

# Media release



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## Community halls receive essential funding

Essential Energy's 2018-19 Essential Communities program has delivered support to local regions through funding provided to 283 community halls across regional and rural New South Wales (NSW) to cover their maintenance costs.

Chief Human Resources Officer Bryce Dyer said community halls provide an important localised service for regional, rural and remote NSW communities in the form of functions, community gatherings and places to come together during times of celebration and hardship.

"Essential Energy builds, operates and maintains the poles and wires that provide electricity to community halls across 95 per cent of NSW and parts of southern Queensland. However, we also aim to empower the passionate, dedicated groups who contribute so much to their communities within these spaces," Bryce said.

"In 2018-19, more than \$56,000 in financial assistance will be shared by 283 community halls across the regional, rural and remote NSW communities we serve," Bryce said.

Halls that were successful in their 2018-19 Community Hall Program applications receive a \$200 donation to assist in meeting the general maintenance costs of these treasured gathering spaces.

Since its inception in January 2014 the Essential Giving program, Essential Energy and its staff have donated over \$640,000 to local communities and selected charities.

To receive an email notification about the 2019-20 Community Hall program application dates, register online at [essentialenergy.com.au/communities](http://essentialenergy.com.au/communities).



***Caption:*** 283 community halls across regional and rural NSW have received funding under Essential Energy's 2018-19 Community Halls program.

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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.