

The Why, What, & How of Zero Emissions Noosa Inc.

C4Ce Conference
06 March, 2024



WHY? ZEN Inc. Background

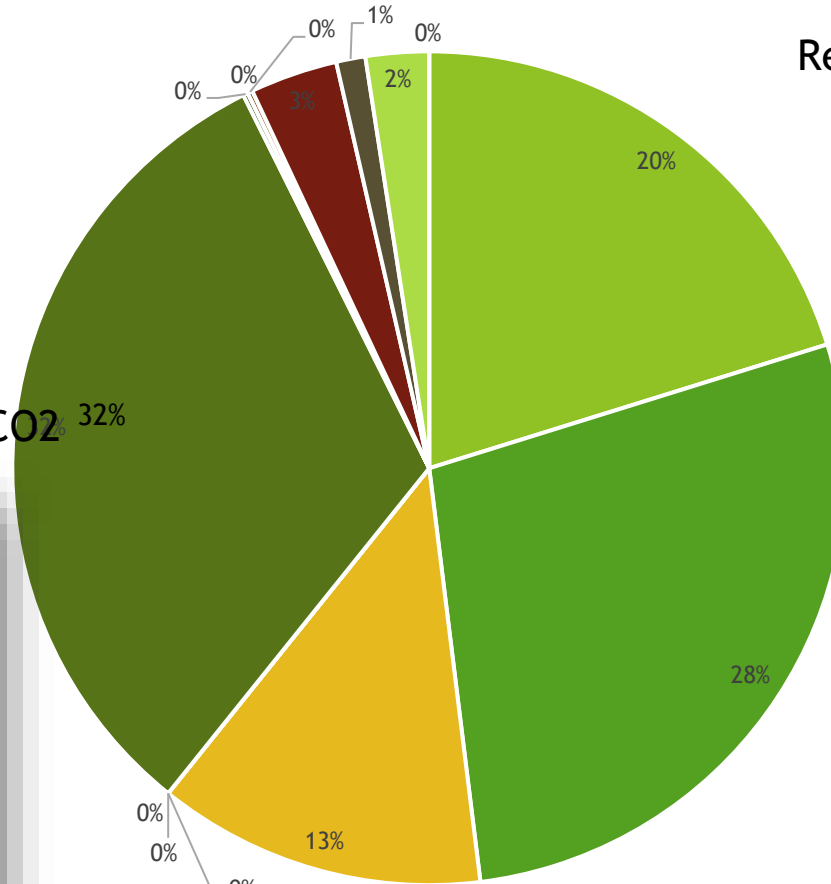
- 2016 **Noosa Council policy target** = zero net greenhouse gas emissions by 2026
- 2017 **ZEN Inc. formed**
- **Noosa Community net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2026.**
- **Community initiator & regional influencer ↓ CO2**



- **Qld. Govt. early stages of the transition to renewable energy**

Noosa Shire Community Emissions - % per sector

Total CO2 Emissions: 530,200

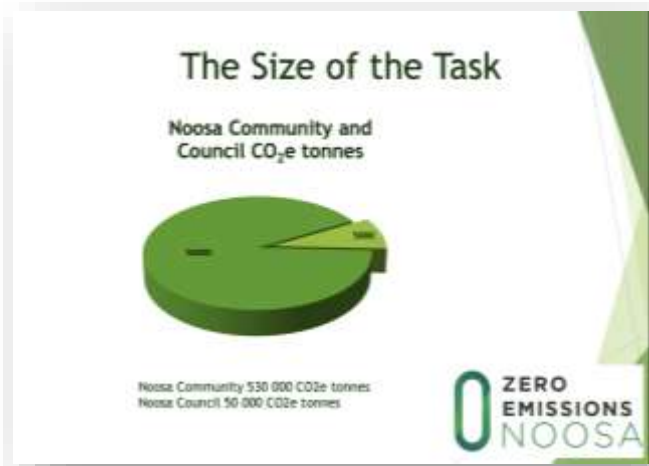


Residential: 107,100 t CO2

Transport :171,000 t CO2

Commercial Electricity: 147,600 t C

Industrial Electricity: 67,500 t CO2



- Residential electricity emissions
- Commercial electricity emissions
- Industrial electricity emissions
- Residential gas emissions
- Commercial gas emissions
- Industrial gas emissions
- Transport automobile emissions
- Transport motorbike emissions
- Transport rail emissions
- Transport bus emissions
- Waste - Landfill emissions
- Waste - wastewater emissions
- Agriculture emissions
- Land use emissions



