AGL's Local Community Investment Program (Silverton Community Fund) Guidelines





**AGL Energy Limited** 

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# Local Community Investment Program (Silverton Community Fund) Guidelines

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# **About AGL**

AGL is committed to helping shape a sustainable energy future for Australia. We operate the country's largest electricity generation portfolio, we're its largest ASX-listed investor in renewable energy, and we have more than 3.6 million customer accounts. Proudly Australian, with more than 180 years of experience, we have a responsibility to provide sustainable, secure and affordable energy for our customers. Our aim is to prosper in a carbon-constrained world and build customer advocacy as our industry transforms. That's why we have committed to exiting our coal-fired generation by 2050 and why we will continue to develop innovative solutions for our customers.

# About the Local Community Investment Program (Silverton Community Fund)

Through our involvement in and support of local community initiatives, projects and events, AGL aims to deliver community wide benefits, encourage innovation in and support for issues of community significance, and build and maintain strong relationships throughout the communities in which we operate.

The Local Community Investment Program for the Silverton Wind Farm, referred to as the Silverton Community Fund, forms part of AGL's commitment to support the communities where we have project activities.

Support can be provided through sponsorships, donations and grants for projects that will benefit the community and align with AGL's values.

# AGL's values

Safety and beyond	nd At AGL, safety comes first, because physical and mental wellbeing are fundamental to a successful workplace.				
_	We create a supportive environment, where we feel safe to challenge the norm, to speak up, to say what we mean. Safety is a shared responsibility, by taking care of each other, AGL becomes a better business for all.				
Sustainable thinking	Taking care of the environment and the communities we operate in, is something we consider in everything we do.				
	We are future-focused, proactive and adaptable to change. Every decision we make today, is based on always thinking ahead to find the right path forward.				
Inclusive of all	We welcome all and harness our diversity through trust and respect for one another. We seek the diverse view, enriching our thinking to drive greater performance.				



Focused All that we do leads to our customers, so we consider them in everything we do, and strive to enrich their experience.

We relentlessly push ourselves to go further, to not only improve what we do but to exceed expectation.

We give our focus and energy to all the things that matter to AGL's success, always acting honestly and with integrity.

# Areas the Silverton Community Fund covers

# **Sponsorships and donations**

- \$5,000 or less
- Small, one-off donations and sponsorships
- Includes sponsorships of events
- Include a contribution from the applying organisation, this may be cash or in-kind

# Community Development Programs

- Partnerships supporting programs to meet AGL's community development commitment to make a long-term, positive contribution to the community
- Partnerships will generally be accessed through community consultation and must aim to develop local community capacity and be sustainable into the future

#### Key areas of focus

The program targets a range of community needs including:

- Education
- Youth
- Environment
- Health, safety and wellbeing
- Community infrastructure
- Arts and culture
- Social welfare

#### Examples of the Silverton Community Fund key areas of focus:

Education	Energy affordability, primary and secondary schools, education programs at a community place such as a garden or neighbourhood centre, drug and alcohol, Aboriginal and Indigenous heritage, language, literacy and numeracy				
Youth	Programs aimed at youth participation, drug and alcohol, safety, schools, sporting initiatives, training				
Environment	Programs aimed at bettering the environment, such as community energy, solar, battery storage, gardens, recycling, native animals				
Health, Safety & Wellbeing	Sporting clubs, mental health services, health education, safe spaces, diversity and equality programs, safety awareness training such as drug and alcohol and driving, seniors				



Community infrastructure	Parks, recreation facilities, community gardens, shared spaces
Arts and culture	Aboriginal and Indigenous arts and culture, galleries, theatre groups, public art
Social welfare	Education and programs, capacity building, neighbourhood centres, local charities



# **Application process**

Applications open		Applications shared with Panel	Applications assessed	Applicants notified	Funding issued
 1 April 2022	30 April 2022	May 2022	May 2022	May 2022	May / June 2022

# How to apply

- 1. Read the application guidelines
- 2. Complete the application form
- 3. Please sign and submit your completed application form by:

Email: <u>AGLCommunity@agl.com.au</u> – Due to COVID, please note that <u>Email is preferred</u> Or

Mail: ATTN: Lachlan Sturt AGL Silverton Community Investment Program 200 George Street Level 24 Sydney NSW 2000

Should you have any questions at any time during this application, please contact Lachlan Sturt on 1800 039 600 or AGLCommunity@agl.com.au.

# Important information about your application

- An organisation can submit more than one application providing that what is being applied for is different. We suggest that each community group, sporting club or local school submit a consolidated application that is signed off by the club president or school principal to ensure that all funding requirements are considered in the one eligible application.
- Organisations will be required to submit photos as part of the acquittal process. It is a condition of your application that any images provided can be used by AGL to explain and promote the Silverton Community Fund.
- AGL cannot assist you in filling out the form. However, your local AGL Community Relations Manager can assist you to understand the application process and requirements. Community Relations Manager Lachlan Sturt can be contacted on 1800 039 600 or AGLCommunity@agl.com.au.
- We cannot accept late applications.
- AGL can request further information if required.



