

Media release



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Deck the halls with essential community funding

More than 300 community halls across regional and rural NSW received a little bit of extra help with their maintenance costs this year thanks to Essential Energy's 2017-18 Community Support program.

General Manager for Customer and Stakeholder Engagement Roger Marshall said Essential Energy recognised the value of community halls in providing localised services and a treasured gathering space and was delighted to support them.

"For over a decade, Essential Energy has been committed to providing support to community halls. They are often the backbone of small communities in regional, rural and remote NSW and play an important part in connecting local communities," Roger said.

"In this season of giving, we'd like to thank all the passionate, dedicated community groups for their efforts," Roger said. "They've each received a \$200 donation to support the general maintenance costs of running these important local halls."

In total, 329 community halls across regional, rural and remote NSW will share more than \$65,000 in financial assistance.

"This funding is in addition to the Essential Giving program where Essential Energy employees donate via regular pre-tax, payroll deductions and those donations are matched by the company," he said.

"Since the inception of the Essential Giving program in January 2014, Essential Energy and its staff have donated over \$500,000 to local communities and selected charities."

Essential Energy also participates in the Australian Red Cross Blood Service's Red25 group program. For three consecutive years, Essential Energy has been awarded the Service's NSW State Award for the highest number of blood donations and lives saved in the corporate category for organisations up to 5000 employees.

To receive an email notification about the 2018-19 Community Support application dates, register online at essentialenergy.com.au/communitysupport.

Media contact: Simone Plews, Corporate Media Manager
02 6588 6733 or 0457 514 993

Essential Energy is the operator of one of Australia's largest electricity networks spanning 95 per cent of New South Wales' land mass. Owned by the New South Wales Government, Essential Energy also provides water and sewerage services to customers in far western New South Wales.