Appendix

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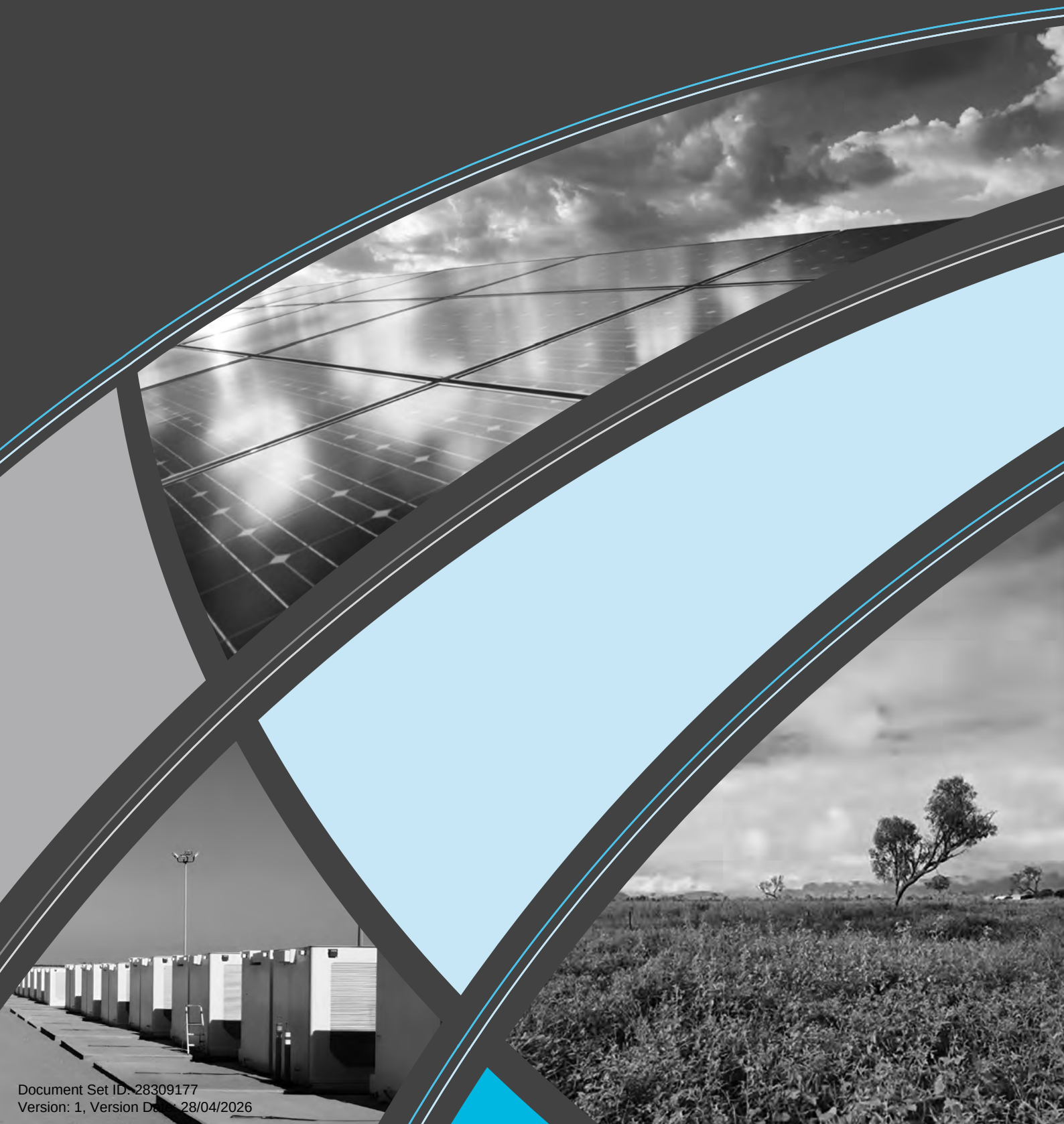
Community consultation materials



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Supporting the community

We are committed to making long-lasting, tangible contributions to the Woodstock and Townsville communities across the life of our projects.

Our proposed Community Partnership Program

- ✓ Developed in partnership with the community to reflect local views
- ✓ Makes long-lasting investments in community infrastructure
- ✓ Supports community events and initiatives
- ✓ Provides training and development opportunities through traineeships, apprenticeships and scholarships
- ✓ Provides local procurement opportunities

Proposed benefits across ...

- Community enhancement
- Health and wellbeing
- Environment
- Reconciliation
- Education and skills

We'd like your input and ideas to guide our proposed Community Partnership Program and Neighbour Program

Our proposed Neighbour Program

- ✓ Developed in consultation with our neighbours to reflect their needs and preferences
- ✓ Shares benefits with people who live within an identified catchment near our projects
- ✓ Linked to the property and shared with property owners
- ✓ Respects the privacy of individuals
- ✓ Voluntary

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Building North Queensland's quartz to silicon supply chain

We are proposing to develop and operate a series of projects in Townsville City Council's Lansdown Eco-Industrial Precinct.

