



COMMUNITY POWER AGENCY SERVICE OFFERING 2021



What we offer

Community Power Agency offers workshops, training and other services to help to develop your community energy project in line with the vision and context of your community.

Workshops and Training

Full-day workshops and trainings

COMMUNITY ENERGY PROJECT INCEPTION WORKSHOP

This workshop will clarify your group's vision and objectives and develop plans for action. It will also ensure that your entire core team is skilled up to enable your project to move forward with cohesion and momentum.

REPOWER SHOALHAVEN COMMUNITY SOLAR MODEL TRAINING

In partnership with Repower Shoalhaven, Community Power Agency delivers a workshop that will take your group through Repower's highly successful community solar model. Through this workshop we will work with your project team to adapt elements of the model for implementation in your local area.

COMMUNITY ENERGY BUSINESS MODEL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Drawing on Community Power Agency's in-depth understanding of Australian and international community energy business models, and the current energy market context, this workshop will help your group think through the key aspects, features and relationships essential for creating a viable model of community energy. It will guide you through consideration of legal and governance structures; economic and finance arrangements; and community participation and engagement. Clarifying your assumptions, options and constraints will help guide your group towards a viable, feasible and desirable business model. This workshop is particularly useful for projects being delivered in partnership with multiple organisations, where clarifying common intent and agreed guidelines is essential to the project's success.

Full or half-day workshops and training

COMMUNITY SOLAR MODELS AND LEGALS WORKSHOP

From donation models like CORENA to investment models like Repower Shoalhaven, this workshop thoroughly maps out the community solar models that stack up in Australia today. During this session you will work the legal principles, regulations and local requirements that underpin each model, settling on the most appropriate model for your community and developing an action plan to take your project forward.

HOST SITE NEGOTIATION TRAINING

This training will talk you through what you need to look for in a host site and then provide you with skills and training to approach and negotiate with a potential host-site once you've identified them to help get them across the line

COMMUNITY ENERGY FINANCE TRAINING

First developed with Lawrence McIntosh of Solar Share for the Goulburn Community Energy Group this training introduces your group to key terms, financing mechanisms and key financing and funding needs that community energy groups will have to work through over the course of developing and implementing a project. This training will help you work through what you need to put in your financial model, where to find cost estimates and more.

SKILLS-BASED TRAININGS

A range of tailored participatory workshops are available to increase the capacity of your group. They will introduce key frameworks and tools for your group to use in the development of your community energy project. Examples include community engagement, group facilitation and decision-making, strategy development and stakeholder mapping and engagement.

COOPERATIVE FUNDAMENTALS FOR COMMUNITY ENERGY

This workshop will help your group understand and prepare for the process of forming a co-operative. We will work with your project team to map out the process of incorporation, developing a coherent plan for each stage right through to the commencement of business activities.

Short-sessions or half-day trainings

COMMUNITY ENERGY BASICS AND TELLING THE STORY

This training introduces key ideas and concepts of community energy, shares success and failure stories from community energy projects worldwide, and explore strategies that can help your community to get it right.

UNDERSTANDING AUSTRALIA'S ENERGY MARKET TRAINING

Community Power Agency runs a short session introducing groups to the basics of how the Australian Energy Market works. Community energy enterprises are a new way of doing energy, but unfortunately they cannot operate independent from the current system. So learn the basics of the current system in an engaging way. Not sure who's who in the energy market zoo, don't know the difference between AEMO and AER, get confused by the alphabet soup of organisations – this short training is for you.

Project Development Support

BUSINESS MODEL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Developing a viable community energy business model can be challenging. CPA can bring its full experience of working in the community energy sector for 7 years and work with groups on business model development. We provide suggestions and feedback on project models (including basic finance and electricity sale arrangements), organisational and governance structures, community engagement and renewable energy technology options. Where a group has specific technical needs or interests we partner with technical professionals.

IMPLEMENTATION PLANS

CPA can work with community energy groups to systematically step through all the tasks involved in delivering a community energy project and help synthesise this information in an easy to understand implementation plan.

PUBLIC SPEAKING ON THE POWER AND BENEFIT OF COMMUNITY ENERGY PROJECTS

Our presentations will share inspiring stories and strategies of community energy projects worldwide and would be suitable for local forums, conferences etc. We also paint the picture of what is happening in the community sector across Australia.

TAILORED RESEARCH

The CPA team has extensive research experience in the field of community energy. Drawing on this experience, skills and knowledge, we can undertake research to meet your needs and fill your knowledge gaps. We particularly specialise in community energy policy related research.

MENTORING

Working with community energy project leaders and supporting them to develop their knowledge and strategies to deliver successful projects on the ground through regular mentoring session (face-to-face or via Skype). Mentoring is tailored to specific needs.

Costs

We tailor our rates depending on degree to which materials would need to be tailored to the specific circumstance and we also operate on a sliding scale based on the type of organisation we are working with including industry, government, NGOs and community groups.

For more information email:

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