



SIGNATORY SUBMISSION

CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL
BEST PRACTICE CHARTER
FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS
August 2025



Acknowledgement of Country

ENGIE Australia and New Zealand acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the many lands and waters upon which we work, live and play. We particularly acknowledge:

- the Burunggam people of the Western Downs region;
- Kamilaroi/Gomeri peoples of the Kamilaroi Nation;
- the Nari Nari, Wiradjuri and Yiradjuri people of the Riverina;
- the Barkandji of northwest NSW;
- the Ngunawal of southern NSW;
- the Yorta Yorta people of northeastern Victoria;
- Gunai/Kurnai people of the Gippsland region;
- the Eastern Maar and Gunditj Mirring people of southwestern Victoria;
- the Buandig people of the Mt Gambier region;
- the Kurna people of the Adelaide Plains; and
- the Ngadjuri people of mid-north South Australia;

on whose lands our clean energy projects operate.

We respect and honour Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past, present and future. We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples on the lands on which our sites are located and commit to building a brighter future together.

ENGIE is committed to a just, equitable and reconciled Australia and recognises that we all have a role to play in achieving this vision.

Ngarluma

Barunggam,
Iman,
Bigambal,
Jarowair

Kamilaroi,
Gomeri,
Nungaroo

Barkindji

Ngadjuri

Wiradjuri

Kurna

Nari Nari

Yorta Yorta

Ngunawal

Buandig

Wurundjeri,
Woiworung

Gunditjmarra,
Eastern Maar

Gunai/Kurnai

Introduction

As a signatory of the Clean Energy Council's Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects, ENGIE is committed to upholding the Charter's 10 commitments in the development of renewable and flexible energy generation projects.

ENGIE designs, builds, operates and maintains its renewable energy developments and our mission is to drive the shift to a carbon-neutral economy by promoting energy efficiency and environmentally friendly solutions. In Australia, we are developing our renewable energy portfolio with a mix of wind, solar and industrial-scale batteries to support Australia's transition to a cleaner, more reliable energy grid.

We do this by engaging respectfully with the communities and Traditional Owners where we plan and operate projects, by being sensitive to environmental and cultural values, and by making a positive contribution to the regions in which we operate.



This submission highlights some of the many ways in which we apply the Charter's 10 commitments in the development of projects currently underway across Australia.

Charter Commitments

COMMITMENT

01

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.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE takes a robust and tailored approach to engagement with Traditional Owners, guided by project specific First Nations engagement strategies, as well as ENGIE's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). The RAP emphasises the importance of fostering consultative and collaborative relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, as well as empowering and enabling staff to contribute to the reconciliation process.



Project examples

The Willogoleche 2 Wind Farm Project is being shaped through meaningful collaboration with both First Nations peoples and the broader community. Over the past year, the project team has maintained regular, face-to-face engagement with the Ngadjuri Nation Aboriginal Corporation to understand their perspectives on key elements of the project, including infrastructure placement, and to co-design long-term benefits tailored specifically to First Nations communities.

Community input has also been a vital part of the process, with local engagement sessions held in March 2025 to gather feedback and inform the draft project designs. The development application will not be submitted until a comprehensive cultural heritage survey confirms that Aboriginal cultural values are fully understood and reflected in the project - ensuring that any necessary design changes are made to protect these values with integrity and respect.

ENGIE is proud to be delivering an INNOVATE Reconciliation Action Plan and a *First Nations Engagement Policy*. In addition to existing actions, this new policy will serve to elevate and shape respectful and meaningful First Nations engagement for the whole of the Australian business.

COMMITMENT

02

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.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE's Community and Stakeholder Feedback Framework sets out our approach to managing feedback relating to our operational assets and asset development projects. The framework is built on five guiding principles of fairness, transparency, accountability, accessibility and responsiveness. It ensures we provide timely information, while being accessible and responsive in addressing community feedback and concerns.



Project examples

ENGIE has a robust process for managing enquiries, feedback and complaints. The projects are supported by multiple modes of direct contact including a 1800 (free call) number which is staffed by the Community Engagement team, and a dedicated email address for each project. Enquiries are sent directly to the responsible project team for resolution and addressed as a priority.

