

Have Your Say - Community Benefit and Employment Program



Have your say on the Community and Employment Benefit Program

South West Renewable Energy Zone



EnergyCo is inviting community members to help shape the design of the South West Renewable Energy Zone (REZ) Community and Employment Benefit Program. The Program will provide an initial \$60 million to deliver lasting benefits to communities hosting renewable energy infrastructure. Importantly, these funds can only be invested in local government areas within the South West REZ. (Hay, Edward River, Murrumbidgee, Murray, Carrathool, Wentworth and Balranald LGAs).

As the first stage of community consultation, EnergyCo is seeking feedback on how the Program should be structured, how funding should be distributed, and the types of initiatives that should be prioritised across the region.

Complete the community survey to influence the design of the program. Survey responses close on the 18th September 2026 and will help guide the distribution of funding and inform the overall structure of the Program, ensuring it reflects the priorities of communities across the South West REZ. This is an important opportunity to influence how the Program is designed and how funding is invested to deliver long-term benefits for the region. **Learn more and have your say:** www.energyco.nsw.gov.au/sw-cebp.

Burn better for Good: Easy Steps to Reduce Wood Smoke Pollution

As the cooler weather sets in across our Shire, many residents rely on wood heaters to keep their homes warm. While a wood fire brings comfort, smoke from poorly operated heaters is a major contributor to winter air pollution.

Smoke contains fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and trace gases that can penetrate deep into lungs and enter the bloodstream. Smoke affects everyone, but infants, elderly residents, and individuals with existing respiratory or cardiac conditions—such as asthma—are particularly vulnerable.

By following a few simple tips recommended by the NSW EPA, you can improve heater efficiency, save on fuel costs, and keep our air clean.

5 Key Steps to Burn Better

1. Burn only dry, seasoned wood: Freshly cut timber should be split, stacked loosely off the ground, and stored undercover for at least 6 to 12 months before burning. Seasoned wood will make a sharp 'crack' when knocked together, rather than a dull thud. Never burn painted or treated timber, rubbish, or plastics, as these release toxic chemicals.
2. Keep the fire burning brightly: Use plenty of dry kindling to establish a hot fire quickly. Keep the air controls fully open for 15 to 20 minutes after lighting and after reloading.
3. Don't let your fire smoulder overnight: Avoid filling the firebox with large logs and turning the air controls down low overnight. This causes the fuel to smoulder rather than burn, producing large amounts of dense smoke. Let the fire die down at night instead.
4. Check your chimney regularly: Step outside and check your chimney 10 to 15 minutes after lighting or reloading. Once the fire is properly lit, there should be little or no visible smoke coming from your flue.
5. Maintain your heater: Clear out ashes regularly, keep the baffle plate and air controls in good working order, and clean your flue at least once a year before winter starts.

Please also note that under Clause 13 of the Protection of the Environment Operations (Clean Air) Regulation, it is an offence to sell firewood with a moisture content exceeding 25%. Under NSW legislation, smoke is considered "excessive" if a visible plume from a flue extends continuously for 10 minutes or longer and is more than 10 metres in length at any point during that time.

Wood smoke
isn't good smoke.



Know Your Council



Mayor

Cr Carol Oataway

Deputy Mayor

Cr Martyn Quinn

Councillors

Geoff Chapman

Lionel Garner

Will Miller

John Perry

Paul Porter

David Townsend

EVENTS

September

- 11-12 Hay Show
- 12 Cocktails in the yard - Toganmain Woolshed

October

- 10 Hay Glow
- 23-26 Rust n Dust Outback Rally

November

- 12-15 Rainbow on the Plains
- 21 Hay Races

Hay Shire Snippets

What goes in
your yellow
bin?



For more information scan the
QR, or call the Council office
02 6990 1100



**COME FOR THE LIGHTS
STAY FOR THE FUN**

**I AM HERE
HAY**

**GLOWING
WITH FUN
& COLOUR**

**HAY GLOW
NEON
Lights**

**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 10, 2026
3.30PM - 9.30PM**

HAY PARK

SILENT DISCO **POP UP PUTT PUTT** **LIVE MUSIC** **MARKETS** **FOOD VANS**

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS
AND GLOW TOGETHER**

All Ages Welcome

Hay Shire Council

Green compostable caddy
liners are back in stock
and now available at
Council's main office or at
the Hay Recycling & Waste
Centre.

You may choose not to
use liners and empty all
your organic waste
directly into the bin or you
could use paper towel or
newspaper to wrap your
waste before placing it in
the bin.



**Green Bags
Available Now!**

**\$10
per roll**



STORE YOUR LINERS
IN A DRY, COOL,
DARK PLACE.

Development Applications - June-July 2026

2026-15	394 River St, Hay	Demolition of existing dwelling & subdivision/boundary re-alignment	Approved
2026-18	326 Macauley St, Hay	Temporary stockpiling of fill & replace boundary fence	Approved
2026-19	Lot 111 Mid Western	Temporary stockpiling of fill & demo material, treatment W& use of material onsite	Approved
2026-21	12221 Cobb Hwy, Hay	Farm storage shed	Approved
2026-22	496 Cadell St, Hay	Carpport/shed	Approved
2026-23	318 Russell St, Hay	Dwelling	Approved
2026-24	498 Cadell St, Hay	Change of use to mechanics	Approved
2026-25	68 Thelangerin Rd, Hay	Transportable dwelling	Approved
2026-26	236 Pine St, Hay	Carpport	Approved
2026-27	107-109 Thelangerin Rd	Awning & 3 sheds	Approved
2026-28	341-343 Moama St, Hay	Demolition of house/shed and construct new shed	Approved
2026-30	375 Macauley St, Hay	Additions & Renovations	Approved
2026-32	460 Church St, Hay	Verandah	Approved

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updates and information
delivered straight
to your inbox.



STAY INFORMED WITH NEWS THAT MATTERS TO YOU.



LATEST NEWS
Important announcements
and community news.



EVENT UPDATES
Information on events,
meetings and activities.



COUNCIL UPDATES
Projects, services and stories
from around the Shire.



SCAN ME!



**SUBSCRIBE TO OUR
NEWSLETTER**
QUICK. EASY. FREE.

KEEP BODILY FLUIDS OUT OF RECYCLING

"A recycling bin is not a toilet, nappy bin or
clinical waste container. Keep bodily fluids
out of recycling."

WHAT WE HAVE FOUND IN RECYCLING BINS...



Bottles of urine



Jars containing blood



Used sanitary products



Soiled nappies



Wet puppy training pads



Bodily fluid contaminated waste



WHY IT MATTERS

These items:

- Put recycling workers at risk
- Contaminate recyclable materials
- Cause entire loads to be rejected
- Increase disposal costs for everyone



If it's contaminated with bodily fluids
GENERAL WASTE BIN - ALWAYS!!!!



For more information contact
Council main office (02) 6990 1100

**WHEN IN DOUBT,
THROW IT OUT!**



**KEEP OUR COMMUNITY CLEAN,
SAFE & SUSTAINABLE.**