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Nukunu commnity backs a clean-energy future

Greening Australia SA, in partnership with Canopy and the Aboriginal Foundation of South Australia launched a program to raise awareness of carbon pollution and help build a clean energy future, via carbon market training.

The program, aimed for Aboriginal land managers in South Australia, was held in Port Germein recently with 10 participants from the Nukunu people.

“Fixing Our Country offers a great opportunity for Aboriginal communities to get in on the ground floor of the new carbon economy,” said Greening Australia SA’s Senior Vegetation Consultant Mick Durant. “The aim of the training is to help participants understand the ‘what’ and ‘why’ of climate change action and the new carbon market.”

Chairman for the Nukunu people, Lindsay Thomas, said the group was positive about the training.

“We were looking for a chance to develop this land and reconnect to the country, and

this project enables us to do it, as well as to do our bit for the environment,” he said.

Desmond John, of the Nukunu community, said information was important to make things happen.

“We are willing to work with anyone in a positive project like this,” he said.

“I feel grateful that we are involved in something that hopefully will make a difference in our community, our country and the world.”

For Douglas Turner, who has a background in management and masters in education, and is also of Nukunu community, it is about their role in the country.

“This is also about our biodiversity. Our fauna and flora had been cleared from our country and this is a chance to re-introduce,” he said.

“This is not get-rich scheme, it is about looking after the country.

“This is a win-win long-term situation that will benefit our future generations.”

– Celeste Lustosa

RIGHT...
Doug Turner, left, Mick Durrant (trainer), Lindsay Thomas and Leon Colson stand on the hill during the Fixing Our Country training in Port Germein.
Photo by Sofia Levin.



FUTURE...Desmond John, left, and Lindsay Thomas measure a tree at the Fixing Our Country training day in Port Germein.
Photo by Sofia Levin