

Hobart City Council's Climate Change Activities

A Summary: December 2008

The following is summary of the Council programs, activities and initiatives that address the issue of climate change:

Cities for Climate Protection Program (CCP):

Year	Action/Milestone Achieved
1999	Joined CCP – the first Tasmania Council to join
1999	Milestone 1: Inventory and Forecast for Community and Corporate Greenhouse Gas Emissions
2000	Milestone 2 Establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal (Corporate 70% and community 20%)
2001	Milestone 3 Hobart City Council Greenhouse Local Action Plan
2002	Milestone 4 Implement the Local Action Plan – the Council demonstrated a 20% reduction its corporate emissions
	Milestone 5 Re-inventory of Emissions. The Council completed a complete re-inventory of emissions
2002 – ongoing	CCP Plus: The Council gave a political commitment to join CCP Plus – an ongoing program
2008	CCP Leader Council
2000 – ongoing	Emissions inventory Annual inventory of emissions corporate Census year inventory of emissions community
2008	“Planning and Review” recognition CCP Plus award

Climate Change Initiatives and Actions

Year	Climate Change Action/Initiative
1998 – Ongoing	Hobart City Council's Bushcare Program An initiative of the Council to provide on ground support for community based 'Bushcare Groups' to restore native vegetation through the removal of environmental weeds from Bushland reserves and regeneration with local plants.
2000 – ongoing	Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions: The Council conducts an annual inventory of its greenhouse gas emissions
2001	Energy Efficient Guidelines The Council prepared a set of Energy Efficiency Guidelines for prospective home builders and designers. The guidelines cover the range of considerations from an analysis of the site and the opportunities it presents for energy efficient design, through to building orientation and layout, ventilation/cooling, insulation and landscaping.
2001 – 2006* Upgraded 2006	Energy Efficiency Rebate: The Council introduced a 2 tiered rebate on building application fees- 20% for compliance with HIA sustainable housing provision and 25% for compliance with Australian standards. Encouraging applications to meet certain minimum standards for energy efficiency.

2001 - 2002	<p>Around the World in Eighty Ways</p> <p>The Council developed and hosted a website and provided bikes for two young Tasmanian men who travelled using carbon friendly transport from the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties in The Hague (The Netherlands) to Hobart.</p>
2002	<p>Sustainable Transport Days</p> <p>Three Days promoting Sustainable transport including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - displays of alternative vehicles – hybrid - replacement for a period of Lord Mayor's car with a Toyota Prius - Community cycle with elected representatives from Brighton to Hobart
2003	<p>Sustainable Transport Week 21 – 28 March</p> <p>A Council initiative involving Glenorchy City Council, Metro, Hot FM, Australian Greenhouse Office, Tasmania Environment Centre, Cycling South, to promote Sustainable Transport. The event included:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a series of facilitated workshops with private, public, community sectors with a summary workshop to bring together workshop outcomes; - Presentations by guest speakers Dr Paul Mees and Dr Peter Newman; - Bike breakfast; - Commuter train from Glenorchy; - Liverpool Street Closure and Community Fair.
2004	<p>Cogeneration Water Treatment Plant</p> <p>Installed a new 140 kWh cogeneration plant at Macquarie Point Waste Water Treatment Plant burns methane and reduces the demand on external electricity supply</p>
2004	<p>Flaring Landfill Gas</p> <p>Contracted AGL to install methane flaring at the Council McRobies Gully Landfill</p>
2004 – 2005	<p>Walking School Bus</p> <p>The “Walk to School Bus Project” was a partnership of Cool Communities (Australian Greenhouse Office), Hobart City Council and South Hobart Primary School. The walk to school bus concept is designed to enable children to walk to school with the aid of parent volunteers along a designed safe route to school. It can be adopted by a school on a long-term basis, not just as a ‘one-off’ walking day event. The positive outcomes of this model provide reduced green house gas emissions for the local area, participation in moderate physical activity and foster community participation through social interaction with children and parents</p>
2004 – ongoing	<p>Cogeneration</p> <p>Contracted AGL to install flaring at the Council McRobies Gully Landfill with electricity produced fed into the grid. NB 2007/08 2007/2008 Methane (CH₄) destroyed is equivalent to 32,895 eCO₂t. Since Commissioning in March 2004 the facility has destroyed CH₄ to an equivalent of 134,029 eCO₂t.</p>
2007 – 2008*extended Nov 2008	<p>Solar Hot Water Rebate</p> <p>The Council introduced a new Solar Hot Water Rebate Scheme, offering Hobart ratepayers a \$500 incentive to install a solar hot water system in their homes</p>

