



Loy Yang News

July 2023



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Loy Yang NAIDOC Week site celebration

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Rainbows shine for the AGL Loy Yang NGFL Pride Cup

AGL Loy Yang proudly supported the 8th iteration of the AGL North Gippsland Football League Pride Cup.

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From the General Manager

Welcome to the first edition for 2023 of the AGL Loy Yang Community News.

This newsletter provides some highlights of our work and how we contribute positively to the life of the Latrobe Valley and Gippsland community in which we are privileged to operate.

We're proud to partner with community groups and social enterprises around Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley to collaborate on initiatives such as celebrating culture and diversity, improving mental health and supporting students.

We're committed to developing and maintaining a strong relationship with our community. Authentic community engagement is at the heart of our purpose and values.

We have also committed to being involved in the transition of the region and we're working with partners from government, education and industry to provide the community with the tools and pathways with which to successfully navigate this transition.

We are also excited for our future in the region, with more information in this edition about AGL's plans for the Latrobe Valley Energy Hub, and our partnership with a global consortium seeking a license to develop an offshore wind project off the Gippsland coast.

Please pass on this newsletter to your networks – and use our QR code to subscribe to our mailing list online. You can also use this link to unsubscribe at any time:



To get in touch with us, call 1800 039 600 or email AGLCommunity@agl.com.au

Christo van Niekerk, General Manager, AGL Loy Yang

July 2023

Community Fund reopens in September

AGL Loy Yang's Community Fund will again be open for applications in early September 2023.

The fund is part of our commitment to support our local communities in the Latrobe Valley.

Through our involvement in and support of community organisations, initiatives, projects and events, we aim to deliver community wide benefits, encourage innovation in and support for issues of community significance, and build and maintain strong relationships throughout the communities in which we operate.

We encourage organisations in the Latrobe City local government area to apply. This area stretches from Moe in the west to Rosedale in the east, and from Cowwarr to the north and Mirboo in the south.

So far this year, examples of our partnerships have included working with the Flynn community to stage its annual ANZAC Day community lunch, and for the next three years we are supporting the City of Traralgon Band, assisting it with replacement, repair and renewal of instruments. Stay tuned to our Community News for more examples of the local organisations we support.

Our community investment priorities are:

Social Welfare

- Mental Health

- Family and Domestic Violence
- Support for the vulnerable
- School programs and childhood Learning
- Subsidised sport memberships

Economic Development

- Festival and Tourism Events
- Sporting Events

Environment

- Biodiversity
- Protection of wetlands and waterways

Diversity and Inclusion

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People
- LGBTQ+
- Cultural Diversity
- Gender Equity

For more detailed information on our community fund, and to apply, check out our website under the banner heading **AGL Community Fund Program**.



Traralgon City Band proudly supported by AGL Loy Yang playing to the public at the GPAC in Traralgon recently.



AGL Loy Yang have agreed to partner with the Morwell Rose Garden Festival for another three years 2023 - 2025.

July 2023

AGL targets offshore wind off Gippsland coast

AGL Energy recently announced a partnership with a consortium of global renewable energy companies to develop an offshore wind project off the Gippsland coast, in the first major step towards replacing AGL's coal assets with zero emission generation sources.

AGL has partnered with Mainstream Renewable Power, Reventus Power, and DIRECT Infrastructure, to seek a licence that will allow us to investigate the construction of an offshore wind farm in Bass Strait.

The location is within the first offshore wind zone to be declared in Australia. Declared in December 2022, it covers 15,000km² and is said to have the potential to generate more than 10GW and, of course, create thousands of jobs and provide local industry opportunities.

