

My name is Elizabeth Rich and I have been working as the Site Administrator at Bodangora Wind Farm since February 2018.

Previously I had worked for Wellington Council, but due to the amalgamation with Dubbo Council my position no longer existed and even with employment protection I decided to look for employment elsewhere. Luckily for me the construction of Bodangora Wind Farm had commenced, and an opportunity became available with General Electric as the Site Administrator. My position started as a contract position with the projects team and became a permanent position with the services team in November 2018. I am very fortunate in that my permanent position provides me the opportunity to work flexible hours and helps me juggle life as a single working mum to two school aged boys.

I am a local to Wellington, the township closest to Bodangora Wind Farm, and I wholeheartedly believe in the positive outcomes provided by our wind farm.

During the project phase the work scope meant that a large portion of the commissioning team for my company General Electric were contingent workers who needed to be housed locally. The influx of the project workers was a huge economic benefit to the local business community. Our project team lived locally, which meant they shopped and ate locally and supported our town during a hard period when our farmers who are normally our main economic providers were doing it tough because of the drought.

There are also a number of local contractors who were engaged during the project phase that now have continued work contracts with our services team, including Micky D's cleaning, Wellington Plant Hire and Redfern Power Solutions.

Financially Bodangora Wind Farm have contributed substantially to a large number of not for profit community groups in the Wellington community. For myself personally, as a founding member of the Mt Arthur Challenge committee, we attribute the success of our event on the financial support provided by Infigen in our formative years. My boy's local soccer club has also received financial support in the way of three new sets of jerseys for the Under 6's, the GE Power Turbines and Infigen Blades and Under 8's GE Generators. But these are just two examples that have directly impacted my life. Knowing that the Community Benefit Fund is investing \$50,000 annually and have committed to do so for the next 25 years is huge for a town our size and we receive such nice feedback from the local sporting clubs and not for profits who reap the benefits from this contribution.

But for me, I think the thing I am most proud of about our windfarm is that of the 7 permanent positions, 5 of us are from Wellington. We grew up here, we know each other, we know our community and because of this we are a team committed to getting the most out of the opportunity for not only ourselves but for our town. Our children can now grow up here. They can grow up in our home town because we were able to secure meaningful work, with training opportunities and career growth. Being able to do that in your home town isn't something we take for granted.

Thank you for the opportunity to share my thoughts on the impacts Bodangora Wind Farm have had on myself and my community.