In 2024/2025, ENGIE responded to over 200 calls to the 1800 number and over 700 emails directed to project email addresses.

During the community engagement process for the Pelican Point Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) project in Adelaide, ENGIE identified a cohort of residents who, while not in close proximity to the site, had previously expressed concerns about a nearby development. Recognising their potential sensitivity, we took proactive steps to engage this group thoughtfully and transparently. This included briefing Councillors and Council staff, as well as meeting directly with members of the community to present the project and listen to their perspectives.

Through open dialogue, we were able to address misconceptions and alleviate concerns.

Importantly, this community would not have been flagged through traditional stakeholder mapping, underscoring the value of going beyond standard engagement frameworks. By reaching out early, we ensured that community members received accurate information from us directly, avoiding any uncertainty or anxiety that might have arisen had they learned about the project through other channels.



Location of
Pelican Point BESS Project

COMMITMENT

03

We will be sensitive to areas of high biodiversity, cultural and landscape value in the design and operation of projects.

**ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT**

ENGIE routinely conducts biodiversity and cultural heritage studies on site as part of preparation of all renewable energy development applications.

At a group level, ENGIE has recently renewed and broadened its commitments to protecting biodiversity by defining a new roadmap 2020-2030. The roadmap responds to the challenges identified by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, the United Nations's Sustainable Development Goals, act4nature common commitments, as well as those specific to ENGIE's activities.

**Project example**

As part of the Willogoleche 2 Wind Farm Project, ecological surveys over a number of years have identified the project poses a possible impact to an endangered vegetation species, Lomandra Iron-grass. While some categories (classes) of Iron-grass are protected by legislation, lesser value areas are also present in the project site. In addition to legislated requirements to avoid protected areas, Class C Lomandra grassland is considered to be amenable to rehabilitation through measures such as weed control, natural regeneration and protection from grazing.

ENGIE has adopted guidance that areas assessed as Class C Lomandra should be treated with caution and avoided if possible and has designed the project by avoiding locations where Lomandra is present.

During community consultation for the Willogoleche 2 Project, the team received feedback on the project design and specifically the proposed turbine placement. People from the local community shared that they preferred turbines to be further set back from the road and less visible to retain the landscape value. In response, one turbine was removed, and the design was amended to provide a greater setback from the Barrier Highway to reduce the visual impact.

COMMITMENT

04

We will minimise the impacts on highly productive agricultural land and explore opportunities to integrate agricultural production.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE is committed to building long-term relationships with landowners as part of project development. We understand that landowners and their neighbours are running businesses which have practical and seasonal demands. As a matter of practice ENGIE and our subcontractors respect and follow common agricultural practices when we are on site and plan to sequence work around seasonal farming operations.



Project example

During development of the Willogoleche 2 Wind Farm project, the team is working closely with landholders to ensure agricultural priorities are respected throughout the planning process. In response to landholder preferences, turbines and related infrastructure have been deliberately positioned on grazing land rather than high value cropping areas, enabling continued sheep grazing alongside wind farm operations.

Additionally, access roads and fencing adjustments were designed in alignment with landholder input to preserve and enhance the agricultural productivity of the affected land.



COMMITMENT

05

We will consult the community on the potential visual, noise, traffic and other impacts of the project, and on the mitigation options.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE seeks to inform and engage with impacted communities as early as possible, on the potential visual, noise, traffic and other impacts of a project, to investigate mitigation options, or acknowledge the disruption that may be experienced when construction commences.



Project examples

Over the past 12 months, the Yass Solar Farm project team actively engaged with the local community, neighbours, and interest groups through on-the-ground outreach.

For residents overlooking the proposed site, personalised home visits were offered to explain potential visual impacts and discuss available mitigation options, including financial compensation, vegetative screening, or panel layout adjustments.

