

**Contact Details:**

Postal Address: PO Box 177, Macksville NSW 2447  
Telephone: (02) 6568 2555

**Office Location:**

44 Princess Street, Macksville NSW 2447

**Website:**

[www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au](http://www.nambucca.nsw.gov.au)

**Email:**

[council@nambucca.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@nambucca.nsw.gov.au)

Updated: July 2024 Our Ref: 11261/2020

## GLARE SHIELD / VANDAL SHIELD APPLICATION

<b>1 Details of the applicant</b>		
Mr Ms Mrs	Name: _____	Surname: _____
Organisation: _____	ABN: _____	
Postal address: _____		
Suburb: _____	State: _____	Postcode: _____
Phone: _____	Email: _____	
<b>2 Glare affected address</b>		
Street / Unit / Business No. _____	Street Name: _____	
Suburb: _____	Postcode: _____	Streetlight Pole No. _____
Business Name: _____		
<b>3 Alternatives to glare shields</b> <i>Have you tried any of the following to divert the light? (please tick appropriate boxes)</i>		
<b>NO</b>	<b>YES if yes please identify</b>	Blinds
Block out curtains	Shutters	Awnings
Repurposing the affected room	Landscaping	Other
<b>4 Reason</b> <i>(please print clearly and <u>attach</u> a separate document if space does not suffice)</i>		

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note:** The primary reason for street lighting is vehicle and pedestrian safety. Please read the back of this page for Glare Shield Facts. There are no fees payable on lodgement of the application. A quotation will be forwarded to you once the application has been assessed.

**Costs:** As street lights are part of the Essential Energy network, only they or their approved contractors can work on the network. Essential Energy has a cost recovery model for all the works on the network, and this cost is passed onto Nambucca Valley Council. Council's Street Lighting Policy states that any costs will be passed onto the applicant.

A determination by the Australian Electricity Regulator (AER) has set the cost of the supply & install street lighting luminaire glare shields at \$534.16 (Inc.GST) effective from 1 July 2022, subject to annual review. This cost includes the purchase of materials and the deployment of an Essential Energy work crew from their depot. There are no additional administration charges from Council.

## **GLARE SHIELD FACT SHEETS**

- **Street Lighting**

Public street lighting plays an important role in providing safe, secure and attractive public areas for both pedestrians and vehicles. It also represents between 25 and 70 percent of any individual local government's corporate energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions. Street lighting has three main purposes - improved pedestrian and vehicle safety, reduced street crime, and providing night amenity in community spaces.

Essential Energy is responsible for the maintenance and billing of around 160,000 streetlights for 86 Councils across NSW and southern Queensland, from Bega Valley in the south to Tweed Heads in the north and Broken Hill in the west. Essential Energy Website:

<https://www.essentialenergy.com.au/our-network/streetlights>

- **LED Lamps**

LED lamps are the latest luminaire technology replacing mercury vapour (Fluorescent bulbs). These bulbs are being phased out due to the mercury content and will not be available in the near future. NSC has transitioned to LED lamps by paying for the upgrade during the last bulk lamp replacement programme undertaken by Essential Energy (early to mid-2019). Due to energy savings NSC is expected to recoup this investment over a 5 year period.

The replacement LED's were selected by Essential Energy after testing and ensuring compliance with Australian Standards. It is worth noting that the LED luminaires are the same brightness as the outgoing mercury vapour lamps, but they do have a whiter light. The whiter light improves visibility at night and may provide a safer road environment.

- **Smart Lighting**

The new LED light can be upgraded to Smart lights by adding a controller. This controller will allow council to monitor the network and control the lights. Automatic functions such as dimming after a certain time of night or remain dimmed until there is activity in the area are other possibilities. This would offer additional electricity savings to Council and a customisation solution that is not available with the old technology. Council will be seeking grant funding when available.

- **Glare Shields**

Where light from a streetlight is causing excessive nuisance to the resident, then a request for a glare shield can be made to Council. This will require an assessment of the light and surrounding area with consideration given to the general standard of lighting in the area, traffic safety and needs of pedestrians.

Essential Energy do not make decisions on traffic matters, therefore all applications for glare shields are made through the Local Council. If it is considered safe to install a glare shield without affecting road safety, Council will make an application to Essential Energy to install the glare shield. Once an application is made to Essential Energy, Council does not have any further involvement in the installation, unless it is found after the installation that the original assessment was incorrect and there are safety issues with the glare shield.

- **The Assessment Process**

A Council Officer will review the location of the light, the location of the effected residence, the level of street lighting in the area, and any adverse road/footpath conditions that may be impacted by additional shading of the light.

- **Costs**

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- **Situations where glare shields may not be approved**

Glare Shields may not be approved where shading may impact intersections, bends in streets, traffic facilities, or footpath areas.

- **Alternatives to glare shields**

Residents, in the first instance, should look at options to reduce the glare nuisance before applying for a glare shield. These may include blinds, shutters, awnings, landscaping, and/or repurposing the affected room.