

TotalEnergies Renewables Australia

CEC's Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects

Annual Reporting – August 2025

Commitment 1:



- We will engage respectfully with the local community, including Traditional Owners of the land, to seek their views and input before submitting a development application and finalising the design of the project.
- TotalEnergies Renewables Australia acknowledges the importance of engaging with the local communities, including Traditional Owners. We are involved in numerous stages of renewable energy projects including origination, early-stage development, late-stage development, construction, operation (and decommissioning in the future). We understand that a tailored approach is required across the life-cycle of a project and the input of the local community and Traditional Owners before submitting a development application is integral as they will also be long-term stakeholders in the project.
- We strive to engage with the local community and Tradition Owners at an appropriate time in relation to each individual project. We implement a community engagement plan which includes incorporating a feedback loop to ensure the preferred method of communication and consultation is implemented throughout the development period. The community engagement plan also includes the different methods of communication that we will utilise including project websites, newsletters, contact phone numbers, face to face meetings, contact information for relevant project representatives.
- Hosting information sessions are also an important part of the process to be able to provide a general overview of the project. It is
 important to note that not all members of the local community and Traditional Owners are able to attend these events and the
 same information must be communicated to them in an appropriate manner.

Commitment 1:

TotalEnergies

- Site selection of our utility-scale renewable energy projects are fundamentally based on three pillars: (i) energy resource (wind, solar); (ii) proximity to transmission networks; and (iii) potential impacts to the environment (including local communities, Traditional Owners, ecology, visual, agricultural aspects, etc).
- Once a site is selected for further investigation and potential development, we consider that it is important to explain the reasoning behind the site selection to any stakeholders that are contacted in the investigation stage.
- As the development of the projects continues, we maintain open communication with the local stakeholders and the views and inputs from the local community and Traditional Owners are considered and, where appropriate, incorporated in the development and final design. This includes, reducing potential usable project area if there are important reasons for the exclusion and forms part of the development story of the project.
- Once a project is entering the pre-construction phase, we consider what services the local community and Tradition Owners can provide and work to ensure they can participate in the tender process where possible. This stems from early discussions (pre-development application) with relevant local communities and representatives providing information around what will be needed during the construction and operation phase of the project. This allows the local community and Tradition Owners to plan for potential future opportunities before an application has even been made.



Presenting project information to the local community

Commitment 2:

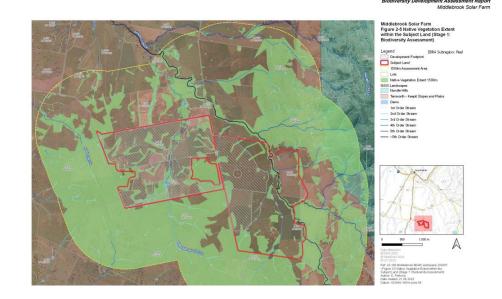


- We will provide timely information and be accessible and responsive in addressing the local community's feedback and concerns throughout the life of the project.
 - TotalEnergies Renewables Australia understands that each renewable energy project is unique and the local community and involved stakeholders also have bespoke considerations. The development phase (up to a development application) of a renewable energy project can be nuanced and vary significantly in time from between 1-2 years to over 10 years in length. During this time period, the local community (and renewable industry) will evolve and change along the journey. We aim to ensure the project representative maintains relationships with the relevant contacts and explains the reasoning behind the time frames experienced for a project. The community engagement plan for each project will include the timeframe for responses and provide timely information with to the overall project development timeframes. This is irrespective of the different channels used for the communication.
 - Information during the construction phase is integral as this time-period generally has the highest potential impact to the local road users and sees the building of new structures, which is a change to the previous conditions. Several communication methods are implemented in consultation with the selected EPC (Engineering, Procurement and Construction) contractor to ensure effectiveness. It is a key phase of the project requiring more proactive engagement methods and the complaints management mechanisms are of particular attention to ensure any complaints are dealt with in a timely and appropriate manner. For any projects in the construction phase, we will implement methods to monitor, evaluate and report any significant impacts and communicate this efficiently.
 - Through the commissioning and operations of a renewable energy project, TotalEnergies Renewables Australia maintains strong
 community links using numerous communication channels and works to reinforce collaborations and partnerships with local
 community organisations. It is also important that regular monitoring evaluation takes place along with an effective way to report the
 performance.

