



# HILLS OF GOLD WIND FARM NEWSLETTER

WINTER 2023

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## JOIN OUR MAILING LIST

Receive project updates and opportunities by subscribing to our mailing list.



You can sign-up on the project website or contact the team at:

 **1800 845 067**

 **hillsofgold.au@engie.com**

**engie.com.au/hillsofgold**

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.

# PROJECT MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the latest edition of the Hills of Gold Wind Farm newsletter.

It was great to catch up with members of the community when several members of the team were in Nundle in late April to host the Department of Planning and Environment for a site visit of the project.

To keep you updated on the project's approval pathway, the Request for Information (RFI) has now been formally lodged with Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) for their assessment. We are expecting the DPE to make their recommendation to the NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC) in Q3 of 2023. The IPC, as the decision-making body, will undertake further assessment to make their determination on the project.

We are all very keen to know the outcome of the project and we thank you all for your continued input and support of the project.

Finally, ENGIE has opened applications for the 2023 Community Sponsorship Program offering one off cash payments of up to \$10,000 with a total of \$50,000 in funding available to local community groups. So, if you have a local project in mind that needs financial support we'd love to hear from you.



**Meredith Anderson**  
Senior Development Manager, ENGIE

## PROJECT TIMELINE



## WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE PROJECT?

DPE Assessment Report	Q3 2023
Independent Planning Commission	Q3 2023



## ENGIE PROUD TO SUPPORT NUNDELE CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT MARKET

Through its 2022 Community Sponsorship Program, ENGIE provided funding towards the Nundle Christmas Twilight Market event held last November.

Head of Stakeholder Relations Jacqui Niemand said ENGIE “was proud to support the event and highlights ENGIE’s commitment to supporting the local community”.

Susan Rieger who organised the event said that the market attracted over 800 visitors to Nundle which encouraged business to local shops and to showcase a German inspired Christmas market.

“The market was a great success and offered quality hand crafted products, entertainment for children as well as some German style food which is typical for a German Christmas Market”, Ms Rieger said.

It is planned that the market will run again on Saturday, 11 November 2023.



## ENGIE SUPPORTS EVENT TO INSPIRE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING STUDENTS

ENGIE recently sponsored the Rotary Club of Tamworth First Light to deliver the 2023 Science and Engineering Challenge which provides students from Tamworth and surrounding schools with an opportunity to experience aspects of science and engineering that they would not usually see in the classroom.

Senior Development Manager for Hills of Gold Wind Farm, Meredith Anderson, said ENGIE was pleased to support the four-day event and help inspire students to consider a future in science and engineering.

“It was great to provide sponsorship for this event that not only brings schools together from across the region, but also encourages students with a keen interest in science and engineering to develop their skills and have some fun at the same time.”

“The Challenge allows students to work as a team, learn problem solving skills and consider a career path in a range of sectors including the growing renewable energy industry,” Ms Anderson said.

The annual event is presented by the University of Newcastle in partnership with the Tamworth Rotary Club First Light. Event coordinator, Steve Hawkins said the 2023 challenge was a great success with 1,024 students coming together

at the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre to participate.

“The University of Newcastle provided staff with the expertise to assist students with the program as well as adjudicating throughout the competition and awarding the overall prize to the winners.”

“As part of this year’s challenge, we saw teams develop solutions for delivering low cost electricity to cities and building bridge structures to support a train bearing the heaviest load. It was a lot of fun.

“The event originated in Tamworth over twenty-five years ago and has grown to be a nationwide competition. It’s a wonderful opportunity for these kids to show off their skills and ingenuity.

“We’re very grateful for the sponsorship from ENGIE in helping to make this year’s event successful for all students involved,” Mr Hawkins said.

Congratulations to all students who participated in the Science and Engineering Challenge and all the best to the Calrossy and William Cowper students who were the overall winners and will advance to the state finals in Newcastle later in the year.



## COMMUNITY SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM LAUNCHES

Expressions of interest are now open for the 2023 Hills of Gold Wind Farm Sponsorship Program, with \$50,000 available in funding for local projects or events.

ENGIE's Head of Stakeholder Relations, Jacqui Niemand says the program is aimed at supporting local initiatives.

"ENGIE launched the sponsorship program in 2022, sponsoring seven wonderful local community groups and are committed to funding further local projects in 2023".

"The 2023 Hills of Gold Wind Farm Sponsorship Program is open to any not-for-profit community group or committee who deliver benefits to the communities within 20km of the Project."

The criteria for successful applications will enhance or promote tourism, arts or culture, promote sustainability, contribute to improving education and training or improve socio-economic conditions in the local community.

"This sponsorship program will provide one-off cash contributions of up to \$10,000 to successful applicants, and is in addition to the \$150,000 construction fund, which funds local projects during the construction phase of the wind farm," said Ms Niemand.



To submit your application or for more information about the program including the **Program Guidelines** and **Terms and Conditions**, please visit: [engie.com.au/hills-of-gold-benefits-sponsorship](https://engie.com.au/hills-of-gold-benefits-sponsorship).

Expressions of interest will close on 31 July, 2023, with successful applicants notified by 31 August, 2023.

### GET IN TOUCH

Do you want to get in touch with the team? ENGIE's Asset Development Team can be contacted via a toll-free phone number or email:

 **1800 845 067**  
 **hillsofgold.au@engie.com**

[engie.com.au/hillsofgold](https://engie.com.au/hillsofgold)