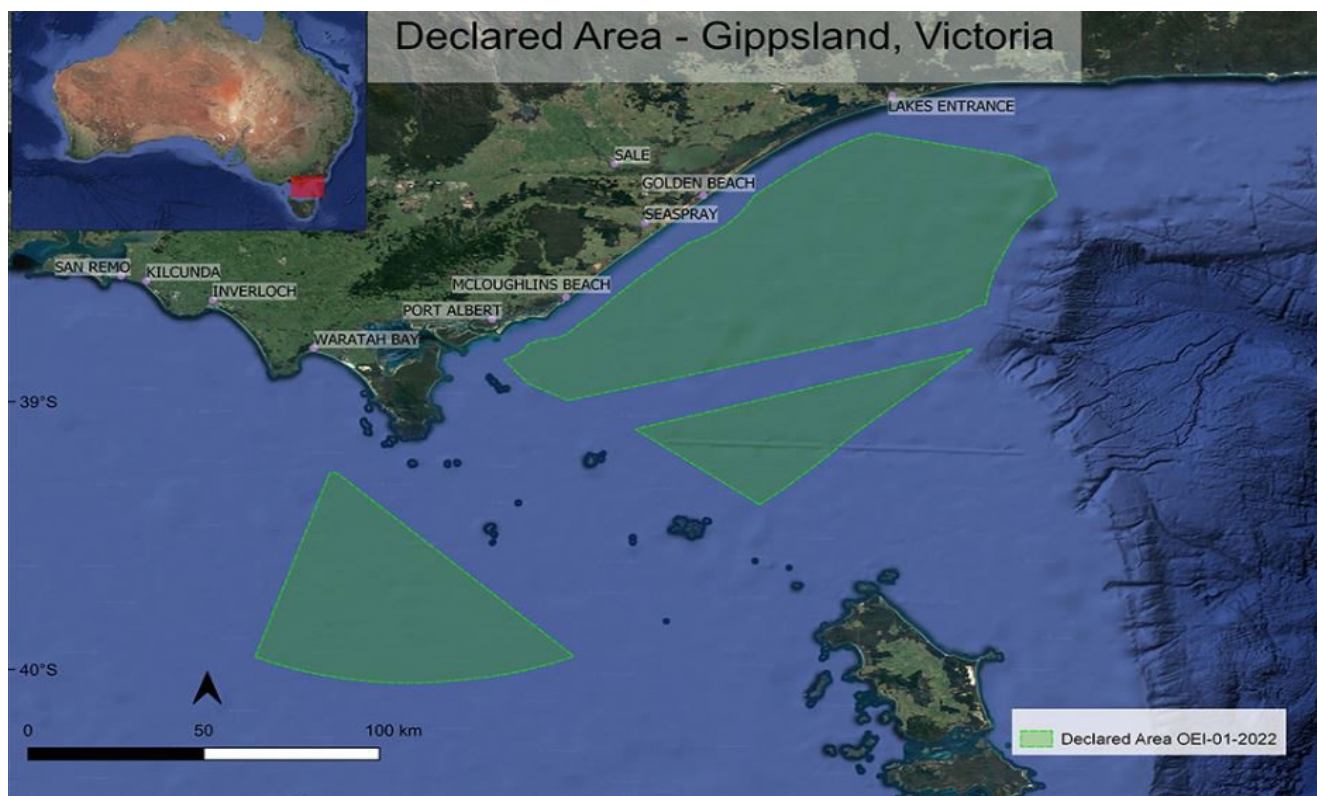
This license application is a step in AGL's responsible transition to the target 2035 exit from coal and to reaching the ambition of supplying an additional 12GW of renewable and firming capacity.

The Australian Government declared an area in the Bass Strait off Gippsland as suitable for offshore renewable energy in December 2022.

The declared area covers approximately 15,000 square kilometres, and runs from offshore of Lakes Entrance in the east, to south of Wilsons Promontory in the west.

The declaration followed consultation with existing industries including fishing, offshore oil and gas, other marine users, state and local government representatives, First Nations people and local communities.

This declaration will help enable Australia's energy transition towards renewable power and cleaner, cheaper and more secure energy. It will help Australia reach net zero by 2050.



July 2023



SRC joins the change to transform Loy Yang into a renewable Energy Hub

AGL Energy has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Solar Recovery Corporation (SRC) for a feasibility study into establishing a solar photovoltaic (PV) panel materials recovery facility in the Latrobe Valley as part of AGL's commitment to repurposing AGL Loy Yang into the Latrobe Valley Energy Hub.

SRC will be the first manufacturing supply chain focussed organisation to explore being part of the site transformation which also includes plans for AGL to install a grid-scale battery.

AGL believes that valuable materials reuse will be essential in the development of a circular economy and that the Latrobe Valley Energy Hub is an ideal site to explore this opportunity.

The feasibility study will look at establishing a facility to remanufacture end-of-life solar panels at AGL's Latrobe Valley Energy Hub. The study will also explore training and employment opportunities for the local community to build the new skillsets required for the energy and manufacturing industries of the future.

AGL will also recycle our end-of-life solar panels at the company's facilities as we work together to achieve a lower carbon future and build a circular economy.

AGL is committed to repurposing former thermal sites in the Hunter, Torrens Island and Latrobe Valley into industrial renewable energy hubs to support regional economic activity and create local employment opportunities.

July 2023

Partnership with Gippsland Aboriginal artist to mark NAIDOC Week 2023 For Our Elders

Note: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people should be aware that the projection depicts and image of a person who has since passed.

A portrait of a respected Gippsland Aboriginal rights activist was projected at AGL Loy Yang in honour of the 2023 NAIDOC Week theme, For Our Elders.

Artist Montana McStay, a Kurnai, Pitjatjantjara and Yuin woman born and raised on Gunaikurnai country in Gippsland, created a portrait of her Great Grandmother Nessie Skuta OAM, which was displayed onto a cooling tower each week during NAIDOC Week in July, visible from the Hyland Highway.