These projects are proposed to be delivered in stages and will be subject to planning and approvals. Stage 1 planning involves a Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Biochar Plant. The next stage is proposed to involve a Metallurgical Silicon Production Facility. These projects are subject to further planning and approvals.

A **Biochar Plant** to generate biochar from sustainably sourced plantation and waste wood. Traditional silicon refining generally relies on imported low-ash coal (local Australian coal is not suitable) as a carbon source. Our biochar will replace these carbon-intensive materials in the refining process. This means:

Cleaner production: Less pollution and greenhouse gas emissions from manufacturing

Local benefits: Supporting Queensland's forestry and agricultural industries by creating a market for locally grown wood

Environmental impact: Converting local forestry and agricultural waste into valuable products

A **BESS, Supernode North,** to store and dispatch renewable energy from nearby solar farms.

- Efficient and reliable renewable energy storage
- Stores up to 6000 MWh of energy from the grid, including surplus power from rooftop solar
- Will operate for about 30 years
- Powers both the proposed future Silicon Production Facility and the electricity network

Metallurgical Silicon Production Facility

The proposed production facility will use Queensland's minerals and renewable energy to build a resilient, ethical and sustainable Australia-made supply chain. The facility is proposed to be designed to produce and use sustainably sourced plantation wood chips and charcoal to convert Queensland-mined quartz into metallurgical silicon. This silicon would be used to make a range of solar power products. This facility would include a smelter, like the type used in the iron and steel industry.

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Project update – July 2025

Planning and consultation status

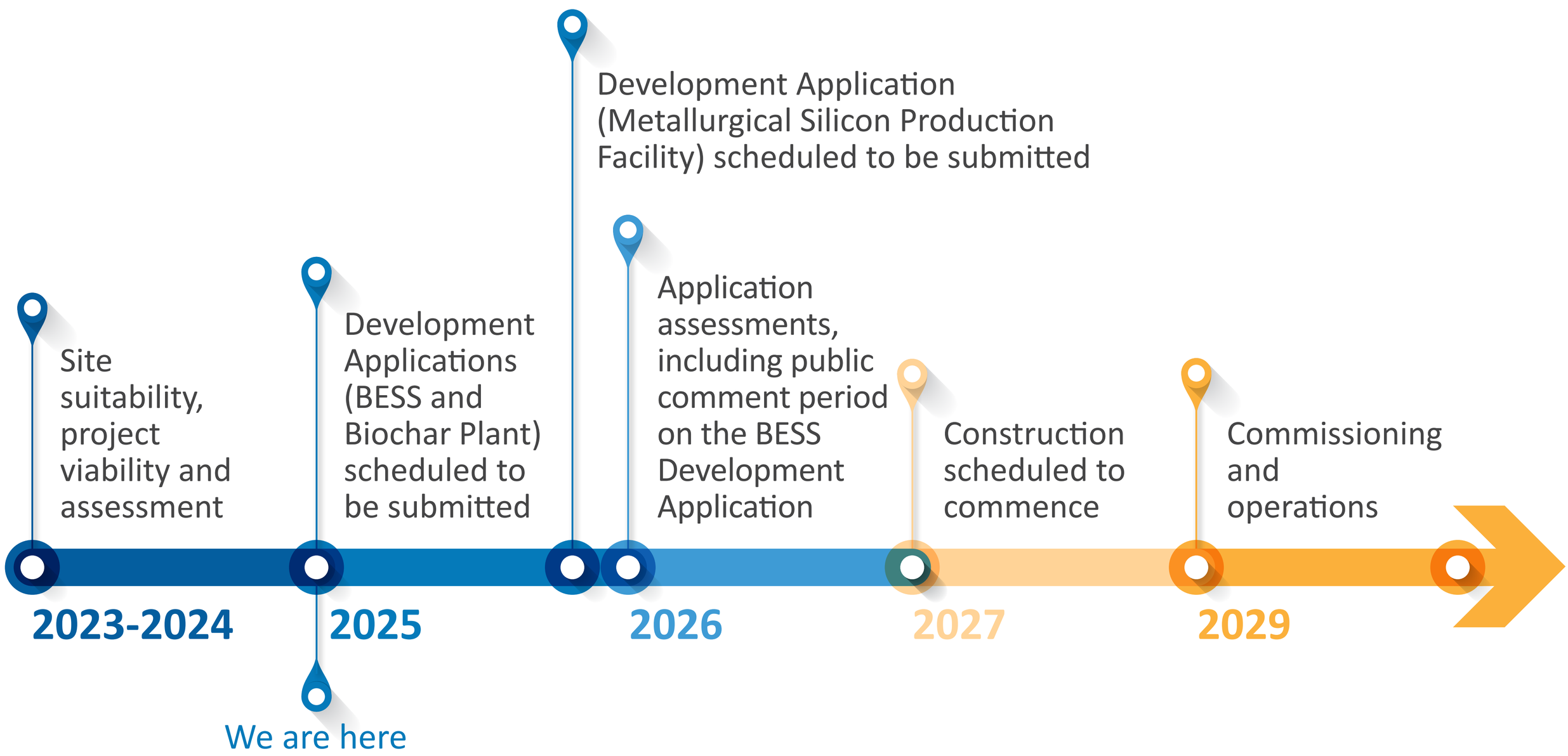
We expect to lodge the Development Applications for the BESS and Biochar Plant shortly. We'd like your feedback on the projects to finalise these applications, noting there will be further opportunities to provide feedback on the BESS during a public notice period.

