscape), Glenis Waldron, Betty O'Callaghan & Maxine Kau (Country Women's Association - Coorow Waddy branch), Ayu Orma (Shire of Coorow)

2021 Warradarge Wind Farm Community Grants awarded

Bright Energy Investments (BEI) was delighted to welcome recipients of the 2021 Warradarge Wind Farm Community Grants to site this month, as we continue our commitment to making a difference in the local community.

BEI offers Community Grants of up to \$5,000 to not-for-profit organisations or local government authority groups within the Shires of Coorow and Carnamah. The 2021 recipients were presented with grant certificates during a ceremony at Warradarge Wind Farm on Tuesday, 23 November.

The three successful recipients include:

- **Coorow Playgroup** to purchase kinder gym equipment to cater for growing families.
- **Leeman Townscape and Tourism Advisory Group** to purchase a projector for an indoor/outdoor cinema to create social events for the community.
- **Coorow Waddy branch of the Country Women's Association (CWA)** to maintain their site to support a broader range of community uses with a ride-on mower.

BEI General Manager Tom Frood said he was pleased by the number of applications received.

“We look forward to seeing the grants being used to provide opportunities for these grassroots organisations to run a variety of support services and activities for the whole community to access,” Mr Frood said.

“What struck us was the clear sense of ambition in the Shires of Coorow and Carnamah to create events and services that will bring their local community together and support some iconic groups such as the CWA.”

2020 Community Grant recipients: where are they now?

Bright Energy Investments launched the Warradarge Wind Farm Community Grants in 2020 for organisations delivering projects and services vital to regional WA communities. The 2020 recipients have used their grants in a variety of ways over the past 12 months.

North Midlands Project Incorporated received a BEI grant to fund a new multimedia projector to support its range of arts and cultural activities to foster happy, healthy and vibrant communities across the shires of the North Midlands region, including Coorow and Carnamah.

Leeman Green Head Community Garden received a grant to fund a solar-powered bore pump for irrigation, installed in December 2020. Garden Treasurer Liz Rowles said the pump provided a number of benefits for the

About Bright Energy Investments

Bright Energy Investments (BEI) is focussed on the development of large-scale renewable energy projects in Western Australia. Established in April 2018, BEI is an investment vehicle established between WA electricity generator and retailer Synergy, global infrastructure investment fund DIF and industry superannuation giant Cbus, to develop over 250MW of renewable energy projects. The BEI portfolio currently includes the Greenough River Solar Farm in the state's Mid-West, the Albany Grasmere Wind Farm in the Great Southern Region and the 180MW Warradarge Wind Farm near Eneabba which is one of the best renewable energy projects in the country. For more information visit. www.brightenergyinvestments.com.au.

community. “The Community Grant has enhanced our sustainability by reducing our dependence on scheme water and eliminated the use of a 5kWh generator at our friendly, supportive community garden,” Ms Rowles said.

The Coorow Heritage Group used its BEI community grant to install a solar security lighting system at its long-awaited Koobabbie heritage building project, opened in

April 2021. Group President Jan Muller said it had been a huge success.

“The solar security lighting system helps to keep these significant historic assets safe for everyone to enjoy and has attracted new members to the Group,” Ms Muller said. “Thanks to Bright Energy Investments for helping us to make it happen.”

Investment decision expected for ATCO co-located hydrogen project

Natural gas-supplier ATCO, along with partner Australian Gas Infrastructure Group (AGIG), are working towards a final investment decision on the Clean Energy Innovation Park (CEIP), to be co-located at Warradarge Wind Farm.

The CEIP will be an independent site constructed, owned and operated by ATCO and AGIG to establish Australia’s first commercial-scale green hydrogen supply chain. Bright Energy Investments will provide renewable energy to power the electrolyser, complementing the ongoing contribution the 180 MW wind farm is making to Western Australia’s clean energy production.

The Shire of Coorow has recommended the Regional Joint Development Assessment Panel approve the proposal. A final investment decision is expected in February 2022. Operations are set to commence at the facility from 2023 and will see around four tonnes of green hydrogen produced each day.



Greenough River Solar Farm completes successful external audit and review

Greenough River Solar Farm recently completed its first Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) audit and review since expansion of the facility to 40MW in 2020. The site’s audit and review period has also been increased by the ERA from 36 to 60 months. BEI General Manager Tom Froud said he was pleased with the result. “Safe and efficient management of a facility like Greenough River Solar Farm requires teamwork between BEI, the operation and maintenance contractor First Solar and asset manager SynergyRED,” Mr Froud said.



BEI assets mark two decades of harnessing green energy

Bright Energy Investments assets celebrated a number of anniversaries recently as we continue to sustainably generate a bright and sustainable future for WA.

Albany Grasmere Wind Farm reached 20 years of operation in October, producing renewable energy equivalent to 80 per cent of Albany’s annual electricity needs. The Grasmere Wind Farm expansion commenced 10 years ago in October 2011.

Greenough River Solar Farm reached 10 years of operation in October. Stage two of Australia’s first utility-scale solar farm commenced in 2020.

Warradarge Wind Farm commenced one year ago in October 2020, generating the equivalent of the average annual electricity needs of 145,000 Western Australian homes.



Contact us

For more information on BEI and its projects, please visit our website or contact us

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