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Media Release

WESTERN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT AND ADVANCED MANUFACTURING GROWTH CENTRE LAUNCH WIND ENERGY MANUFACTURING CO-INVESTMENT PROGRAM

- A collaboration between the Western Australian (WA) Government and Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC) will deliver a program to enhance WA manufacturing capability in wind energy supply chains
- The \$8 million Wind Energy Manufacturing Co-Investment Program will provide industry support and up to 50% of eligible project costs with industry expected to at least match the funds
- Launching today, the co-investment program to offer two streams: Market Entry and Market Growth

WA businesses seeking to be a part of the local wind energy manufacturing supply chain can now apply for co-investment to cover up to 50% of eligible project costs under the Wind Energy Manufacturing Co-Investment Program.

The funds will be made available through a co-investment and advice program co-created by the WA Government and AMGC with \$8 million allocated by the WA Government under the initiative to enhance local businesses' capacity and capability in wind energy, manufacturing and servicing supply chains.

Priority areas include the manufacturing of wind tower foundations, anchor cages, nacelle components and assembly, transmission poles, specialised trailers (transport), as well as capacity building for replacement parts and servicing, and refurbishing centres.

Western Australian, Science Minister Stephen Dawson said, "The Wind Energy Manufacturing Co-Investment Program is a testament to our commitment to creating a sustainable future for Western Australia. Supporting local businesses to engage in the wind energy supply chains positions the State to reap the benefits of the energy transition while also supporting our economic diversification.

"The co-investment program is designed to provide support to businesses at different stages of their journey.

"Whether it's helping new businesses to upgrade their accreditations or assisting companies to pivot or scale their operations, this funding will play a crucial role in enhancing our State's advanced manufacturing capabilities." Said Dawson.

The co-investment program consists of two streams:

Market entry stream: Capability focused, indicative project size \$20K-\$60K (co-investment contribution \$10K-\$30K). This stream supports pre-qualification and accreditation processes, niche software, process improvement and alike.

 Market growth stream: capacity and capability focused, including capital and/or operating expenditure. Indicative project size \$500K-\$1 million (Co-investment contribution \$250K-\$500K). This stream supports plant and equipment enhancement (up to 25% of total project cost), R&D projects to create a competitive advantage, and associated investment in 'market entry' projects.

Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre, Managing Director, Dr Jens Goennemann said, "Western Australia is home to very skilled manufacturers currently engaging in the mining, minerals, and energy space.

"The Wind Energy Manufacturing Co-Investment Program will focus on identifying local capabilities that can be turned towards opportunities in wind energy generation. In doing so, the WA Government and manufacturers will develop a broader, and more capable manufacturing base while serving domestic renewable energy needs." Said Goennemann.

Applications to the Wind Energy Manufacturing Co-Investment Program will be open, continuous, and competitive until available funding has been exhausted.

Manufacturers interested in applying for funds under either of the two program streams can register to attend in-person information sessions as well as access written guidelines and a pre-recorded webinar via <u>https://www.amgc.org.au/wind-energy-program/</u>

Program details, eligibility criteria and application portal can also be found at: <u>www.amgc.org.au/wind-energy-program/</u>

Over the past eight years, AMGC has facilitated more than 500 national collaborations and co-funded over 161 industry projects, while creating more than 4,300 jobs across the country. It has invested over \$137 million of combined industry and Government funds into manufacturing projects, resulting in an estimated \$1.62 billion in additional national revenue.

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About Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC)

The Advanced Manufacturing Growth Centre (AMGC) is an industry-led, not-for-profit organisation. AMGC's vision is to transform Australian manufacturing to become an internationally competitive, dynamic and thriving industry with advanced capabilities and skills at its core.

Through the delivery of its world-leading research, Manufacturing Academy, workshops, and ground-breaking projects, AMGC aims to develop a highly skilled and resilient local manufacturing sector that delivers high-value products – via the integration of innovative technology – to domestic and international markets. http://www.amgc.org.au

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