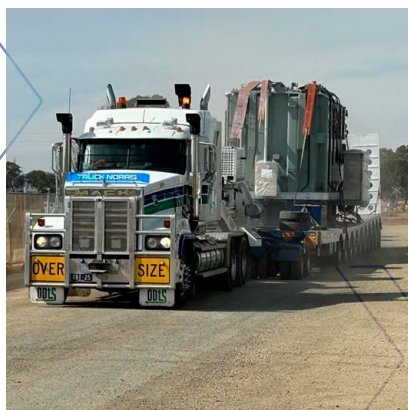
After extensive consultation and careful consideration of community feedback, the team concluded that the visual impacts would be difficult to mitigate effectively. As a result, the project was formally withdrawn from the planning portal.

This decision was communicated transparently to stakeholders and the broader community in early 2025 reflecting the true value of listening and acting upon community feedback.

During construction of the Goorambat East Solar Farm, ENGIE has implemented a range of measures to minimise disruption to neighbouring residents and respect local agricultural practices. These adjustments to operational timing and logistics were guided by community feedback and a commitment to being a considerate neighbour and included:

- Piling works were strategically scheduled around the movement of nearby horses to prevent distress and ensure the safety of both animals and owners.
- The bulk of the workforce was brought in by bus each day to reduce daily traffic volumes and avoid unnecessary wear on local roads.
- Additional water sprays were applied during periods of dry and windy weather to mitigate dust impacts.
- Construction deliveries were carefully timed to avoid clashing with periods when farmers travel with machinery for regular agricultural activities.

These thoughtful adaptations reflect ENGIE's commitment to responsible construction practices and maintaining positive relationships with the local community.



COMMITMENT

06

We will support the local economy by providing local employment and procurement opportunities.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE is committed to maximising the local economic benefit of our projects through the creation of jobs for local people, and the use of Indigenous and local suppliers. This includes providing opportunities for local involvement in areas ranging from earthworks, building contracts, machinery operations and engineering, through to accommodation, administration, catering, freight and cleaners. Head contractors are required to provide, and regularly report on, local employment and the use of local and Indigenous suppliers during the construction phase of projects.



Project examples

ENGIE is proud to be a founding partner in *Powering Her Pathway*, a three-year initiative (2025–2028) led by Tradeswomen Australia and funded through the Federal Government’s Building Women’s Careers program. This transformative project is focused on breaking down barriers for women pursuing careers in clean energy trades and driving long-term, systemic change within traditionally male-dominated industries.

Delivered in collaboration with TAFE Gippsland and RMIT University, *Powering Her Pathway* is shaping a more inclusive future. TAFE

Gippsland leads the delivery of a dynamic, supportive learning environment, while ENGIE contributes vital industry expertise, hands-on skills, and employment pathways to help ensure strong career outcomes for participants. RMIT University has been engaged to provide a robust evaluation framework, helping measure impact and inform future best practice.

By the end of the project, *Powering Her Pathway* will have supported the placement of 30 women into meaningful roles within the clean energy sector.

The Goorambat East Solar Farm has generated 278 employment opportunities during the construction phase. ENGIE, in collaboration with its head contractor and a locally based workforce provider, has prioritised job placements for local residents. As the project approaches peak construction, 222 individuals - accounting for 79.86% of the workforce - are directly engaged by the local workforce provider and reside within a 50-kilometre radius of the site.

Additionally, the head contractor has employed 36 residents from within this radius in more specialised roles, bringing the total proportion of locally sourced personnel to 92.81%.

GESF Apex crew



COMMITMENT

07

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.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE is committed to making a positive impact in the communities where our projects are located.



Project example

When ENGIE acquired the Goorambat East Solar Farm project, a \$75,000 community benefit fund was committed to support local initiatives. At the time, no formal guidelines or governance structures were in place, so ENGIE worked closely with the community to design a framework that reflected local values and priorities.

Community members emphasised the importance of independent fund management - separate from both ENGIE and the local Council - and called for a fair, transparent

process with community-led decision-making at its core. In response, the Community Enterprise Foundation was appointed to administer the fund, and a Community Advisory Committee is being established to shape the fund's structure and provide recommendations on funding allocations.

This governance model not only met community expectations but also ensures compliance with legal and tax requirements while safeguarding the long-term sustainability of the fund.



GESF Footy Pop up

COMMITMENT

08

We commit to using the project to support educational and tourism opportunities where appropriate.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

Tourism is often a drawcard for the regions in which ENGIE operates. Understanding the social impacts, and the role ENGIE can play to support regional economies, is an important consideration in the development of our projects.