➤ **Vision**

Net zero community greenhouse gas emissions across the Noosa region

➤ **Mission**

Addressing climate change through emissions reduction in the Noosa region



**LET'S DO
NET ZERO**

WHAT? ...ZEN Inc's 2 focus areas supporting transformation

- ▶ **Energy Emissions**
 - ▶ Business
 - ▶ Residential
- ▶ **Transport Emissions**



ZEN Inc's "added value" to Noosa Council & Noosa Community

- ▶ led community emissions reduction journey
- ▶ used evidence based reports
 - ▶ developed resources
- ▶ for community engagement, advocacy, projects & behaviour change
- ▶ ZEN Inc. "value adds" for Noosa Council & community



Helping Council Step Up as a LEADER in community energy



What? ZEN Inc's is "adding value" to Noosa Council & Noosa Community

ZEN Inc. projects are:

- cutting edge in renewable energy
- ground-breaking/future focused projects
- leading Queensland &
- often nationally.



Community battery

- Worked with Yarra Energy Foundation (YEF) & Noosa Council & paves the way for more cooperative ventures in the future!



The first community owned community battery in Qld!



Rewiring Noosa - Electrify Everything

Rewiring Australia's mission = Electrify Everything

- Fastest way to eliminate carbon emissions
- Create jobs
- Revitalise community economics
- Save money for households



Rewiring Australia
COMMUNITY PARTNER

We have been chosen as an expert partner who will share knowledge with emerging groups to accelerate electrification across Australia.

with Saul Griffith & the team at Rewiring Australia

Solar For Strata

Stage 1 – 8 Case studies on barriers to solar

Stage 2 – Online Manual

Stage 3 - video



Noosa Lakes Report
Largest solar PV system in Noosa
550KW

Peregian Energy Hub

June 14, 2022

FACT SHEET - PEREGIAN BEACH ENERGY HUB

2022, Fact Sheet

WHAT IS THE PROJECT / PROPOSAL ALL ABOUT?

Plans to transform the Rufous Street precinct at Peregian Beach into an "energy hub" is one of a number of ambitious projects being undertaken by Zero Emissions Noosa Inc (ZEN) in 2022.

The site at Peregian Beach already houses the highly successful Digital Hub and the recently completed new community house. Proponents argue that the development of an "energy hub" at the site would complete the trifecta.

The initial proposal has several components: installation of increased solar capacity on the Council owned buildings; the optimum use of the extra electricity generated through the installation of a suitable storage scheme; the provision of a number of electric vehicle charging stations; the use of the community house as a venue and focal point for community forums on emissions reduction, renewables, and associated topics. It is hoped that links will be developed to possible renewable energy start-ups at the Digital Hub.





Environmental Upgrade Agreements (EUA's)

ZEN Inc. and Council wins...

- ▶ LGAQ supports introduction of EUA's for residential properties
- ▶ Queensland state government supports EUA's for commercial properties

Much more advocacy needed for maximum success!

NOOSA HEADS

Home - News - Environmental Upgrades reduce costs

Keep

Environmental upgrades reduce costs

23/06/2022

[f](#) [t](#) [e](#)



Dr. Fiona Steadwell discussing EUAs with ZEN Inc. chair, Anne Kennedy.

By Zero Emissions Noosa, Inc.

Zero Emissions Noosa congratulates Noosa Council for taking up the challenge to help businesses and households to reduce their energy costs.



COOROY STATE SCHOOL

Cooroy is our Shine To Succeed to Zero, students be learning how energy data in the now joined by Noosa Shire Primary.

The solarschool everything the school week by week learn and gain insight over the sun educational