# **Eligibility criteria and guidelines**

Successful recipients should meet the following criteria:

- 1. Be a legal entity, registered in Australia with a current ABN, or, be a registered charity, not-forprofit, educational institution or organisation with a demonstrated governance structure.
- 2. Deliver an event, program or initiative that provides benefits to the communities in which we operate this includes within the Port Stephens and Newcastle Local Council Areas.
- 3. Have in place a current public liability insurance policy.

AGL will prioritise grants to locally run projects, initiatives or events that:

- Have tangible aims and initiatives.
- Provides benefits to the communities in which we operate.
- Contributes to one or more of the key areas of focus (for examples see page three):
  - $\circ$  Education
  - o Youth
  - o Environment
  - o Health, safety and wellbeing
  - o Community infrastructure
  - $\circ \quad \text{Arts and culture}$
  - o Social welfare
- Are valued and visible in the community, and have a long-term vision.
- Are new initiatives that are matched 50:50 by the organisation and AGL (this can include in-kind resources).
- Funds granted to successful applicants must be spent on the approved project within the agreed timeframe.
- Are consistent with AGL's values of Safety and beyond, Sustainable thinking, Inclusive of all, Focused on what matters. For examples of AGL's values, see page two (2)

AGL will generally not support:

- Political organisations or political campaigns.
- Religious organisations for religious activities.
- Requests from individuals seeking support for personal reasons.
- A direct or indirect competitor of AGL.
- Organisations or groups whose planned activities may pose a health and safety risk.
- Funding for private companies or commercial entities.
- Activities which encourage the irresponsible use of alcohol or gambling.
- Activities which provide a direct financial benefit to AGL, its subsidiaries, employees or contractors.
- Activities or programs that may breach AGL's Code of Conduct or regulatory, licensing or any other statutory commitments or obligations.



# **Application process timeline**





All applications will be reviewed and assessed by AGL's Silverton Community Fund Assessment Committee, comprising a representative from AGL and local community members (including members of the Community Consultative Committee).

Community representative positions are voluntary and community representation enables meaningful community input into the decision-making process. The community representatives are chosen on the basis of their experience and broad understanding of the community group they represent, and often include (or are comprised of) the local Community Consultative Committee or Community Dialogue Group.

Applications will be assessed based on the information provided in the application. The following process will be used in assessing applications:

- 1. Applications will initially be assessed by AGL to ensure the eligibility criteria has been met and further information can be requested if required.
- 2. Applications will be given a merit ranking on how well, in the Assessment Committee's opinion, the application and presentation demonstrates:
  - The delivery of an event, program or initiative that provides benefits to the communities in which AGL operates this includes within the Silverton area.
  - Contributes to one or more of the key areas of focus (see page two for more information).

Not every application that meets the assessment criteria will necessarily receive a grant.

AGL will receive the feedback from the Assessment Committee and make the final decision on which applicants will receive a grant. All decisions made by AGL are final.

Once a decision has been made no further discussions will be entered into.

Applicants may be contacted by AGL directly for the purpose of validating any aspect of the applicant's application.

The assessment process will begin once applications close.

These guidelines may be reviewed and amended at any time.

# **Successful Applicants**

Successful applicants will receive a "Letter of Grant Approval" from AGL.

# **Unsuccessful Applicants**

Unsuccessful applicants will receive a "Letter of Grant Decline" from AGL confirming the outcome of the application. Requests for additional feedback can be made by emailing <u>AGLCommunity@agl.com.au</u>. AGL encourages all unsuccessful applicants to apply for future rounds.



# Awarding grant funding and acquittal process

# Awarding grant funding

All successful applicants will receive approved funding by electronic transfer.

Payment will only be addressed to the nominated organisation.

A remittance will be emailed to the contact person identified on the application form.

Any grant from the Silverton Community Fund includes any applicable GST.

# Use of funding

Any funding provided by the Silverton Community Fund must be spent on the approved project within the agreed timeframe.

If at any time the stated purpose and use of the funds cannot be completed in the manner described in the application, the recipient must advise AGL's Community Relations team on <u>AGLCommunity@agl.com.au</u>. Funds are non-transferable.

## **Privacy and confidentiality**

By completing the application form, the applicant and recipient agree to information being used by AGL for the purposes of assessing the application and if successful, providing a grant.

By completing the application form, applicants consent to AGL disclosing details of successful applicant's projects and the amounts granted to each successful applicant.

# **Evaluation and acquittal process**

Recipients must submit an evaluation report to AGL within two months of program completion.

The evaluation report should include:

- A report on program activity.
- Benefits and beneficiaries.
- Evidence of the use of funds granted for the program (e.g. invoices).
- Copies of photos and promotional materials where possible.

It is the responsibility of the organisation to maintain a complete set of records for acquittal purposes.

Recipients are required to submit photos and or video as part of the acquittal process. It is a condition of your application that any images provided can be used by AGL to promote the Silverton Community Fund (including local media). Written consent of any persons included in photos must be provided to AGL as part of the acquittal process.

Recipients failing to complete the acquittal report will not be eligible to participate in future Silverton Community Fund funding rounds.

AGL reserves the right to request the return of any unspent funds as part of the acquittal process.

AGL reserves the right to undertake quality assurance checks on all implementing partners to ensure funding is spent in accordance with the Funding Agreement.