



COMMERCIAL

What we need to do

- Improve the energy efficiency of new and existing business premises to reduce energy consumption and reduce energy bills
- Electrify premises by moving away from gas as an energy source and use energy efficient electric appliances for heating and cooling, hot water and cooking
- Switch to 100% renewable power
- Install rooftop solar PV whenever possible to provide cheap renewable power

How to get there

Strategy 1

- Raise awareness in the business community of the scale of commercial emissions and the importance of making reductions
- Provide education and relevant resources with a focus on the practical aspects of how to reduce commercial CO2 emissions

Strategy 1

- To utilise communication channels that are the most relevant to businesses
- To tailor the education and resources to the needs of different types of businesses

Strategy 1 - who could be involved?

- Council
- Business and trade associations
 - Hunter Business Chamber / Business Hunter
 - Business Improvement Associations
 - Business Centre
- Businesses that use a large amount of electricity and gas

Strategy 2

Provide 'business energy audit' services

- Directly provide, or subsidise, the provision of a 'business energy audit' service across the LGA to assist businesses to reduce their energy consumption, reduce their bills, and reduce their CO2 emissions.

Strategy 3, 4 & 5

- Update Council controlled regulations that would result in a reduction in commercial emissions.
- Advocate for other regulatory changes
- Provide access to rebates, incentives and low cost finance

Strategy 6

Group purchase of renewable energy

- Multiple medium to large energy users may be able to join a buying group to source power under a renewable energy power purchase agreement (PPA)

Strategy 6

Examples

- Melbourne Renewable Energy Project (MREP 1) which includes numerous businesses and local councils in the Melbourne area
- MREP 2 where the City of Melbourne facilitated a power purchase agreement for businesses across the city including seven large energy users

Strategy 6

Examples

- Southern Sydney Regional Organisation of Councils (SSROC)
- Business Green Energy are currently establishing a 100% renewable energy PPA for Sydney northern beaches businesses

Strategy 6 - who could be involved?

- Council
- University of Newcastle
- TAFE, schools
- Hunter New England Health
- Private hospitals
- Business Hunter
- Individual businesses