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Geni.Energy Submission to the Narrabri Renewable Energy Hub Development Application

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Our region requires an active and planned transition as fossil fuels are phased out of our global system. At a local level this is an opportunity for people and communities to generate their own electricity, store it and utilise it locally. It's also an opportunity for flexible response to the needs of the electricity grid and an opportunity to create new business opportunities from this rapidly changing sector.

To achieve this we need skilled workers who can plan, build and operate renewable energy projects at all different scales. We need different business models that solve different problems and financially reward people and businesses for solving these problems.

The Narrabri Renewable Energy Hub offers a demonstration site for solar and battery at a community scale. This is a scale that people understand, connect with and a scale that many people and businesses can participate directly in. The Hub shows people how solar works, and it shows people how batteries can support the grid and play a crucial role. It also shows people how their own home or business solar and batteries can also help support the grid.

Geni.Energy is pleased to provide this submission in support of the Narrabri Renewable Hub Development Application. Geni.Energy will install and operate the community battery that is an important part of the Hub. This battery is supported by a grant from the federal department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water that Geni.Energy has secured. The battery will support local people who may provide their excess day time solar generation to the grid, and have it available to them in the evening.

Narrabri Shire Council has committed to preparing a Renewable Energy Action Plan and the development of this Renewable Energy Hub is one part of this Plan. NSC itself uses over 3MWh per year of electricity and the businesses of Narrabri Shire are the highest average business consumers of electricity in the Essential Energy network at nearly 300kWh per day each.

This project will help offset some of Council's electricity consumption with renewable solar energy generated from the carpark roof.

Narrabri Shire also has the highest rates of rooftop solar in the network as well, with 44% of residential roofs with solar. On average Narrabri solar homes export 10kWh per day. The community battery will help to store some of this excess generated electricity during the day, providing it back in the evenings.

Narrabri LGA creates over 1.5 million tonnes of CO₂-e per annum, with about 10% of those emissions coming from electricity consumption across residents and businesses.

This project will help provide a visible demonstration of how solar and batteries can help bring down emissions and bring down costs of electricity and help the grid move to full renewables.



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The hub will be a central community focal point for gatherings, markets and parking. It will be aesthetically pleasing, welcoming and functional. The community battery will help connect people with their electricity use and generation, helping them make choices about the energy consumption to help support the grid.

We look forward to collaborating with Narrabri Shire Council in the delivery of the Narrabri Renewable Energy Hub, and in particular, in the delivery of the community battery.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sally Hunter', written in a cursive style.

Sally Hunter
Managing Director, Geni.Energy