



ABN 48615604852

Zero Emissions Byron Limited

Registered office : 78 Burringbar Street Mullumbimby NSW 2482

E: zeb@zerobyron.org W: www.zerobyron.org

creating an emissions-free future

Comments by Zero Emissions Byron to Byron Shire Councils' Report 'To Zero Together:
Net Zero Emissions Strategy for Council Operations 2025'

Author: Nik Midlam, Director, Zero Emissions Byron Limited

Overall, a very clear and well-presented strategy.

- Good reference to ZEB throughout (only notable exception in the Mayor's Introduction).
- Agree with strategic five step approach to avoid and ultimately offset emission and review projects first outlined on page 6.
- Chapter 3. Section 3.2: Caution against using the term "Carbon Neutral" unless they are committed to carbon neutral certification under the National Carbon Offset Standard to ensure accountability and avert reputational risk of 'greenwashing'. Fourth point refers to "potentially NCOS but other options will also be explored" - ZEB recommends NCOS as the most appropriate and consistently applied way to demonstrate carbon neutrality as it is already being used by many local governments in Australia.
- Chapter 4. Section 4.2.5. Council has been using 100% offset electricity since January this year. Currently that outcome is barely listed - hidden in the text of Table 6. Recommend moving this from Table 6 (Projects in the Pipeline) to section 4.2.5 (Completed actions).
- Chapter 4. Section 4.2.6. Please add link to ZEB website www.zerobyron.org. **Could we have the opportunity to add some copy to indicate the need for community support to ensure the success of ZEB's targets and how people could be involved (donations and volunteering)

- Chapter 6. Section 6.3. Table 6. Recommend adding new column "by when" to provide better indication on time frames (even by year would suffice) of the projects listed. Also s outlined above, either remove the Electricity Contract as a completed action, or reword to state what element of the procurement is a "Project in the Pipeline".
- Chapter 6: Step 3 and Step 4. Recommend more active commitment to action. Step three: replace "research potential new projects and explore implementation plan outcomes" with "research and implement new projects". "Step four: replace "research potential funding opportunities for new projects" with "identify and apply for funding opportunities".

Zero Emissions Byron Limited response to Council's Report "To Zero Together"

- Chapter 6. Section 6.6. Recommend adding "at least annually" to the second dot point about updating the community emissions profile - currently listed "as needed". Annually is appropriate to take into account changes in grid emissions that are published at least once per year.

END

15 April 2019