



FOCUS AREA 4

Climate change adaptation and mitigation

Council will reduce greenhouse gas contributions
and build resilience.



Policy position

Moira Shire acknowledges:

- Climate change is a critically important long term global issue;
- Climate change is impacting on the resilience of our environment, the community, and the economy; and
- The time for action is NOW!

Moira Shire Council will:

- Lead by example in responding to climate change through mitigation and adaptation;
- Use science-driven targets (e.g. carbon budget);
- Support the community, businesses and industries to build resilience and adapt to climate change;
- Develop a clear plan and timeline for how emission reduction targets will be achieved; and
- Review and implement Councils Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP).



Please see our CERP for detailed information and figures on current and long-term targets on Councils greenhouse gas emissions.

Policy rationale

Council recognises:

- Decreasing greenhouse gas emissions benefits our natural environment as well as having financial benefits;
- Australian Government signed the Paris Agreement at United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which aims to limit an increase in global temperatures to “well below” 2°C (aspirational goal of 1.5°C);
- Interim Emissions Reduction Targets for Victoria (2021-2030)
 - 40% of electricity from renewables by 2025 and 60% by 2030.
- Victorian Government targets: Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2050
 - 2030 Interim target of 50% cut in emissions, 50% share of new car sales for electric or hydrogen vehicles, and 50% of electricity from renewables.
- The need to adapt and advocate for climate change and identify and respond to environmental challenges.

Long-term target

- Net zero greenhouse gas emissions for Council by 2050.
- Community to mitigate and adapt to a changing climate.

Performance Indicators (by 2026)

The following performance indicators will be used to determine the successful implementation of the strategy:

1. Council's Corporate Emissions Reduction Plan are reviewed and implemented.
2. Greenhouse gas emissions from Council are reduced to 50% of 2009 levels.
3. All reasonable actions are taken to reduce greenhouse emissions from landfill.
4. All new and existing Council buildings and works include energy efficient and sustainable design.
5. Community, businesses and industries are supported to reduce greenhouse emissions.
6. Community resilience to extreme events and a warmer climate is built at home and in our shared spaces (e.g. urban greening programs).

Actions

The following actions will support the implementation of the strategy:

- Investigate opportunities to influence climate change adaptation and mitigation through regulatory processes (e.g. Statutory Planning and Contract Advisory Service for the Built Environment (CASBE)).
- Audit greenhouse gas emissions from landfill to establish a base line for actions moving forward.
- Investigate and implement projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from landfill.
- Promote tools developed through the Climate Smart Agricultural Development project.
- Investigate the feasibility of a display house to promote energy efficient design and upgrades.
- Undertake urban greening projects such as reducing sealed surfaces, planting of street trees, and creating more public green spaces.
- Develop and implement a street tree policy.
- Install electric vehicle charging stations.
- Educate the community on actions they can take to mitigate and adapt to a warmer climate (e.g. micro climates and energy efficient housing).
- Support the Goulburn Murray Climate Alliance and partnership projects (e.g. naturally cooler towns).
- Educate the community on how to respond to extreme events thereby increasing community resilience.
- Support uptake of electric and hydrogen vehicles in Council fleet and for the wider community.
- Further solar panel installations and conversion of gas to solar electric on existing and future Council buildings.
- Investigate the feasibility and benefits of a carbon offset site for Council and/or Community.
- Promote activities within Council that minimise our carbon footprint (e.g. online meetings).

OFF-GRID SOLAR SYSTEMS
NEW TO MOIRA SHIRE
TRANSFER STATIONS

Local company Cobram Electrical & Data have done an amazing job installing:

- Two **4kW** roof mounted solar systems with **5kW**'s lithium battery storage, are capable of providing energy for lighting, security and other utilities; and,
- One **5kW** roof mounted solar panels with **12kW**'s gel battery storage. This larger system can provide energy for an on-site computer, lighting, air-conditioning, EFTPOS and other utilities..

Off-grid systems are an ideal choice to provide energy to houses or infrastructure not currently connected to the public electricity network. We are seeing more off-grid solar systems due to a reduction in costs over recent years. With reduced costs, no electricity bills and its environmental benefits we can see why off-grid solar systems are becoming more popular.

Lithium battery storage at Cobram Landfill

Gel battery storage at Nathalia Transfer Station

FOR MORE INFORMATION, SEE YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL DEPARTMENT