



Murrumbidgee COUNCIL

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MEDIA RELEASE

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BIG OPPORTUNITIES FOR SMALL BUSINESS

Small businesses in the Murrumbidgee Council area and beyond are set to be the big winners when construction of large-scale solar farms gets underway.

The start of construction expected in early 2018 in Coleambally, signals promising prospects for business in the region.

To help local tradies and suppliers find out what this work will mean for them, Council, in conjunction with Industry Capability Network and Office of Environment and Heritage, will host a networking session *Big Opportunities for Small Business*.

The event outlining Coleambally opportunities and others arising throughout the region, will be held at the **Coleambally Community Hall in Kingfisher Avenue on Thursday 30 November from 4.30pm to 6.30pm.**

Please RSVP to Economic, Tourism and Community Development Manager Gerrie Carr-MacFie on (03) 5886 1200 or email gerriec@murrumbidgee.nsw.gov.au

Opportunities to supply developers of larger-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) farms in the Coleambally and Riverina region will be outlined.

Some of these opportunities include:

- Accommodation for Workers
- Suppliers of Demountables: Offices/Sleeping Quarters/Site Toilets
- Food & Beverage Suppliers
- Hotel and Sport Club Operators
- Transport Providers
- Labour Hire Firms
- Heavy Equipment Operators/Hirers

Mayor Ruth McRae is urging all local businesses to take advantage of this golden opportunity.

"This is an excellent opportunity for some of our small businesses and I urge them to attend this event so they can find out more," she said.

"Our community will benefit from these projects now and into the future.

"This will help put our small businesses in touch with these developers ensuring they have the chance to be involved."

In a major boon for towns in the Murrumbidgee Council area, developer Neoen is building a solar farm in Coleambally, with around 560,000 solar panels to be installed on 550 hectares of land.

The project is expected to create around 300 jobs during the construction phase, with a further seven ongoing operational roles to be filled once construction is finished. Construction is expected to start early 2018.

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