



## Opportunity for local community energy groups to promote to wide audience

- What:** The opportunity to present a two-minute overview of your local community renewable energy or energy efficiency project
- Who:** Representatives of local community energy groups attending the 2014 North Coast Energy Forum
- When:** 2014 North Coast Energy Forum,  
27 October 2014  
9am – 5pm
- Where:** Cabarita Beach Bowls & Sports Club  
Cabarita Road, Bogangar NSW
- How:** Speak to Forum audience to highlight the four topics in table below

<b>Who are we</b>
Sharyn Hunnisett, Environmental Strategies Officer ,Lismore City Council
<b>Where are we</b>
Lismore
<b>What we are doing</b>
<p>In partnership with the 'Farming the Sun' project, we are planning to establish a community solar farm in Lismore at 2 Council sites.</p> <p>'Farming the Sun' will result in renewable energy production by the Lismore community. The basic model is that a business or council provides the 'farm' (roof space, or land) and the community group of investors either <i>install a solar system and becomes the energy provider, or provide the capital to loan the host install the solar farm.</i></p> <p>It is led by Starfish Initiatives, a charity working in collaboration with professionals &amp; partners.</p> <p><b>The host benefits include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More affordable solar energy</li> <li>• Showcase model</li> </ul>



North Coast Energy Forum  
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**Investor benefits include:**

- Return on investment better than bank at around 7%

The overall benefit community engagement and support of local industries.

The most important point for a host is that **they need to value more than the bottom line, they need to value leveraging the bigger community opportunity.** *their core purpose & business benefit is from community engagement* – And I'm proud to say that Lismore Council did value more than the bottom line and this project is listed in our Community Strategic Plan.

The project has taken much longer than anticipated due to spatial constraints on our key site, and the fact that much of the work has been done on a voluntary or pro-bono basis. The feasibility assessment is now complete and we are preparing to present a report to Council in December to proceed with finalising the business model.

**What we want from you**

From this point on Farming the Sun Project is in need of partners (like a local pro-bono accountant), supporters (helping us promote the project) and investors (local residents and businesses).

Anyone interested can subscribe to the email news via [www.farmingthesun.net](http://www.farmingthesun.net).

**What:**

- The entire presentation must not exceed 2 minutes
- Email the completed table to [admin@ncef.net.au](mailto:admin@ncef.net.au) to confirm
- Provide contact details
- Any questions, [admin@ncef.net.au](mailto:admin@ncef.net.au) or phone 0438 905 825
- Attend NCEF/purchase ticket (early bird community price)