

ENERGY AND EMISSIONS MANAGEMENT POLICY

Intent To provide Council with a framework for energy and greenhouse gas emissions management.

Scope The Policy applies to Council, its associated infrastructure, operations and the services it provides to the community.

Provisions

Cairns Regional Council is committed to energy efficiency and emissions reduction in all aspects of its operations. Council acknowledges that consideration of energy and emissions management early in the decision making process can in many cases reduce future costs and provide benefits to the community and the environment.

To deliver ongoing energy and emissions management, Cairns Regional Council will:

- Ensure a strategic, whole of Council approach toward energy and emissions management.
- Incorporate energy efficiency measures into infrastructure projects.
- Incorporate energy efficiency into management, operational and maintenance processes, procurement and decisions.
- Monitor, record, and report on Council's energy consumption and emissions profiles.
- Identify and fund opportunities to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions within Council.
- Give high priority to, and consider funding of, energy efficiency projects and emission reduction initiatives particularly those that have a measurable return on investment.
- Reduce its greenhouse gas emissions by 50% below 2007/08 levels by 2020.
- Reduce landfill emissions and support methane mitigation strategies in accordance with best practice.
- Work together with the community, businesses and other stakeholders to identify and support initiatives to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions in the Cairns Region.
- Promote energy efficiency in the workplace through staff engagement, training and capacity building.
- Support the community to use Council owned facilities in an energy efficient manner.
- Support opportunities to reinvest potential financial savings from energy efficiency initiatives into future energy efficiency projects.
- Support opportunities in waste operations to reinvest revenue from emissions reduction into future programs.

- Promote opportunities, programs, education and initiatives in Council and in the community to:
 - Provide sustainable transport;
 - Provide energy efficient water and wastewater management;
 - Reduce waste and by-products of waste that contribute to emissions;
 - Encourage carbon abatement and sequestration activities; and
 - Encourage renewable energy.

This Policy will be reviewed to reflect changes in community expectations, changes in State and Federal government legislative, policy and guidelines.

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This Policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

General Manager Responsible for Review:

Planning and Environment

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 16/08/2007

CURRENT ADOPTION: 25/11/2020

DUE FOR REVISION: 25/11/2024

REVOKED/SUPERSEDED:



**Christine Posgate
A/Chief Executive Officer**