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Participant Information Letter

Project title: A Just Transition for Collie That Leaves No-one Behind

Approval Number: 2021-02746-GODDEN

Principal Investigator: Dr Naomi Joy Godden

Other investigators: Professor Angus Morrison-Saunders (ECU); Dr Mehran Nejati (ECU); Rebecca Jury (ECU); Donna Jones (ECU); Georgia Beardman (ECU); Jaime Yallup Farrant (Climate Justice Union); Luke Skinner (Climate Justice Union); Katie Moore (Sydney University); Leonie Scoffern (Collie community liaison).

An invitation to participate in research

You are invited to participate in a project titled *A Just Transition for Collie That Leaves No-one Behind*. The project seeks to support the Collie community during the forthcoming reduction of coal mining and coal-fired power, to achieve the type of transition they need and deserve; one which reduces inequity and provides a positive future for the whole community for generations to come. You are being asked to take part in this project because you are a member of the Collie community, or a stakeholder in this transition.

Please read this information carefully. Ask questions about anything that you do not understand or want to know more about. Before deciding whether or not to take part, you might want to talk about it with a relative or friend.

If you decide you want to take part in the research project, you will be asked to sign the consent form. By signing it you are telling us that you:

- Understand what you have read;
- Consent to take part in the research project;
- Consent to be involved in the research described;
- Consent to the use of your personal information as described;
- Consent for drawings or maps you create to be photographed;
- Understand that participants under 18 will require parental consent

What is this project about?

Edith Cowan University and the Climate Justice Union WA want to collaborate with Collie community members and stakeholders to produce a local profile that highlights the key ways in which diverse community members are likely to be impacted by the energy transition, and/or by the increasing and expected local impacts of climate change in Collie. We will then work together to identify key priorities for actions to reduce these vulnerabilities in the ongoing transition planning and implementation processes.

This project is funded by the Climate Justice Union WA and Edith Cowan University's Centre for People, Place and Planet.

What does my participation involve?

Your participation in this research project will involve ***one or more*** of the following:

(1) **Mapping Workshop** (up to three hours) in a public place such as a community centre with other Collie community members. We will ask the following types of questions:

- What are some of the social justice issues related to the economic transition and to the impacts of climate change in Collie?
- What are the climate concerns for Collie?
- What resources can be found in and around Collie?
- Where are these resources located?
- What action can be taken to address the issues and concerns raised during this session?

(2) **Action Planning workshop:** (up to three hours) in a public place with other Collie community members. This workshop will occur at a date after the mapping workshop, with the aim of identifying and discussing possible actions to leave no one behind in the transition process.

The data may be used to produce community reports and publications, and develop teaching materials. Community members can use this information when engaging in the Collie just transition process.

Do I have to take part in this research project?

Your participation in this research project is voluntary. If you do not wish to take part, you do not have to. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you are free to withdraw from the project at any time.

If you do decide to take part, you will be given this Participant Information Letter and Consent form to sign and you will be given a copy of the information letter to keep.

A reimbursement of \$50 per workshop will be provided to participants who are experiencing financial hardship and are not participating in the research as part of their work. When organising your participation in the workshops, please tell the researcher if you are seeking a reimbursement.

Your privacy

By signing the consent form, you are giving consent to the research team collecting and using information given about your views on groups who are particularly vulnerable in the Collie transition and due to climate change, the issues they face and action that might be taken to address these issues.

Your participation in this research project will remain confidential. However, be aware that other participants and the researchers may know you personally and as such you need to be comfortable participating in the context of these relationships.

In accordance with relevant Australian and/or Western Australian privacy and other relevant laws, you have the right to request access to the information about you that is collected and stored by the research team. Please inform the research team member named at the end of this letter if you would like to access your information.

All data collected will be kept and stored in ECU's secure server until 2031.

Possible Benefits

We cannot guarantee or promise that you will receive any benefits from this research, however possible benefits may include a transition from coal mining to sustainable industries for the community of Collie that responds to community needs and is fair and inclusive. This research may not provide benefit to you personally but may provide benefits of addressing ways in which different

community members are likely to be impacted by the energy transition, and/or by the increasing and expected local impacts of climate change.

Possible Risks and Risk Management Plan

There are few known risks to participants in this project. There is a low risk that you may feel emotional discomfort while discussing the transition process and climate change impacts in the workshops. If you do not wish to respond to a question, you are not obligated to answer, or you may cease participation immediately. If you become upset or distressed as a result of your participation in the research project, we will provide you with information about support services. .

There is a low risk that you may experience mild discomfort taking part in the workshops with people that you may know. To mitigate the risk of causing social tension between community members, ground rules will be established at the beginning of every session.

What happens when this research study stops?

We may publish our results in a community report, research journals, theses, and possibly books, and present them at research conferences locally, nationally and internationally. Your name or any other identifying information will not be included in any of the publications or presentations. When the research is finished, we will share a project report with participating community groups, and it will be available on the ECU website. The data may be reused for postgraduate research studies, and for comparative studies with other communities. In the consent form, you can decide whether you consent to the data being reused in other research.

Has this research been approved?

This research project has received the approval of Edith Cowan University's Human Research Ethics Committee, in accordance with the National Health and Medical Research Council's *National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research (2007)*. The approval number is 2021-02746-GODDEN.

Contacts

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this project, please contact the following people.

Chief Investigators

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Collie Community Liaison

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If you have any concerns or complaints about the research project and wish to talk to an independent person, you may contact:

Independent Person

Research Ethics Support Officer

Edith Cowan University
P: 6304 2170
E: research.ethics@ecu.edu.au

Sincerely,

Dr Naomi Joy Godden

Chief Investigator