There will be more opportunities to provide feedback as planning progresses for other project elements within the site.

Environmental and site investigation update

Environmental surveys have been completed to develop a draft Environmental Report required under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* 1999. We expect to submit the report in late 2025/early 2026 and a public comment will follow. Other preliminary technical assessments may be intermittently undertaken on site to progress project planning.

Project timeline - Stage 1



There will be opportunities for community feedback throughout the project planning period.

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Help shape the project

We are seeking feedback from neighbours and the broader community to help inform our project planning.

We're here to listen to your views about

- what matters to you and your community
- how our projects can benefit the local area
- the potential impacts you are concerned about and how you'd like to see these managed
- anything else you think we need to know as we progress our planning.

We will continue to consult with you and keep you informed as planning progresses.

Need more information?

To learn more about the projects, scan the QR code to visit our website, solquartz.com.au

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Managing environmental and social impacts

We are committed to minimising construction and operation impacts on neighbours and the broader community. We want your feedback to help inform mitigation measures (where possible).

The potential impacts and proposed management of environmental and social aspects of the development (during construction and operation) have been assessed against legislative requirements.

The layouts consider these requirements and best practice guidelines and where required, mitigation measures will be put in place to satisfy these requirements.

Assessments have been undertaken to understand the impact on:

- Noise
- Visual amenity
- Air quality
- Traffic, road conditions and access
- Water
- Cultural Heritage
- Surface water, flood, erosion and sediment control
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Weed and pest management
- Fire emergency and incident preparedness
- Operation and maintenance.

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Our Community Partnership Programs

Our Community Partnership Programs share project benefits with the communities where our projects are located.

Each program is developed in partnership with the local community so benefits reflect the views and aspirations of local people.

Our place-based programs are regularly reviewed so they remain current, offering long-lasting benefits to meet the needs of local communities across the life of our projects.

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Supporting the community

We propose two types of community investment for the life of our projects – a Community Partnership Program and a Neighbour Program. Generally, we allocate an annual value to each program.

For example, for Battery Energy Storage System projects, we allocate up to $500/megawatt (MW) per year* to the Community Partnership Program from the start of construction and throughout operation and decommissioning.

Separately, we consult with our site neighbours to develop a Neighbour Program (see our Neighbour Program Fact Sheet for more information).

*These figures were calculated using industry standards. They will be reviewed and amended according to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and any Queensland Government policy or good practice directions.

Our proposed Community Partnership Program

We have developed general principles to guide consultation for each of our local Community Partnership Programs. We ask the community to comment on these proposed principles so the final program reflects the preferences of the communities surrounding our projects.

BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY

We propose community partnerships focus on delivering benefits in the following areas:

Community enhancement
To strengthen local economic opportunities and liveability for a broad cross section of the community.

Health and wellbeing
To contribute to a healthier, happier local community.

Environment
To help maintain and protect the natural environment.

Reconciliation
To develop initiatives in consultation with local Traditional Owners.

Education and skills
To increase the knowledge and skills of local people, encouraging them to participate in local industry.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

We propose supporting events, initiatives, and training and development opportunities that:

- have a **measurable positive impact** in the community or environment
- are **inclusive and accessible** and do not discriminate against or disadvantage anyone
- support a **demonstrated need** within the community
- are **sustainable** and provide ongoing benefits to the community
- will be **delivered safely**.

PROGRAM STRUCTURE

We propose a flexible program with different types of community partnerships including:

- **one-off, long-lasting community investments** for infrastructure or initiatives such as a communication tower, playground and exercise equipment in parks, community programs and upgrades to community-funded facilities
- **bi-annual funding** for community events and initiatives such as the local rodeo, sporting programs and activities that boost the visitor economy
- **training and development opportunities** to increase local skills through school-based and adult traineeships, scholarships and apprenticeships.

ASSESSING PARTNERSHIP ELIGIBILITY

We propose the community has a say in assessing partnership applications. One way of doing this is to form a **Community Reference Group (CRG)**, with representatives from a broad cross section of the community. The CRG might also provide feedback to us about our projects throughout construction, operation and decommissioning.

If the community supports this idea, we will call for expressions of interest for CRG membership and, once formed, the group will develop Terms of Reference to outline how the CRG will operate, including its purpose, membership duration and meeting frequency.

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Want to share your ideas?

There is no single approach for delivering a Community Partnership Program and that is why we seek community input into each of our local programs.
If you have ideas about how we can add value to the community, would like to be consulted when we develop our program in your area, or want to be kept up to date about our projects, please email info@solquartz.com.au or call us on 1800 975 039.

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