REDUCING ENERGY WASTE IN NOOSA SHIRE SCHOOLS

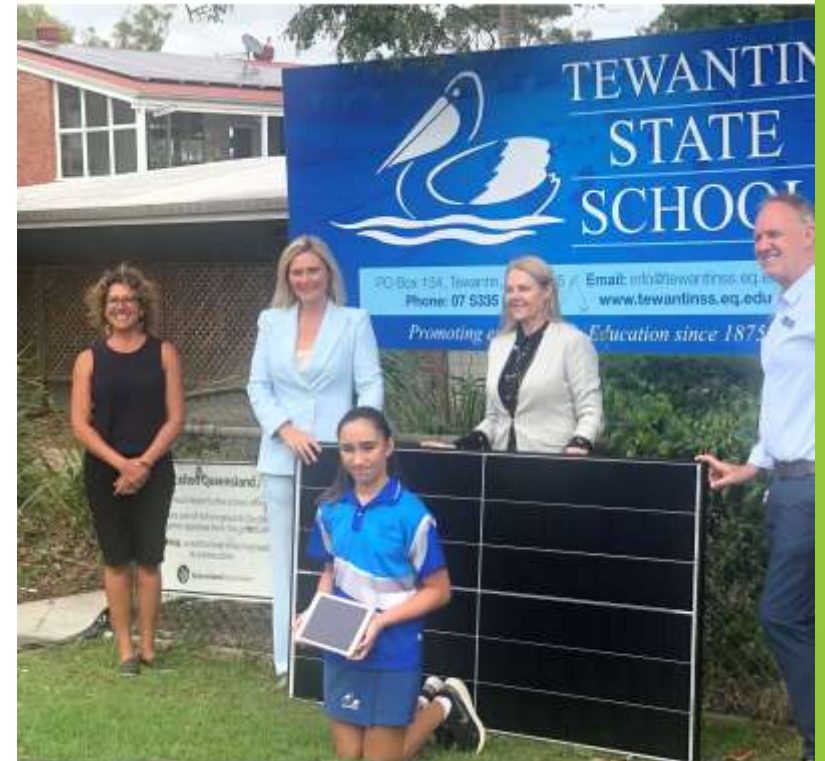
Race to Zero is Zero Emissions Noosa's school based behaviour change program. The energy of

HOME ABOUT RESIDENTIAL BUSINESS INITIATIVES TRANSPORT

Race to Zero - Behaviour Change Program for Noosa Schools

live electricity data for Noosa, including solar generated, consumed and exported, as well as electricity used from the grid

SCHOOL LIVE DATA



Race to Zero Program at Tewantin State Primary.

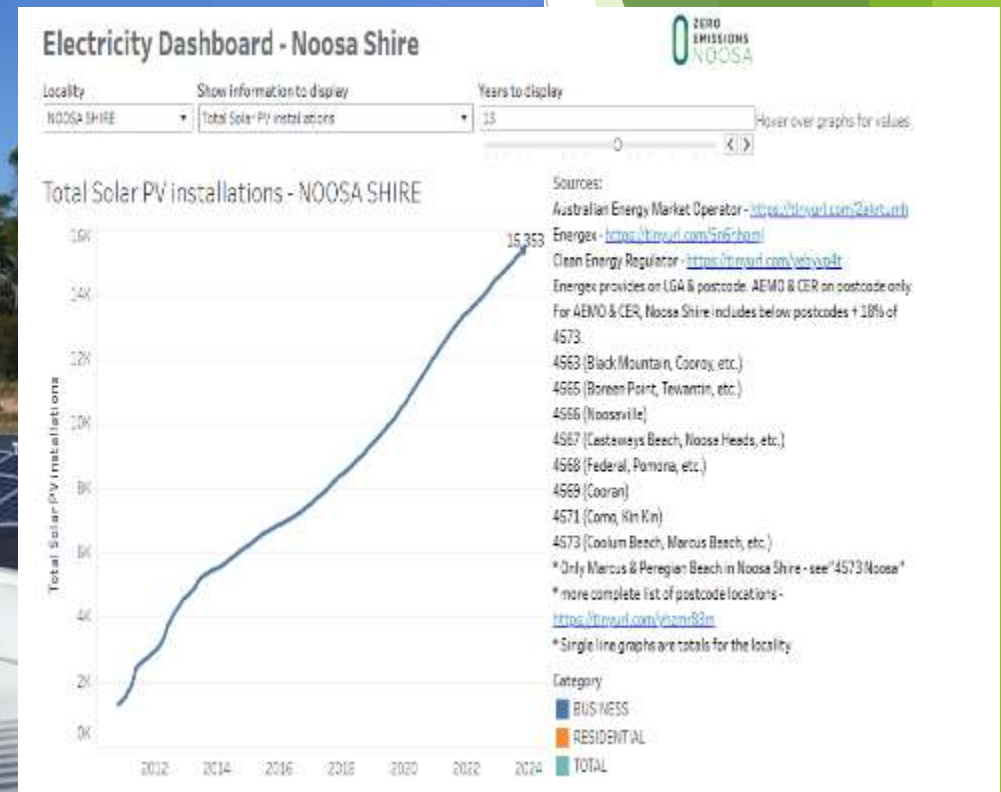
Race to Zero



“Energy efficiency education to our next generation of energy consumers creates behavioural change for low emissions living.”

