

2 September 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

RE: Support of Essential Energy's application for Training Academy in Tamworth

On behalf of Whitehaven, we are pleased to offer our full support for Essential Energy's application under the Regional Precincts and Partnerships Program (rPPP) to establish a Training Academy in Tamworth.

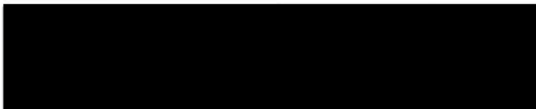
This initiative represents a significant opportunity to expand training capacity in northwest NSW and aligns closely with Whitehaven's commitment to developing a highly skilled local workforce. By investing in regional training infrastructure, the proposed Academy will help ensure that the skills required to sustain and grow local industries are developed locally, for the benefit of both businesses and communities.

As the largest private employer in northwest NSW, Whitehaven understands the critical importance of workforce development to the region's long-term prosperity. A dedicated Training Academy in Tamworth would strengthen the pipeline of skilled workers, enhance community resilience, and support the retention of talent within the region, reducing the need for young people and employees to seek opportunities elsewhere.

Currently, Whitehaven apprentices and trainees are often required to travel long distances—and at times interstate—to access specialist training. Establishing a local Training Academy would remove these barriers, improve accessibility, and deliver significant benefits for employees, their families, and our business operations. It would also deepen regional partnerships and ensure that training delivery reflects the unique needs of northwest NSW industries.

Whitehaven strongly believes that this project will provide enduring benefits not only for our workforce, but also for the broader community and economy of the region. We commend Essential Energy for its leadership and vision in putting forward this proposal, and we welcome the opportunity to continue working together to support skills, jobs, and growth in northwest NSW.

Yours sincerely



Darren Swain
General Manager Community Engagement