MADCA
Connecting community

Mapleton and District Community Association
P.O. Box 381
Mapleton, 4560
madca.inc@gmail.com
www.madca.com.au

Community Energy Project - Expression of Interest

MADCA is exploring a possible community energy project in collaboration with Ezi Power and Virtual Watt, supporting households and small businesses across the Range and Hinterland.

The aim is to investigate whether a locally focused energy program could:

- **For households with solar panels or batteries:**
  Help participants receive greater value from the energy they produce, store or export, by coordinating when their battery charges or discharges to take advantage of market conditions, rather than exporting all surplus power at low feed-in tariff rates.
- **For households without solar panels or batteries (including renters):**
  Provide access to a specially designed electricity plan that could potentially deliver lower electricity costs compared with standard retail offers, subject to the pilot results.
- **For the local community:**
  Make better use of local renewable energy, reduce peak demand on the network and test whether a community-oriented energy model could work in practice.

These potential benefits need to be tested through data analysis and a pilot. **Nothing has been guaranteed or decided at this stage.**

What is being explored?

MADCA is looking to work with Ezi Power and Virtual Watt on a possible community energy project involving households and small businesses across the Range and Hinterland. At this stage, MADCA is seeking expressions of interest from up to 40–50 households and businesses to help build a representative picture of local energy use and assess whether a community energy pilot could work.

We particularly need to hear from:

- **Households without solar panels or batteries, including renters.**
- Households with solar panels and/or batteries.
- Households with electric vehicles or pool heaters.
- People who may be interested in buying electricity under a future community-related plan.
- People who may be interested in contributing solar generation or battery capacity.

A possible live pilot may involve a smaller group selected from those expressing interest. Its size and composition will depend on the modelling, the balance between contributors and consumers, equipment compatibility and the final pilot design.

Under the current concept:

- Contributors with solar panels and/or batteries could potentially receive greater value from the energy they generate, store or export by making their systems available to a coordinated Virtual Power Plant (VPP). The benefit could take the form of payments, credits or reduced bills, but the details have not yet been determined.

Mapleton and District Community Association Inc. ABN: 76334939524. Version 040926

- Consumers without solar panels or batteries could potentially access a specially designed Ezi Power electricity plan intended to provide lower electricity costs. The exact prices, discounts and contract terms have not yet been determined.

The purpose of the initial modelling is to test whether these potential benefits can be achieved in practice. No particular saving, payment or retail offer is guaranteed.

This expression of interest is not a commitment

Registering your interest does **not** mean that you are:

- Joining a pilot.
- Changing electricity retailer.
- Signing an electricity contract.
- Agreeing to install equipment.
- Agreeing to allow control of a battery or solar system.
- Agreeing to share electricity-use data.
- Promising to participate in the future.

Any live pilot would require further information, separate written terms and your explicit consent.

Your details

Name:

Email address:

Phone number:

Suburb or locality:

Are you registering as a:

☐ Household

☐ Small business

☐ Both

☐ Other:

Your energy situation

This information will help MADCA understand the range of households interested in the project.

Which of the following apply to your household or business?

☐ Rooftop solar panels
☐ Home battery
☐ Electric vehicle
☐ None of the above
☐ Prefer not to say

How would you describe your possible interest?

☐ I may be interested in buying electricity under a future community-related plan.
☐ I may be interested in contributing solar generation or battery capacity.
☐ I may be interested in either or both options.
☐ I am not sure yet.

Do you have a smart meter?

A smart meter is a digital electricity meter that records electricity use at regular intervals. It may be required for some future electricity plans or for the modelling process.

You do not need to know the answer to register your interest. If you are unsure, check your electricity bill or contact your electricity retailer.

In the Energex area, new and replacement residential and small-business meters have generally been required to be Type 4 smart meters since 1 December 2017, although older meters may still remain in service.

☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Unsure
☐ Prefer not to say

How would you like to be involved?

Keep me informed

☐ Please keep me informed about the proposed community energy pilot and future information sessions.

You can unsubscribe or ask MADCA to remove your details from the update list at any time.

Consider providing data for modelling

A feasibility study may require information about household electricity use, solar generation, battery operation or electric-vehicle charging. This would help determine whether the proposed project could work and what mix of households might be required.

At this stage, we are only asking whether you would be willing to consider providing information later.

☐ I would be willing to consider providing electricity-use data for modelling, subject to receiving and accepting the provider's privacy information and consent form.

☐ I would like more information before deciding.

☐ I am not interested in providing data.

No electricity bill, NMI or interval meter data needs to be attached to this form.

What happens after you register?

Please email or send the completed form to MADCA:

Email: madca.inc@gmail.com
Post: MADCA, P.O. Box 381, Mapleton QLD 4560

Once MADCA receives your form:

- We will add you to the update list if you have asked to be kept informed.
- If you have indicated that you may be willing to provide data, we will send you further information before any data is requested.
- MADCA may contact you about future information sessions or the next stage of the investigation.
- You will not be committed to joining a pilot or changing electricity retailer.

Privacy

MADCA collects the information on this form to:

- Gauge local interest in the proposed project.
- Keep interested residents informed.
- Understand the mix of households and businesses that may be interested.
- Identify people who may be willing to consider providing data for modelling.

MADCA will not collect electricity bills, interval data, NMI details or retailer information through this form.

With your permission, MADCA may pass your contact details to Ezi Power or Virtual Watt so they can provide information about the proposed modelling or pilot. Your information will not be sold or used for unrelated marketing.

If you later decide to provide electricity or household energy data, that will be handled under a separate provider privacy statement and consent process. You may choose not to proceed.

For privacy questions or to withdraw your details, contact **madca.inc@gmail.com**.

Declaration

By submitting this form, I understand that:

- This is an expression of interest only.
- MADCA is investigating the proposal in collaboration with Ezi Power and Virtual Watt.
- No pilot, price, saving or retail arrangement has yet been guaranteed.
- Registering does not commit me to joining a pilot, changing retailer, signing a contract or sharing data.
- Any future pilot participation will require separate information and consent.

Signature:

Date:

For more information about this project see MADCA's website: www.madca.com.au or contact madca.inc@gmail.com.