Commitment 3:



- We will be sensitive to areas of high biodiversity, cultural and landscape value in the design and operation of projects.
 - TotalEnergies Renewables Australia ensures areas of high biodiversity; cultural and landscape values are a high priority when developing a renewable energy project as these factors are fundamental to the design of a project.
 - At the site selection phase, any areas of high biodiversity, cultural and landscape values are mapped and assessed to determine if any potential sites should progress to further development.
 - If the potential site is selected to be developed further experts in the relevant fields are engaged to produce reports and map any areas or specific concerns that should be considered. This ensures that we are not reliant on desktop resources and real, accurate data is used for the analysis of the project. This approach has been demonstrated in our projects that have been through the development process and have minimised any impact to areas of high biodiversity, cultural and landscape values.



Biodiversity mapping for a project

Commitment 4:



- We will minimise the impacts on highly productive agricultural land and explore opportunities to integrate agricultural production.
 - There can be many synergies between renewable energy projects and agricultural land. Wind farms are quite often located on agricultural land as this land lends itself to the production of wind energy, while maintaining a lower footprint. Generally, these areas have lower ecological values and will mean the wind farm can have a lower impact on the environment.
 - We work with the landowners to ensure the design of the wind farm (and necessary access tracks) can work alongside the landowner's use of the land, where appropriate.
 - The access tracks built for the wind farms are generally able to be used by the landowner and are maintained by the owner of the wind farm. This arrangement means that the landowner has the opportunity to potentially use their land more productively, while maintaining the agricultural production, as the access around the land has been upgraded in certain areas.



Sheep grazing at a constructed solar farm

Commitment 4:



- For our solar farm projects in development, we discuss the agricultural practices of landowners and explore any opportunities that there may be to integrate agricultural production. For some projects, the right for the landowners to have the opportunity to graze animals is included in the agreements. A great example is the ability of the landowners to graze sheep within the solar farm facility, which also helps with maintaining vegetation levels at a safe height and can help reduce the reliance on farm machinery to keep vegetation low and reduce the amount of fossil fuel used. We will ensure that any landowners that take up this opportunity are appropriately inducted and follow all safety protocol to ensure it is done is a safe manner.
- We currently own an operational solar farm in our portfolio that hosts sheep and have other projects in the pipeline that include provisions for this in the landowner agreements and the application documents. We have introduced this initiative on this project, as it provides agricultural opportunities and aids with maintaining low vegetation, which helps reduce fire risk.



Sheep grazing at a constructed solar farm

Commitment 5:

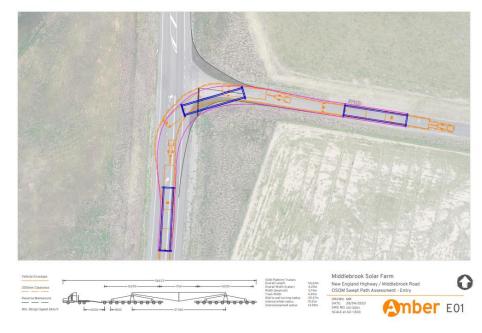


- We will consult the community on the potential visual, noise, traffic and other impacts of the project, and on the mitigation options.
 - TotalEnergies Renewables Australia acknowledges that there is the potential for impact regarding visual, noise, traffic (among others) that may have a direct impact on the surrounding areas. We ensure that we follow all the appropriate guidelines for the jurisdiction that the project is located in.
 - Through early discussions with appropriate stakeholders and local community members we assess what level of impacts to these factors may occur. We have open and honest discussions about the impacts and any potential mitigations options there may be.
 - This is often done in face to face meetings at relevant receiver locations and allows direct feedback and the chance for discussion. There have been times when it has been appropriate to offer visual screening opportunities for some residences that have expressed concerns around the visual impact.
 - There are also opportunities during the design phase to minimise and mitigate the potential impact. We have found that it is
 important to listen to the affected stakeholder and ensure that any ideas they may have regarding mitigation are investigated
 and help evolve these ideas to determine if their implementation would be appropriate.
 - It is important to note that different people will have different expectations around the level impact and also around the level of mitigation that may be required. We try to work with the affected people and explain in honest dialogue the steps that we will take to help the project mitigate perceived impacts.

