



MEDIA RELEASE

Country roots spark partnership with young people in mind

Country Education Foundation of Australia (CEF) is delighted to announce a new partnership with Alinta Energy, which will see CEF deliver an exciting series of events for both its 44 community-based local foundations and its almost 5000 alumni over the next few years.

Alinta Energy and CEF share common goals to enrich students' education and provide lasting, positive influences on rural and regional communities. One way Alinta Energy has already proven to be a wonderful supporter of CEF was during the 200 kilometre-long Pig Push, which successfully raised more than \$100,000 in 2017 and 2018.

CEF CEO Wendy Cohen said she is excited to welcome Alinta Energy further into the CEF family and introduce CEF's volunteers, supporters and recipients to the community-minded business.

"Alinta Energy has a strong presence in regional and rural Australia, and they've said to us that – very simply – they want to be good neighbours and make a positive contribution to our communities. That's why they're backing CEF's community-based approach, which harnesses the power of local people to transform lives and communities through education," Ms Cohen said.

"This partnership is fantastic recognition of all our volunteers' hard work and dedication, and our recipients' ambition and drive to better themselves through education and training. It's wonderful to have such a highly regarded company recognise us and our grassroots model that makes a lasting impact on young lives and wanting to help with that work."

"We look forward to working with Alinta Energy and its teams for the benefit of our country communities."

Alinta Energy's Executive Director of Retail Markets, Jim Galvin, said CEF's work was close to his heart.

"I'm a country boy at heart having grown up in Cowra, and I still spend as much time as possible on our farm in south-west New South Wales. I know how important it is to support country kids to further their education, so that their success can underpin the thriving rural and regional communities of the future.

"The foundation's work is vital, practical, and Alinta Energy is very happy that our partnership is expanding," he said.

Stay tuned for more information regarding this partnership.

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