

Caring for Ngurambang Training Program

Caring for Ngurambang is a bespoke training program that was designed by Neoen and the Canberra Institute of Technology to upskill First Nations peoples living on Wiradjuri Country, near Neoen’s 440 MWp Culcairn Solar Farm, in cultural heritage management.

Design phase



July 2024 – August 2025

Delivery phase



1–18 September 2025

Supported by

CULCAIRN
SOLAR FARM

GOYDER SOUTH
WIND FARM

The program was designed under the guidance of the Dyiraamalang Girbang Elders, ensuring that nominated representatives of the First Nations peoples were involved in every aspect of decision-making. Neoen and CIT acknowledged the Elders as true knowledge holders of the Traditional Lands on which the training was delivered, and formally recognised them as the program’s Cultural Authority.

Participants benefitted from the following five areas of learning that were identified as critical by the community:



An understanding of the NSW Government’s system and process for working as a Registered Aboriginal Party on renewable energy projects



Conservation and ecosystems management



Cultural knowledge of the land, local flora and fauna, and practices like ‘cultural burning’



White card certification, and Work, Health and Safety training to be able to work at infrastructure sites on Country



Business skills and job readiness including workshops and an Industry Day for networking with different employers.





“I found the training on working as a Registered Aboriginal Party and the ‘on country’ days at the Culcairn Solar Farm and Wonga Wetlands of great benefit. I am planning to apply this knowledge to gain employment as an Indigenous Ranger... a role that this program has helped me discover.”

– **Andrew Green, Program Participant**

This industry-first initiative has been highly valued by the First Nations participants as well as other key stakeholders including the local Aboriginal land council, Heritage NSW and the Dyiraamalang Girbang Elders.

Following its completion, one of the participants started sharing his new-found knowledge with others in the First Nations community, while another had taken to recording native frogs using mobile applications taught by CIT’s trainer.

PROGRAM CONTRIBUTORS

Cultural

Dyiraamalang Girbang Elders

Giilangyaldhaanygalang Wiradjuri Storytellers

Albury & District Local Aboriginal Land Council

Registered Aboriginal Parties

Local knowledge holders

Industry

Neoen

Canberra Institute of Technology

Heritage NSW

Bouygues Construction Australia

TAFE NSW

Many Rivers Microfinance

EMM Consulting

Forestry Corporation

Spinifex Recruiting

RDP Training

The Umbrella Collective



Program participants with key stakeholders from the local community, CIT and Neoen.