

Wednesday 27 January 2010

\$15,000 community funding up for grabs in Macedon Ranges

Macedon Ranges' natural gas distributor SP AusNet is pleased to announce applications are now open for its \$15,000 Community Development Fund.

SP AusNet Gas Operations Support Manager Rob McDougall said all Macedon Ranges community groups were invited to apply for the Community Development Fund, with the aim of providing local groups the opportunity to realise their grassroots community project ideas.

"SP AusNet is committed to building stronger relationships with the communities in which it operates, as demonstrated through the establishment of this fund," Mr McDougall said.

"Community groups can receive up to a maximum of \$5,000 for their project, with a total of \$15,000 available overall, which is dedicated to be spent in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

"We ask all groups to think about how this fund can be best used to support projects that are community-driven and led," Mr McDougall said.

SP AusNet's Community Development Fund is now open, with applications due by Sunday 28 February 2010.

Entries will be assessed according to selection criteria by a committee made up of SP AusNet and Macedon Ranges Shire Council representatives. The selection criteria are published on SP AusNet's website at <http://www.sp-ausnet.com.au>.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor, Cr Rob Guthrie said he was pleased to be able to partner with SP AusNet on the fund, which will greatly benefit the Macedon Ranges community.

"In these challenging financial times, SP AusNet's generous fund provides a great opportunity for our local groups to receive some much-deserved funds," Cr Guthrie said.

"We're also very pleased that Macedon Ranges Shire Council representatives are on the committee and will therefore be involved in the selection of fund recipients," Cr Guthrie said.

Fund recipients for SP AusNet's Community Development Fund will be announced in late March.

This is the first time SP AusNet has offered its Community Development Fund to community groups located within its gas distribution network, located in western Victoria.

The application form and further information is now available at Macedon Ranges Shire Council offices in Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend or applicants can download a copy from SP AusNet's website at <http://www.sp-ausnet.com.au>.

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