Commitment 6:



- We will consult the community on the potential visual, noise, traffic and other impacts of the project, and on the mitigation options.
 - Throughout the project development there will often be communications from local contractors and potential workers that are received. We have a system in place to record these approaches and respond where appropriate.
 - It is usually a benefit to have local contractors and workers as they will often have more experience in the local area and can provide advice and methods that are most appropriate for the area. We try to organise meetings with the local Chamber of Business and provide details, timing and updates for each relevant projects so they can ensure the local business owners are aware of any potential opportunities.
 - We have an operating asset that has enabled a local business to significantly expand their business and provide services not only to our project but allow then to train workers and provide even more services in the local community.



Traffic impact investigations

Commitment 7:



- We will offer communities the opportunity to share in the benefits of the project, and consult them on the options available, including the relevant governance arrangements.
 - We aim to set up a community benefit fund for any project that we develop which ends up reaching the construction and operation. The type of project, location and perceived level of impacts all factor into the development of the community benefit fund.
 - We have had feedback from some communities that a form of direct benefit may be more appropriate. In some projects, we have applied this feedback to offer a more direct neighbour benefit scheme, alongside the more traditional community benefit fund. The direct neighbour benefit scheme is based on the distance of a dwelling from the project infrastructure that is constructed. The closer a dwelling is to the project infrastructure the higher the payments. These agreements are with the landowners, and we ask that they let us know when the property is transferred to another owner so that we can discuss the neighbour benefit fund with the new neighbour. The
 - We aim to ensure that the community that is closest to the project receives the greatest benefit. This is achieved through
 discussions with the local community around how best to set up the governance arrangements to ensure the benefit is for the
 community.
 - We understand that each community will be different and try to accommodate the unique nature of each community. We are
 open to all types of approaches and treat each one on their own merit.

Commitment 8:



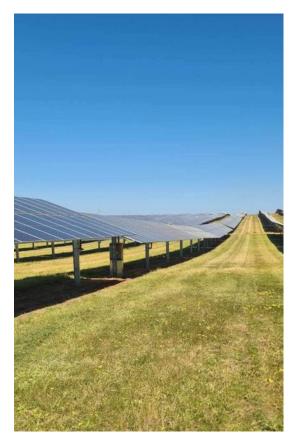
- We commit to using the project to support educational and tourism opportunities where appropriate.
 - We have had numerous visits from external organisations to our operating assets from many different groups. This includes young school children and older people. These arrangements are organised in advance, and we aim to give a thorough overview of the project.
 - There have been instances where local schools have requested our project representatives, to present the project at the local school for educational purposes. Our team prepared the presentation with numerous participants from the project workforce that explained the fundamentals of the project. This presentation was tailored to the group of children being presented to ensure it engaged with a wider audience.
 - TotalEnergies Renewables Australia is open to potential partnerships with educational facilities at any stage of development. Recently we have been in contact with higher educational facilities to determine how future projects may be able to help contribute to the further higher education of locals as it can be harder for rural students to have access to opportunities. These discussions continue and other opportunities are being explored at other locations.

Commitment 9:



• We will demonstrate responsible land stewardship over the life of the project and welcome opportunities to enhance the ecological, cultural and/or agricultural value of the land.