Aunty Nessie was a leading figure in the Aboriginal rights movement through her work in Gippsland advocating for Aboriginal people's housing rights and establishing an Aboriginal health service.

Inspired by her Great Grandmother's legacy, Montana is passionate about helping young Aboriginal people connect to their culture through art.

In the lead-up to NAIDOC Week 2023 celebrations, AGL Loy Yang delivered art workshops in partnership with Montana and Traralgon's Kosciuszko St Primary School.

Montana shared with the students the significance of symbolism used in some interpretations of Aboriginal art, encouraging the children to connect with their creativity and perception of culture.

Montana spent three months on country at Oodnadatta, South Australia, learning the Pitjatjantjara/Yankunytjatjara language, art and traditions on her ancestral country, working alongside elders, children and residents in their community, school, and health centre.

"Gaining knowledge about our way of life, family ties and how that is expressed put a fire in me to come back home and continue my nana's legacy," Montana said.

"In schools, I sit down and talk about who we are and our way of life. Art is also very much about our own story, you make a world of your own – use your imagination and put it down on canvas."



Left to right: Christo van Niekerk, General Manager AGL Loy Yang with Artist Montana McStay.



Loy Yang NAIDOC Week site celebration

About 100 attendees enjoyed our 2023 NAIDOC Week site event, where Gunaikurnai woman Michelle Dow conducted a smoking ceremony and Welcome to Country, representing Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Corporation (GLaWAC).

Attendees included AGL staff and contractors, Aboriginal artist Montana McStay and her family, staff and students from Traralgon's Kosciuszko St Primary School.

They listened to Montana and Michelle speak about the importance of elders in Aboriginal culture, aligned with the 2023 NAIDOC Week theme For Our Elders, and watched a short film about the advocacy and achievements of Aunty Nessie.

They enjoyed morning tea and toured the art created by Montana and the school students, where the students proudly explained the significance of their work.



July 2023



The spare stator lift on to the ship at Port of Melbourne and top right the stator positioned a board the lower deck of the ship, next to the generator rotor.

AGL Loy Yang completes \$92 million in generation reliability

We recently completed a significant maintenance program to increase reliability and efficiency of one of our power station generators.

Unit 1 is one of four generator units at the Loy Yang Power Station. The Unit 1 generator was out of service for more than two months undergoing maintenance works and upgrades. The outage started in March and ended in May, and included critical asset integrity assessments, major repairs and replacements.

There were approximately 750 contractors on site working on the outage.

A key element of the outage was the refurbishment of the generator stator in Unit 1. The 255-tonne stator was lifted from its foundation last week and replaced with a spare stator. The stator took a road journey via super-load to Port of Melbourne, before being shipped to Germany for an overhaul. The refurbished stator will return to Loy Yang in late 2024 and will then become the spare.

Supporting the best juniors in the world

This year marked our 30-year partnership with the Traralgon Junior Tennis International.

The 2023 AGL Loy Yang Traralgon Junior International, held in January, again showcased the world's best junior tennis players.

The tournament is a significant feature on the global junior tennis circuit as a Grade 1 Tennis Federation Event, and previous junior competitors have included Ash Barty, Nick Kyrgios and Roger Federer.

AGL Loy Yang has been involved in the tournament since it began 30 years ago, and General Manager Christo van Niekerk said the event is an important community partnership.

"The tournament not only supports the local community and economy by putting Traralgon on the map for some of the world's junior tennis stars but provides an opportunity for AGL workers to volunteer and give back to the local community," he said.

This year's tournament continued the tradition of showcasing the talents of high-calibre youngsters on the rise, with girls' doubles winners at Traralgon, Russian pair Mirra Andreeva (also girls' singles runner-up) and Alie Korneeva, later facing off for the girls' singles title at the Australian Open.



Christo van Niekerk with girls' singles runner-up Mirra Andreeva (left) and with boys' singles winner Frederico Cina.

Supporting Phoebe to reach her nursing goals and help community



AGL Jungarra Wannik Scholarship recipient Phoebe Warren balances study with raising young children Ellie and Ryland.

This year's recipient of the AGL Jungarra Wannik Scholarship is a young East Gippsland woman and mother who wants to make a difference in her community and deliver equitable healthcare through nursing practise.

AGL Loy Yang has provided the scholarship for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student undertaking studies in a STEAM course at the Gippsland campus of Federation University since 2020, valued at \$4000.

This year's recipients, Phoebe Warren, said the scholarship would be instrumental in helping her reach her study and career goals, while also assisting the community more broadly as a nurse, and raising her two young children.

"I am so appreciative of the support provided by AGL in the form their scholarship," she said. "This offers me so much more flexibility in my nursing degree, while supporting my family.

"Nursing staff are so important in delivering equitable healthcare, however, as students we aren't paid for the 800 hours of placement we have to do to meet registration requirements.

