

Submission re design of the \$10 billion program for the CEFC:

The establishment of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation is a positive step towards Australia becoming less reliant on dirty coal power. The \$10 billion budget, collected from heavy polluting companies, should be invested in clean energy industries. This should include the community energy sector.

We firmly believe that small scale energy projects, which are inclusive of community members, help change attitudes to sustainable living and get people thinking about where their electricity comes from. Ownership of your energy supply is a simple way to work towards a cleaner energy future for yourself and your children.

Even though these projects may be small scale, they have a greater effect on the hearts and minds of the surrounding community. A large project can be seen as belonging to the government or a corporation, but a small scale energy project belongs to the community.

These projects are particularly difficult to get started because of the lack of capital to invest, when local families do not have much spare cash to put into the project. Early stage equity investment is vital to get these projects off the ground and generating their electricity.

We live in Wentworth Falls NSW but invested \$4000 in the Hepburn Wind project because we wanted a community project to succeed. We had nothing local in which to invest and decided to assist the people of the Daylesford community with a project they wanted to start.

Changing people's attitudes starts at the community level. Australians are one of the largest consumers of electricity in the world and it is time people understood where their power comes from and the impact it is having on global warming. A visible, local renewable energy project reminds people every day that they are using and supporting renewable energy and doing so with zero pollution.

We request that the community energy sector be included in the mandate of the CEFC.

Yours sincerely,
Rosemary and Arthur Lathouris