2006	<p>Sustainable Transport Officer</p> <p>The Council engaged a Sustainable Transport Officer to develop a sustainable transport strategy and implement sustainable transport practices</p>
2006*	<p>Energy Efficiency Rebate</p> <p>The Council increased its energy efficiency rebate to a 100% rebate on the basic planning application fee and the building administration fee, where sound and permanent energy efficient principles and features are incorporated into the planning and design of new houses and additions to existing houses</p>
2007	<p>Sustainable Transport</p> <p>A grant was received under the Commonwealth Government's Accelerating Action Program to work with the Sustainable Living Tasmania, Cycling South and of Greater Hobart Council's to prepare an Integrated Bicycle Network Plan</p>
2008	<p>Regional Bike Strategy</p> <p>HCC coordinated with the councils of Greater Hobart the Regional Bike Strategy</p>
2008	<p>Sustainable Transport Strategy</p> <p>A draft has been prepared for consultation. It outlines a way forward for the Council to improve the sustainability of commuter and passenger transport (excludes freight) in the Greater Hobart Region.</p>
2007	<p>Zero Net Carbon Emissions 2020</p> <p>The Council endorsed a motion:</p> <p>"That :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the Hobart City Council prepare a report on having zero net carbon emissions by 2020. 2. the Council use the City of Melbourne Zero Net Strategy as the starting point and include goals include the goals of the program in adapting a program for the sue of Hobart City." <p>It also endorsed a motion to aim for zero net emissions through the review of its Greenhouse House Local Action Plan</p>
2007	<p>Energy Management Team</p> <p>Council's internal Energy Management Team established to consider matters relating to the Council corporate energy use from all sources: electricity, petrol/diesel, natural gas, alternative energy, energy conservation (lighting and energy audits), electricity NEM contestability, carbon offsets and energy actions plans.</p>
2007	<p>HCC Community Grant</p> <p>HCC decided to provide to a grant through its community Grants Program to 'Sustainable Living Tasmania' (SLT) , to deliver a series of community workshops on climate change and host a community conference in 2008</p>
2007-2008	<p>Taste of Tasmania - Carbon Offset</p> <p>Purchase of carbon offset emissions for the Taste of Tasmania - 66.70 eCO2t were offset at a cost of \$1999.25 inc GST (21.80 eCO2t Gold Standard and 44.90 of International VCS credits).</p>
2008	<p>Review of Greenhouse Local Action Plan</p> <p>The Council commenced its review of Greenhouse Local Action that will include consideration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Council resolution for Zero Net Emissions by 2020; - the five A's of Climate Change Action: Abatement, Accounting, Adaptation, Advocacy, & Awareness

2008	<p>Beat the Winter Chills and Bills Question and Answer Sessions and Display</p> <p>SLT delivered a series of 6 x BWCB Sessions to assist householders to improve their energy efficiency, increase understanding of climate change and action by HCC, and begin to build community resilience. A further 4 Q&A session held for Council staff and aldermen focusing on both the household and workplace actions.</p>
2008	<p>Street lighting Trial</p> <p>HCC, in conjunction with Aurora, is undertaking a small scale trial of street lighting (T5 and CFL's) to commence 28.08.08 at Poets Rd T5 (48) and Princes St's CFL's (42). Will run for 12 – 18 months – to account for climate factors and survey residents</p>
2008/2009	<p>Climate Futures Tasmania – Infrastructure</p> <p>Contributing partner to project coordinated by Pitt and Sherry</p>
2008	<p>Energy Reserve Fund</p> <p>Establishment of Energy Reserve Fund \$50,000 pa for projects not covered by other budget processes</p>
2008	<p>Emissions Reduction Target deepened</p> <p>HCC has reduced its emissions by 75% from 1996 levels and has resolved to deepen this target by a further 30% 2020.</p>
2008/2009	<p>Climate Adaptation Team</p> <p>HCC is establishing a Climate Adaptation Team to implement as appropriate the CCP Local Government Climate Adaptation Toolkit and Climate Change Adaptation Actions for Local Government AGO 2007.</p>
2008 – 2011*	<p>The Solar Hot Water rebate</p> <p>The rebate is to be extended for a period of three years, and will include Heat Pump Hot Water Systems, as long as the system: (a) replaces an electric storage hot water system, (b) is purchased and installed after 1 November 2008, (c) is eligible for at least 20 Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) and (d) is installed by a registered plumber or electrician who can certify the system is eligible for the required RECs.</p>
2009	<p>Insulation Rebate</p> <p>A rebate for 30% off the cost of the installed insulation, up to a maximum of \$300, is to be introduced for a trial period of 1 year; the trial commencing with the introduction of the proposed rebate by the Commonwealth Government.</p>
2008*	<p>Energy Efficiency Rebate</p> <p>The planning and building administration fee rebate associated with successful house or house extension applications aimed at encouraging the adoption of the energy efficient building design principles is to be extended to include a rebate of the plumbing fees.</p>
2008	<p>Hobart Sustainable Schools Initiative</p> <p>HCC is working with MacKillop College to encourage and support schools/colleges to participate in the Solar Schools Initiative</p>

HCC Participation in Climate Change Programs

2000 – Ongoing	Your Home Your Future Australian Government's Technical Working Group – HCC Environment and Climate Change Officer
2006 – ongoing	LGAT Climate Change Reference Group
1999 – ongoing	ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI Oceania) membership and participant in ICLEI Cities for Climate Protection Program CCP
2006	Australasian Mayors Council for Climate Protection – Coordination Committee – Lord Mayor Ald Rob Valentine

HCC Corporate Emissions Profile:

	1996	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
GJ	55,357	107,705	105,341	107,873	120,945	114,826	113,468	103,587
eCO ₂ t	45,818	46,801	47,271	38,495	20,192	12,027	11,662	13,215
Comment	Base Year First inventory undertaken as per CCP program	Increase GJ THAC came on line almost doubling HCC energy consumption		Decrease eCO ₂ t – due to commencement of flaring of methane (CH ₄) at McRobies Gully landfill	Increase GJ due to laying of gas pipe line and increase use of Bitumen plant	Decrease eCO ₂ t – due to cogeneration of methane (CH ₄) at McRobies Gully landfill	Decrease eCO ₂ t – due to cogeneration of landfill methane and conversion of bitumen plant to natural gas	Increase eCO ₂ t- due to increase in the Tasmanian Emissions factor 1996 00.2 kg CO ₂ –e/GJ to 2007 –0.13 kg CO ₂ –e/GJ

GJ: Gigajoules of emissions
eCO₂t: Equivalent carbon dioxide per tonne.