

To Whom It May Concern:

**RE: Coalition for Community Energy Funding Request**

Across the world communities are playing a pivotal role in the transition to a sustainable future. Community energy projects help decarbonise, decentralise and democratise our energy system and demonstrate that a renewable powered future is possible. Here in Australia, there is a groundswell of support for the concepts with 11 operating community energy projects and a further 60 in development. However there are many challenges that need to be overcome before we can realise the vision of a vibrant community energy sector contributing to a clean energy future.

That's why, this year, ten organisations came together to launch the Coalition for Community Energy (C4CE) using a collective impact framework. C4CE seeks to coordinate the implementation of strategic initiatives facilitating the collaboration of member and other organisations. C4CE will harness the best expertise and experience and share this knowledge and insight with other aspiring communities. Specifically C4CE will

- coordinate the political voice of the community energy sector and working for policy changes to support its growth
- leverage public, private and community finance and funding for the sector
- minimise duplication of effort, share information and grow the community energy sector as efficiently and effectively as possible
- ensure that the community energy sector does not stall in the current challenging federal political climate

In June the inaugural Community Energy Congress was held in Canberra, bringing together 340 community energy stakeholders from every state and territory across Australia. C4CE was launched during the congress alongside our National Community Energy Strategy. Membership has already grown to over 35 organisations with many more anticipated to join.

To get started though we need your help. C4CE has a long-term strategy to fund its core activities primarily through membership and a fee from strategic initiatives. We are seeking a minimum \$100,000 in 2015 from philanthropic sources to provide backbone support for the secretariat to establish operations, build membership and facilitate member lead strategic initiatives.

Please find attached the C4CE Strategy, Funding Prospectus and supporting documentation.

Your support will support a widespread passion of communities across Australia, enable them to better participate and collaborate in building resilient community energy projects and influence the transformation of the way we supply and use energy in the future.

We welcome the opportunity to follow up with you and further discuss this initiative and the direct benefits funding would provide.

Sincerely

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