- It is in TotalEnergies Renewables Australia best interests to ensure that we are responsible land stewards when and where we are managing any area. Fire risk is a key area that assessed and managed throughout the project life and the management of this risk has synergies with being a responsible land manager.
- TotalEnergies Renewables Australia have solar farm agreements with landowners that allow sheep grazing and farming practices to continue in the future in a mutual beneficial way.
- Throughout the development of a project, we look at any areas or activities that may help enhance the ecological values through discussions with experts and local care groups. The cultural values of land is thoroughly assessed in the assessment phase and sensitive discussions are held with appropriate stakeholders to determine if there are any ways the values could be enhanced, ensuring the all parties are in agreeance.



Solar farm in operation

Commitment 10:



- During the life of the project, we will recycle waste materials where feasible and commit to responsible decommissioning or refurbishment/repowering of the site at the end of the project's life.
 - We ensure that our operating projects have procedures in place to ensure that recycling of material in an efficient manner. TotalEnergies Renewables Australia is committed to sustainable projects and ensuring waste management practices are in place.
 - For any construction projects, we are committed to ensuring that recycling and waste management is a key component in the EPC (Engineering, Procurement, Construction) contractor's responsibility and considered as part of the selection criteria. These programs must be recorded, assessed and maintained for the life of construction, with an operational management plan implemented during operations.

Table 7-12 Resources and wastes relevant to the Project stages and potential for reuse

	Components	Stage	Reduce/Avoid	Reuse	Recycle
Fuels and lubricants	Fuels and lubricants	All Stages	Fuelled in appropriately bunded area. Fuels and lubricants to be kept in appropriate containment areas.	N/A	N/A
Fertilisers and herbicides	Plastic containers Packaging Chemical waste	All Stages	Fertilisers, herbicides kept in appropriately bunded and locked shed	N/A	Empty containers triple rinsed and disposed of at accredited drumMUSTER site.
Vegetation	Landscaping products. Vegetation recovered from site.	Construction and decommissioning	Minimise disturbance areas	Mulch stored away from infrastructure.	90% composted for reuse in landscaping onsite or in local initiatives
Soil	Excavation	Construction	Minimise disturbance footprint, ensure cut and fill balance.	Soil to be retained and reused onsite.	N/A
Packaging (timber)	Pallets, Timber cable drums	Construction Operation	N/A	Offer to local TAFE, High School and Art community	90% repurpose pallets and cable drums
Packaging (plastics)	Component packaging	Construction, Operation	Avoid non-recyclable/non biodegradable options	N/A	Sort and recycle at appropriate facility
Packaging (cardboard, paper)	Component packaging	All stages	N/A	N/A	90% recycled at appropriate facility
Excess building materials	Metal, timber	Construction	Avoid plastics	Offer to local TAFE and high schools	90% recycled. Metal, cabling, plastic to be sorted and recycled at appropriately licensed facilities
Putrescible waste	Construction worker consumables Food waste, single use bottles (glass, plastic), food packaging	All stages	Avoid plastic	N/A	Sort on site (glass, plastic, green) 90% recycle
Infrastructure construction	Concrete aggregates Timber products. Masonry products Concrete wash	Construction	Reduce water consumption by installing water saving appliances	Offer to local TAFE and high schools	Recyclable material to be sorted and disposed at appropriate facilities
Infrastructure component removal	Buildings	Decommissioning	N/A	Modular ancillary buildings transported and reused post construction	N/A
Battery	Lithium Ion batteries	All stages	N/A	N/A	100% recycled at approved recycling facility
Solar panels (PV arrays)	PV arrays Mounting poles	All stages	N/A	N/A	100% recycled at approved recycling facility that can recover 100% of components
Cabling	Left over electrical cables Recovered electrical cables at decommissioning	All stages	N/A	N/A	Recycled at licensed and approved metal recycling facility
Wastewater	Grey water	All stages	Minimise water use, install water saving appliances.	Re-use onsite for vegetation screening watering	N/A
Bio waste (septic)	Black water	All stages	Install water saving appliances. Install bioseptic tank or wormfarm waste composting septic (or similar) tank to reduce volume of biohazard black water.	Utilise local composting facilities to incorporate into their activities for end use to be on farm (Middlebrook Solar Farm) soil improvement.	Managed and maintained by appropriately licensed contractor

Resources and wastes and potential for reuse