Data Analysis

- Evidence of SOLAR uptake (Noosa LGA)



* Source Based on data from: Energen & Australian PV Institute (APVI) and ITP Renewables report.
#ZEN Inc. Data

5 EV EXPOS

- ▶ 5000 attendees
- ▶ 62 exhibitors
- ▶ 12 different modes of EV transport
- ▶ 70% of attendees came to learn
- ▶ > 33% decided to buy at least one EV after attending
- ▶ 78% of exhibitors reported follow-up business
- ▶ **2024 EV & Electrify Everything Expo**



Seeds of Change - Walking & Cycling

- ▶ Highlighting the need for connecting missing links in walking and cycling paths at key traffic points
- ▶ Funded by Sandy Bolton MP for Noosa





ZENDURO - Researching swappable batteries for electric vehicles with Sunshine Beach State School Year 6 students

2023 incl. Team Arrow Solar Challenge & UQ E Racing Teams about STEM subjects

HOW? ZEN Inc Board



Governance & Operations sub-committee



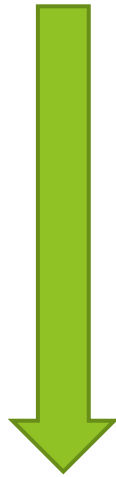
Finance & Funding sub-committee



Communications & Advocacy sub-committee



ZEN E (Electricity) Working group (Projects)



ZEN Transport (ZENTAG) Working Group (Projects)

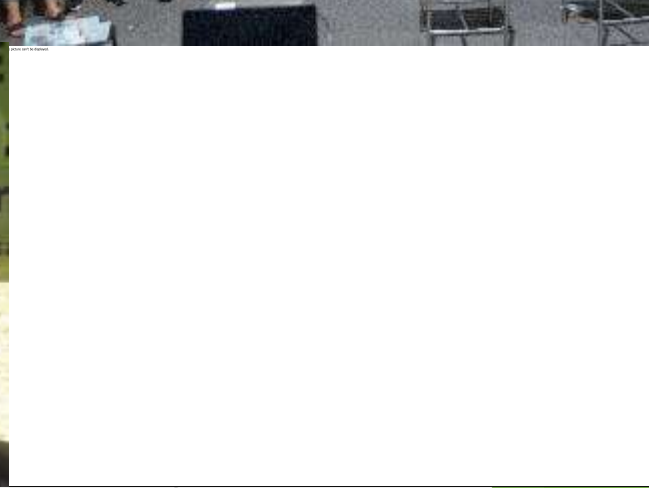


Advocacy, community engagement, awareness raising & behaviour change





Working with stakeholders & leaders to reduce emissions...



Collaboration and Community Communication

MOU's with 15 key organizations and groups	Race to Zero School Program	E-bike trials and cycling workshops	Community forums - libraries and PBCH
Coalition for Community Energy	National Community Scale Battery Working Group	Discussions with Energex/Energy Qld.	Lobbied Qld. Govt. & NSC re EUA's
Sustainable Tourism Reference Group	Noosa Council Environment Strategy Forum	Noosa Council Walking & Cycling Strategy Group	Transport Steering Group & CCRP CRG
Submissions to Noosa Planning Scheme, CCRP, CHAP & issues of interest/concern	Queensland Strata Community Association	Conference Presentations - Nat. Sustainability Conf.; National Community Power Plan Launch	Business Case Studies
Zero Emissions Brisbane	- Facebook page; Noosa Today column; website; data gathering	Australian Electric Vehicle Association	Major projects - EV EXPO & Others

Lessons for Working in Community Energy

- ▶ Need Funding
- ▶ Support of key stakeholders
- ▶ Evidence based projects
- ▶ Strong founder & core group
- ▶ Continual renewal & succession planning
- ▶ Focus on message for your target audience - Noosa = cost saving & what is good for the planet get that outcome anyway!
- ▶ Agile & able to pivot - **FAST**
- ▶ Cutting Edge - **VITAL**
- ▶ Consultative - **FAIR**