



**MEDIA RELEASE: WEDNESDAY, 20 MARCH, 2019**

### **Take advantage of Morrison Government's Energy and Environment Grants**

Strathbogie Shire Council is encouraging local businesses and community groups to check out the Australian Government's \$3.5 billion Climate Solutions Package, which is providing grants that will support communities to reduce carbon emissions and achieve energy efficiencies.

The package is split into a number of grant programs available to businesses and community organisations, but make sure you get in fast as the one page Expressions of Interest (EOI) form needs to be submitted by Monday 25 March.

The Communities Environment Program will fund projects between \$2,500 and \$20,000 that will work to conserve, protect and sustainably manage our environment, including things like waste and litter reduction, protecting native animals and removing weeds.

Community Organisations can apply for up to \$12,500 through the Energy Efficient Communities Program, which aims to assist communities to reduce energy consumption through equipment upgrades and investment in energy and emissions monitoring systems.

Small businesses can apply for up to \$20,000 and larger businesses can apply for up to \$25,000 (co-contribution required) through the Energy Efficient Communities Program, which aims to help businesses save energy through equipment upgrades, assessments to investigate energy efficiency opportunities and investment in energy monitoring systems.

Strathbogie Shire Mayor Cr Amanda McClaren said Council encourages businesses and communities to check out these opportunities and complete the EOI form.

"We know our communities are passionate about energy and the environment, as evidenced by the outstanding uptake of solar through the Bogie Bulk Buy Program and the variety of environmental groups and community initiatives running across the shire," Cr McClaren said.

"These grants are a great opportunity to get some funding for energy savings and projects that will benefit and conserve our environment now and into the future."

Damian Drum MP Member for Murray said Australians recognise climate change and the importance of protecting the environment.

"Climate change is a global issue that requires a global solution and this government is absolutely committed to Australia playing its part to reduce emissions," Mr Drum said.

"We will meet our target to reduce Australia's emissions by 26 per cent of 2005 levels by 2030, and there is a clear plan in place to achieve this."

More information can be found at [www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/climate-solutions-package](http://www.environment.gov.au/climate-change/climate-solutions-package).

Please complete the relevant Expression of Interest form and return it to 426 Wyndham Street or PO Box 884 Shepparton 3632 or to [damian.drum.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:damian.drum.mp@aph.gov.au) by Monday 25 March 2019.

-ENDS-

**Media Contact:** Clare Allen- 0418 336 078