



Media Release

Community Energy for Goulburn (CE4G) launches next Saturday.

The Goulburn Group (TGG) is launching its latest project on Saturday with an information day on the community energy study they are running for a large 1 MW community owned solar farm.

Called Community Energy for Goulburn (CE4G), the project is investigating the possibility of establishing a community owned solar farm close to the centre of town.

Project chair, Peter Fraser, says that following a grant of \$50,000 from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, the committee has been working on various technical and financial aspects of establishing such a project. If it is built it will be the largest community owned solar farm in NSW to date.

“We have been meeting for six months planning the study and are now ready to invite the community to find out more about the project, but also to ask the community what they think of the idea,” said Mr Fraser.

“So we are running an information day for people to drop in and see how far we have advanced, ask any questions about the project, and tell us what they think,” he said.

Community owned energy generation is a relatively new idea in Australia but in Europe and the USA the sector has been growing for many years. In countries like Denmark more than half of all renewable energy generation is owned by local communities.

As far back as 2001 more than 70% of all wind farms in Denmark were owned by communities, families and local businesses, mostly through cooperatives that were set up with the encouragement of the government.

“Whole towns in Europe and America are completely off the grid and the energy being used by the community is also being generated by the community, be it from solar, wind or bio reactors,” said Mr Fraser.

“In Australia community energy is only now getting off the ground, and we believe Goulburn can lead the way here with this project,” he said.

“Everyone is welcome to come along and find out about the project, but more importantly to tell us what they think, and whether they would be interested in being part of this, as families, individuals or businesses,” said Mr Fraser.

The information day will be held on Saturday 15th at the McDermott Centre with a short introduction to the project at 11am. Interested people can drop in any time from 11am until 2pm.

More information can be found at www.ce4g.org.au

View video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5c6g7i6yTw>

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