



# SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

10<sup>th</sup> August 2006

## State Government Supports Community Wind Park

**Yesterday we received fantastic news – the State Government has approved a grant of nearly \$1 million to support the Hepburn Community Wind Park!**

***Congratulations to you !***

This is a really important milestone and is a great boost for the project. A lot of hard work has been put in by everyone and particular thanks goes to Future Energy who has worked for 18 months pursuing this grant.

**However most importantly, we thank each of you for joining HREA, giving your support and believing in the vision.**

Our role is to help the community determine and study whether it wants a community owned wind park in its back yard. This news is amazing but we must remember it is only one step in the process. We must lodge a planning application to Council soon and allow the community and Council to decide. Therefore, your continued support is very important and much appreciated.

We believe this project is vital to taking responsibility for our own energy needs and reducing our greenhouse footprint. As you know, we believe it is one step amongst many that we will need to take. We see this project as a great way to help us with other initiatives, in particular, encouraging the reduction of energy use throughout our community.

**We were very keen to share this good news with our members first. We will announce the news to the wider community in the Daylesford Advocate next week.**

The actual grant of \$975,000 will be made available through the Renewable Energy Support Fund which is managed by Sustainability Victoria. It is to help with the development of the project, the establishment of the Co-operative, the fund raising and, finally, the construction of the Wind Park. Of course there is a lot of work to be done by us and Future Energy to reach the required milestones for the grant to be paid.

We will continue to work hard on the project and keep you informed of our progress.

Congratulations

***Per Bernard***  
President