Project examples

In March 2025, ENGIE took part in the Narrabri Energy Expo, hosted by local renewable energy advocate Geni Energy Limited.

The event offered community members a valuable opportunity to explore the region's growing renewable energy landscape, including ENGIE's proposed Silverleaf project - a 120 MW solar farm paired with an 80 MW battery energy storage system (BESS).

Attendees were also able to learn more broadly about the benefits of renewable technologies, such as solar energy and BESS, and how they contribute to sustainable development in the area.

ENGIE supported the Global Shapers Youth Conference in early 2025 by supporting 10 local youth to attend the conference and participate in conversations about the energy transition. ENGIE's Community Engagement team also facilitated a youth workshop on the challenges of the energy transition.

ENGIE sponsors various community events where we have projects in progress. Many of these are large scale events which draw tourists to the area and provide the opportunity to showcase our work. In 2024, we were a platinum sponsor for Rainbow on the Plains in Hay, an annual event with a strong focus on celebrating rural and remote LGBTIQ+ communities. The event attracts around 2000 people to the area which has a usual population of just over 2000. In 2025 we were a major sponsor for the Benalla Street Art Festival which brings local, national and international street artists to the area to create large scale murals across the town. The event attracted over 6000 people.



Energy expo
Global Shapers
Rainbow on the Plains Festival
Benalla Street Art Festival

COMMITMENT

09

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.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

ENGIE is committed to going beyond energy, creating smarter, safer and more sustainable environments for communities. This includes acting as a responsible steward for the land on which our project is based, over the lifecycle of the project.



Project example

ENGIE is committed to rehabilitating the former Hazelwood Power Station and mine site in Victoria, transforming suitable areas into long-term sustainable assets that support the clean energy transition. With access to 1,600 MW of dormant transmission capacity, Hazelwood is uniquely positioned to host battery infrastructure and new energy technologies.

In partnership with Eku Energy, ENGIE delivered the Hazelwood Battery Energy Storage System (HBESS) - Australia's first utility-scale battery located at a retired coal-fired power station.

Energised and commissioned in 2023, the 150 MW/150 MWh HBESS occupies part of the former mine and power station site and is capable of storing the equivalent of one hour of rooftop solar output from 30,000 Victorian homes. The system plays a vital role in strengthening the state's energy grid and improving capacity.

Being the first operating battery in the region we have been able to utilise it as a training tool, bringing in various groups to see it firsthand and learn how it operates.

Building on the success of HBESS, ENGIE is developing a second battery energy storage system at the Hazelwood site - further advancing the transformation of this iconic location into a renewable energy hub and continuing our commitment to creating a resilient, low-carbon future for Victoria.



*GHD (top) and TAFE (below)
HBESS site visit*

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.



ORGANISATIONAL COMMITMENT

Above all else, ENGIE is committed to caring for the planet. We aim to set the standard for lower carbon generation, renewables and energy efficiency solutions in Australia. All our sites are certified to the internationally recognised standard for environmental management systems (ISO 14001), and waste is managed through the approach of reduce, reuse and recycle. Following our comprehensive environmental management plan, we apply strict procedures regarding the disposal of waste from our fully controlled sites in Australia.



Project example

Commissioned in 2005, Canunda Wind Farm is one of Australia's pioneering wind energy projects. Located just south of Millicent near Mount Gambier in South Australia, the 23-turbine site has been a consistent producer of renewable energy for two decades, boasting a high wind yield by global standards.

Canunda generates up to 46 MW of electricity - enough to power approximately 30,000 homes across South Australia. Its contribution to clean energy has been vital in supporting the state's

low-carbon goals and reducing reliance on fossil fuels.

Originally designed with a 20-year operational life, the wind farm recently celebrated its 20th birthday. Following an end-of-life assessment, the results confirmed that Canunda's infrastructure remains robust. As a result, its design life can be extended by another 10 years.

Rather than retiring the site, ENGIE will continue to operate Canunda - ensuring continued energy output and sustainability benefits without the need for full redevelopment.



Canunda Wind Farm
Birthday cake





engie.com.au