"The cost of accessing this degree is far more than just course fees, it's time off work, and often additional travel, fuel and accommodation costs to perform these placement hours. Every little bit makes such a difference, and that helps us make a difference within our community.

"Thankyou so much for the generosity and support."

Community Forum

More than 50 members of the community and representatives of stakeholders attended the annual AGL Loy Yang Community Forum held in March at the Morwell Innovation Centre.

AGL Loy Yang's leaders presented on topics including an overview of current operations, power generation, mining, the environment and AGL's vision for a Latrobe Valley Energy Hub.

The event was facilitated by Darren McCubbin, CEO of the Gippsland Climate Change Network.

A survey of those who attended reflected the below:

- How well do you think AGL Loy Yang supports the community?
 - 90% good to very good
- How concerned are you about the local power industry's environmental record?
 - 63% not overly concerned or not concerned at all
 - 21% concerned to very concerned
 - 16% neutral
- How much do you trust AGL Loy Yang to respectfully transition away from coal fired generation?
 - 90% trust to strong trust



AGL's Head of Energy Hubs Chris Reynolds spoke about AGL's vision for the Latrobe Valley Low Carbon Energy Hub at our community forum.

Rainbows shine for the AGL Loy Yang NGFL Pride Cup

AGL Loy Yang proudly supported the 8th iteration of the AGL North Gippsland Football League Pride Cup.



Above: Alvan Nair presenting the Pride Cup to Mick Clapton, President of Sale City Football Netball Club.

This year's matches were played between Sale City and Heyfield football and netball clubs.

The Pride Cup celebrates LGBTQ+ communities with a focus on changing sporting culture to make LGBTQ+ people feel safe, welcome and accepted.

Christo van Niekerk said the Pride Cup aligns strongly with AGL's core values Be Safe. Be Supportive.

"We've been involved with this for the last eight years; it's really reflective of the culture that we would want in our business as we also celebrate diversity and inclusion in an organisation that's close to our hearts," he said.

The event was held at Sale City Football and Netball Club's home facilities with football and netball teams showing strong competition for the coveted cup.

Sale City walked away victorious on the day and claimed The Pride Cup.

The NGFL Pride Cup concept is part a broader schedule of Pride Cup sporting contests held across Australia each year which supports the LGBTQ+ community and celebrate diversity and inclusion.



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Supporting Latrobe Valley kids' mental health

AGL Loy Yang and Mindfull Aus have joined forces to help build children's resilience as they experience emotions, partnering to run the Heathier Hearts and Lighter Minds program in primary schools across the Latrobe Valley.

Healthier Hearts and Lighter Minds is a proactive approach to learning about the beauty of the brain and the understanding of the strength we have within ourselves.

Mindfull Aus founder and Gippsland man Matt Runnalls has been running the program since 2017, and the Loy Yang partnership will now facilitate the program being run in more schools, broadening the positive impacts for Latrobe Valley children.

Matt is a mental health advocate for creating awareness, acceptance, and education. Having lived with a mental illness, surviving suicide attempts, and losing several friends to suicide, Matt utilises his knowledge of lived experience to encourage others to feel comfortable to speak up and manage their well-being just as he continues to do.

Mindfull Aus works with children as young as four in kindergartens, primary schools and school holiday programs to facilitate fun, energetic and relatable content in ways that can help shift the narrative about talking about emotions and feelings.

Another aspect of the partnership with Mindfull will include further proactive mental health wellness workshops on site in coming months.

The tailored workshops are designed to help Loy Yang employees improve their physical, mental and emotional wellbeing. The workshops will be arranged for groups across site, and participation opportunities will be circulated.

Workshop outcomes will include:

- Understanding the mind through a relatable and realistic view
- Putting your wellness back in your hands with a self-disciplined holistic approach
- Research to support the way we get back to living a healthy, fulfilling life



Big blokes' BBQ a roaring success

The Latrobe Biggest Ever Blokes' BBQ event proved to be a great success, with in excess of 400 patrons attending and profits exceeding \$100,000.

AGL Loy Yang's contribution as a Patron Sponsor for the event was a key contributor to this outcome with the supply of two major auction items:

- A Ride on Lawn Mower
- Heavy-Duty Tandem Trailer

Organiser Ian Nethercote said Loy Yang's contribution of auction items and raffle prizes was a key element of the event's success.

"Both items attracted significant attention in the lead up to the auction followed by an active bidding frenzy for these very attractive and sought after items.

"A large 65" TV that was also supplied by AGL Loy Yang was used as the First Prize item for the raffle.

"The committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to the Loy Yang team for the active support that you have afforded this very worthwhile event, not only for 2023 but for the earlier years as well.

"The money raised will be used to further various research activities and projects that provide benefits to our local people and communities."



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