

BAROSSA ABORIGINAL FUTURE FUND

Funding Guidelines

Last Updated: September 2025

About

The Barossa Aboriginal Future Fund (BAFF) was established by the Barossa joint venture partners Santos, Prism Energy Australia and JERA Australia to ensure Aboriginal coastal communities in the Northern Territory benefit from Barossa LNG.

The BAFF regions include;

- Darwin / Daly / Wagait
- Tiwi Islands
- West Arnhem
- East Arnhem
- Victoria River District

Objective

The BAFFs purpose is to contribute positively to the NT Aboriginal coastal communities, with geographical connection to the Barossa LNG Operations.

The fund aims to deliver intergenerational progress for Aboriginal Territorians and enduring positive change that build's a better future for the next generation.

Funding Categories

To be eligible for funding programs or projects must have an enduring legacy by:

1. Improving community infrastructure
2. Improving services that improve health, education, housing, community resilience and economic outcomes
3. Enabling communities to maintain cultural practices and carry out cultural obligations
4. Enabling communities to care for their country
5. Building capacity to establish pathways to skilled, well-paying, secure jobs and business development opportunities.

Governance

The BAFF is established as a trust with an incorporated trustee, funded by the Barossa joint venture. Each joint venture partner has a representative on the board of the trustee (BAFF Board).

The BAFF Advisory Committee will provide input and recommendations on BAFF management and projects to the BAFF Board, as the decision-maker.

The BAFF Advisory Committee comprises twelve (12) representatives, appointed from the following organisations and regions:

- Aboriginal representative from each of the five (5) coastal regions
- Independent Aboriginal representative
- Santos Foundation
- Santos
- JERA Australia
- Prism Energy Australia
- Northern Territory Government
- Australian Federal Government

Application Considerations

All funding applications will be assessed by the BAFF Manager and the Advisory Committee, who will make recommendations to the BAFF Board for final approval.

Applications for funding must:

- A. Align with the BAFFs objectives within one or more on the Funding Categories, and
- B. Benefit the Northern Territory Coastal Aboriginal (NTCA) people from the 5 coastal regions

Additionally, consideration will be given to whether the application

- I. Demonstrates it is expected to deliver lasting and measurable community needs. For example:
 - Does it build local capability, employment and/or foster long-term resilience and reduce dependency.
 - How many Aboriginal people are expected to benefit, given the funding being requested
- II. Demonstrates it is feasible to implement. For example:
 - Does the project/program have the support of relevant local community organisations or decision makers: i.e. Aboriginal Elders/Traditional Owners, Board of Directors and/or Councils.
 - Are the appropriate legal frameworks in place, i.e. land tenure / ownership (for projects involving building and development); or owner's consent (for projects involving land not owned by the Applicant); and/or legal use (for projects requiring approvals e.g. Section 19)
 - Ability/capacity of the applicant to implement the proposed program.
 - Includes a detailed budget on how the funds will be spent.
- III. Expected outcomes are sustainable. For example:
 - Is funding available to sustain operation requirements including maintenance
 - Will the activity be appropriately governed, with financial and risk oversight
- IV. Are alternative sources of funding available
 - Generally, projects will not be considered for funding when, in the opinion of the Board, the community has another source of funding available (e.g. they are the operational responsibility of Federal, Northern Territory or Local government.)
 - However, applications that evoke greater investment through additional external co-funding, generate revenue or have other self-sustaining aspects are highly encouraged.
- V. Proximity of the proposed program, investment or grant recipient to the Barossa Project;

Funding Exclusions

In accordance with its obligations as a registered charitable fund, BAFF operates within specific funding guidelines (as outlined in its governing policies). As such, the following activities or items are ineligible for funding:

- Ex gratia payments or personal benefit payments to individuals that are at odds with the charitable purpose of BAFF.
- Funerals or travel to attend funerals.
- Alcohol-related organisations, or any organisation or business that sells or supplies alcohol.
- Activities that are inconsistent with charitable law or the objectives of BAFF.

Organisations Eligible for Funding

Organisations that may be eligible for a grant include:

- NTCA Aboriginal-led (i.e. a community-controlled entity that is initiated by, governed, and operated by Aboriginal people for the benefit of their communities).
- Not-for-profit organisations (including registered charities).
- Collaborative partnerships involving Aboriginal led organisations with other non-profit or public sector entities.

