



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2018 Powerful Youth Grants will help thousands of Victorian students develop skills to protect their local environment

Thousands of Victorian students at over 200 schools and youth organisations from Altona to Yackandandah, will be getting ‘hands on’ with inventive projects that help to educate children about sustainability within their local environment. These grants are made possible through Junior Landcare and Momentum Energy’s Powerful Youth Projects.

Landcare Australia and Momentum launched the Powerful Youth Projects in 2017 to seek new ideas for how children can actively learn and develop skills for protecting local environments. Through this program, Victorian schools, childcare centres and youth groups can apply for grants of up to \$1000.

Following a successful first year, which saw more than 24,000 students engaging in over 200 projects, the Powerful Youth Projects program rolled out across the state again in 2018. To encourage the enthusiasm shown by so many schools, Momentum Energy generously increased their funding to ensure that 219 schools across Victoria were awarded grants.

The variety of projects ranges from veggie or bush tucker gardens to composting or recycling projects, sensory gardens and other sustainable or environmental ideas. Other projects include those to learn about biodiversity and healthy ecosystems, including bee projects, frog bogs and native revegetation.

Momentum Energy Managing Director Paul Geason said Momentum was proud to support and promote sustainability at the school level.

“Our parent company, Hydro Tasmania, is Australia’s largest producer of renewable energy, so we are keen to promote sustainability wherever we can, particularly amongst school children,” Mr Geason said.

“Momentum Energy’s commitment to promoting sustainability is a big part of our mission to make energy more human.”

Dr Shane Norris, Landcare Australian Acting CEO, is delighted to be able to support so many schools in Victoria.

“Junior Landcare is all about encouraging young people to play an active role in ensuring the safe future of their environment. So it’s fantastic to be working in partnership with Momentum Energy two years in a row supporting thousands of children to get ‘hands on’ with nature. Last year’s projects produced exciting results and we can’t wait to see this year’s projects come to fruition.”



To see a full list of grant recipients or more information about Junior Landcare and the Powerful Youth Projects, please visit www.landcareaustralia.org.au/powerful-youth-projects

For interviews or high resolution photos, contact:

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About Junior Landcare and Momentum Energy

Launched in 1998, Junior Landcare is an awareness raising and funding program that encourages young people to play an active role in ensuring the safe future of their environment. Momentum Energy is a 100% Australian-owned and operated energy retailer. In 2017, Momentum Energy partnered with Junior Landcare to provide more than \$200,000 in funding per year over two years to projects in Victoria that involved young people caring for and learning about their natural environment. The Powerful Youth Projects provide a framework for learning in outdoor 'living classrooms', in a way that can be successfully integrated into a range of topics within the school curriculum.