

CLEAN ENERGY COUNCIL

BEST PRACTICE CHARTER FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS





ICUBED CONSULTING'S COMMITMENT TO THE CEC'S BEST PRACTICE CHARTER FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS

icubed consulting is a civil and structural engineering consultancy specialising in the design of renewable energy infrastructure, including wind farms, solar farms, and battery energy storage systems (BESS). While we are not the owners of these projects, our role is pivotal: we provide expert advice to our clients on how to incorporate environmental, cultural, and social considerations into every stage of their projects.

We fully endorse the Clean Energy Council's (CEC) Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects, and we embed its principles into our day-to-day operations. Our aim is not only to deliver technically robust and constructible designs, but to do so in ways that are socially responsible and environmentally sustainable.

As the renewable energy sector continues to grow in response to global climate imperatives, the impact of our work increasingly extends beyond engineering. This report outlines our approach to aligning with the Charter's key themes: environmental and cultural sensitivity, community engagement, regional economic benefit, and sustainability.

Sensitivity to Environmental, Agricultural, and Cultural Values

icubed consulting is committed to designing projects that respect the land, protect ecological systems, and honour cultural heritage.

- Environmental Conservation: We work closely with our clients to incorporate ecological constraint mapping into project designs, ensuring that developments avoid or minimise impact on environmentally sensitive areas and critical habitats.
- Preservation of Cultural Heritage: Through the use of public data and direct consultation with local communities, we help identify culturally or historically significant sites. We guide our clients in designing projects that either avoid these areas or apply mitigation strategies to preserve local heritage.
- Agricultural Land Integration: Recognising the importance of agricultural land, we ensure our designs consider existing land uses and complement farming operations rather than displacing them.

Positive Contribution to Regional Economies

We believe that renewable energy projects should leave a lasting positive legacy for the communities in which they are built.

- Local Procurement: We recommend prioritising the use of local suppliers for civil products and services and conducting market research to identify and engage capable local businesses. This approach not only supports local enterprises but also creates jobs and fosters sustainable economic growth in the region.
- Capacity Building: By advising our clients to collaborate closely with local suppliers, we help strengthen these businesses' capacity to participate in future projects, thereby contributing to the long-term economic development of the community.

Commitment to Sustainability

Sustainability is a core principle guiding our design process. We believe that renewable energy projects should not only contribute to reducing carbon emissions but also promote long-term environmental and social sustainability.

- Recycling and Waste Management: During the construction and operational phases, we recommend practices that promote the recycling or repurposing of materials whenever possible.



Our designs are optimised using high-quality products, components, and materials to enhance durability and minimise waste.

- On-site Reuse: Our designs incorporate the reuse of soil and rock excavated during construction. These materials can be repurposed for grading, landscaping, or the construction of access roads, reducing the need for imported materials and further minimising waste.

Respectful Engagement with Communities

Engagement with local communities and key stakeholders is at the heart of our approach, ensuring that their input and considerations are valued and integrated into the project design. We recognise that renewable energy projects can significantly impact the communities in which they are located, and meaningful, respectful engagement is essential to ensuring those impacts are positive.

- Active Communication: We advocate for open lines of communication with local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and community groups. Regular consultations and public meetings help gather feedback, address concerns, and build trust through transparency and dialogue.
- Living in the Community: Our consultants are not just visitors—they become part of the community throughout the construction phase. By living locally, our team members engage in community activities, contribute to the local economy, and gain a deeper understanding of the region's needs and values.
- Transport and Traffic Concerns: At every stage of our design process, we prioritise community well-being by promoting transportation solutions that minimise disruption during both construction and long-term operation. We advise our clients on a range of strategies to achieve this, including maximising on-site resource use to reduce heavy vehicle traffic, implementing temporary traffic restrictions during school bus hours, conducting regular maintenance throughout construction, providing passing bays along access routes, and encouraging carpooling initiatives where practical.

icubed consulting is committed to upholding the principles of the CEC's Best Practice Charter for Renewable Energy Projects by delivering designs that are sustainable, respectful, and beneficial to the communities and environments where they are developed. Through proactive community engagement, careful attention to environmental and cultural values, support for local economies, and a steadfast commitment to sustainability, we strive to make a positive and lasting impact on the regions we serve. Our holistic approach ensures that renewable energy development is not only a reliable source of clean power but also a catalyst for community and environmental well-being.