Organisations that operate for profit may only be eligible for consideration for funding if they are assessed to be aligned to the BAFF's charitable purpose, including whether the organisation can clearly demonstrate that the predominate outcome/s arising from the grant activities will directly benefit the communal interest of one or more NTCA community.

Examples of types of activity undertaken by profit making entities that may meet the BAFF's objectives include:

- Funding to develop general resources and information on starting or running a business, targeted at NTCA community members.
- Scholarships for NTCA community members for courses that develop business skills.
- Funding to provide workshops to NTCA community members to support learning and development of business skills.
- Funding for Indigenous business support services that are used for the establishment of the business.

Examples of types of profit-making business that may meet the BAFF's objectives include:

- Businesses that provide an essential service to NTCA Communities which is currently unavailable or inadequate.
- Businesses that have the potential for creating significant employment opportunities and broad economic outcomes for NTCA Communities.
- Businesses which have activities that are consistent with the BAFF's other purposes (for example, businesses that enable NTCA's to care for country).

Application Process

Stage 1: Expression of Interest (EOI)

Applicants should review these guidelines and confirm that their application purpose fits the criteria and objectives of the BAFF.

Submitting an EOI:

- The EOI Form is available from the BAFF Manager (see contact details below). The EOI document is to be used in its provided form and must not be altered, edited, or replaced with any organisational templates.
- Expressions of Interest should be submitted by email to the below address.

For further information, please contact the BAFF Manager at the email or number below. Please ensure all sections of the EOI form are completed and relevant attachments included, before submitting to the below email address.

Email: baff@santos.com

Enquiries: (08) 8919 1900

Assessment of EOIs

The process for assessing EOI is as follows:

- EOI is received by the BAFF Manager who will provide confirmation (via email) that the form has been received.
- Initial assessment is made by the BAFF Manager to ensure that the EOI has been completed correctly, meets criteria and may seek additional information if needed.
- EOI is then presented to the BAFF Advisory Committee at the quarterly meeting.
- If the Advisory Committee, BAFF Manager and BAFF Board recommend the project, it will proceed to Stage 2.
- BAFF Manager notifies applicant of success in proceeding to Stage 2 - Application, providing them with an Application Form and advice where needed.
- If EOI is **not** recommended to progress to Stage 2, applicant will be notified (with justification) as soon as possible.

Stage 2: Application

Once applicants have been advised by the BAFF Manager their EOI has been recommended to progress to application stage they will receive the Application Form to complete.

- Applications may only be made in writing, using the Application form template, with completed applications being submitted by email.
- Applications should be succinct and answer each question and submit copies of relevant documentation with the application form. You may provide additional information to support your submission if you wish to. i.e. videos, images etc.

Application Submission

The BAFF Application Form and supporting documentation should be submitted via email to: baff@santos.com

The process for assessing BAFF Applications is as follows:

- Application is received by the BAFF Manager who will provide confirmation (via email) that it has been received.
- BAFF Manager begins the due diligence process (see more information in next section)
- BAFF Manager progresses Application to Advisory Committee at the next quarterly meeting for input and recommendation (once due diligence is complete)
- Application is progressed to BAFF Board for funding decision
- BAFF Manager notifies applicant of approval outcome from Board
- BAFF Manager and Applicant to develop Funding Agreement
- If Project/Program is **not** approved applicant will be notified (with justification) as soon as possible

Due Diligence

The BAFF due diligence involves a rigorous review of applications to ensure responsible and effective use of funds, as well as compliance with legal and ethical standards. BAFF Due Diligence Process includes the below reviews;

1. Financial
2. Operational
3. Risk Assessments
4. Compliance

Monitoring and Reporting

All funding agreements will include specific details on the monitoring and reporting requirements. All funding recipients will be required to provide written reports of outcomes as per the Funding Agreements.

As a minimum, at the completion of the agreement, a final report along with an acquittal of funding will be required within 4 weeks of the conclusion. Further reporting may be required which will be determined and agreed through consultation with the BAFF Manager.

When to Apply

To align with the BAFF Board meeting cycle, EOIs will be open for the **first month** of each quarter. Applications will be assessed and progressed throughout the year.

EOI Application Period

Q1 – January

Q2 - April

Q3 - July

Q4 - October

More Information

For more information on the Barossa Aboriginal Future Fund please contact the BAFF Manager

Email: baff@santos.com

Enquiries: (08) 8919 1900