

## Media release

### EPURON announces Eden Wind Farm Community Fund

**Thursday 2 Feb, Eden:** EPURON today announced it would establish the Eden Wind Farm Community Fund as a result of the construction of the proposed Eden Wind Farm.

The Eden Wind Farm Community Fund would provide funding for local initiatives which benefit the Eden community.

Initiatives could include environmental initiatives, provision of local sporting facilities, support for local sports clubs or community groups or events, assistance with regional promotion, provision of playground equipment or any other local initiative which benefits the Eden community.

The fund would receive an annual contribution from the Eden Wind Farm from the first year of its operation, and would be established in consultation with community and service associations in the Eden area and with Bega Valley Shire Council.

“We want the Eden Wind Farm to make a direct contribution to the community” said Epuron’s executive director Martin Poole.

“Wind energy is expected to create a significant number of jobs over the coming years, and the Eden Wind Farm is no exception” Mr Poole said. “Most of the local investment resulting from the Eden Wind Farm would come during the relatively short construction phase of this project – most likely less than a year.

Epuron wants to ensure the Eden community benefits from the project over the life of the wind farm” said Mr Poole.

Epuron has been working on the proposed wind energy project since 2009. Following an Open House community forum held by Epuron at Eden in March 2011, a development application was submitted to Bega Valley Shire Council in September 2011 describing the proposed project in detail.

Epuron representatives Martin Poole, director, and Daniel Gilbert, project manager, have also consulted within the Eden community, and attended the recent community meeting held at the Eden Fisherman’s Club on 19 January 2012.

“We listened carefully to the issues raised” said Mr Gilbert, noting that in general the issues raised have been addressed in the Statement of Environmental Effects for the proposal.

“We appreciate the feedback on the benefit of a direct contribution to the Eden community and that is why we have announced this initiative today”.

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At the community meeting, Epuron also confirmed that:

- there are no plans for lighting of any of the turbines, with any lighting already present at the site directed downwards and away from the turbines;
- it has assessed the potential for Occupational Health and Safety risks to workers at the site and found no impacts which are likely to affect their safety; and,
- it engaged independent experts to carry out detailed assessment of both environmental issues (biodiversity impacts) and amenity issues (noise and visual impact) related to the proposal which found those impacts acceptable.

Epuron is also attending the public meeting convened by the NSW Southern Joint Regional Planning Panel in relation to the proposal, to be held this morning in Eden.

Epuron's development application for Eden Wind Farm is available at Bega Council's offices and online at [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au) and at [www.epuron.com.au](http://www.epuron.com.au)

For more information:

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### **About Epuron**

Established in 2003, Epuron is a leading Australian renewable energy company with a focus on development of utility-scale wind and solar energy projects.

Epuron is one of Australia's most successful wind farm developers. It has developed the highest yielding wind farm, largest wind farm, the largest number of wind farms, and the largest number of wind turbines in NSW.

In solar energy, Epuron's focus is megawatt-scale power generation in both grid-connected and off-grid markets. Its TKLN Solar project is currently under construction in the Northern Territory, ready to supply three remote communities in Australia's outback.

Epuron is working with both mining and utility clients to provide reliable, off-grid power using solar and wind energy to supplement diesel or gas power supplies. Epuron's ability to provide both solar and wind energy, and to integrate these with either diesel or gas generators, sets it apart. Its custom-designed Grid Stability System ensures the maximum renewable energy contribution and fuel savings, and at the same time ensures reliable power generation.

Epuron is Australian-owned and operates out of its office in North Sydney, NSW.

For more information see [www.epuron.com.au](http://www.epuron.com.au)