

**Impact 2022. Accelerating climate action.**



## Recognition of traditional custodians.

We recognise that Aboriginal people's sovereignty over their land was never ceded and the impact of this ongoing dispossession continues to this day.

Beyond Zero Emissions stands in solidarity with First Nations people in calling for the establishment of a First Nations Voice in the Constitution, as described in the Uluru Statement

from the Heart. We further support calls for the establishment of a Makarrata Commission on agreement-making and truth-telling between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and governments.

Beyond Zero Emissions maintains an office on the traditional lands of the Wurundjeri-willam people of the

Kulin Nation, and in Newcastle on the lands of the Awabakal, Worimi and Wonnarua peoples.

We pay our respects to all First Nations Elders past, present and those emerging.

# Accelerating towards a zero-emissions economy.

## Our vision:

A prosperous, zero-emissions Australia.

## How we do it:

We work with industry, political decision-makers and regional communities to present optimistic and compelling solutions that accelerate climate action and turbo-charge Australia's shift to a zero-emissions economy.

## Values:

We are collaborative

We are committed

We are positive

We are inclusive

We are adaptable





*Geoff Summerhayes, Chair*

### **Beyond Zero Emissions board of directors is chaired by Geoff Summerhayes.**

Geoff has a unique set of commercial and regulatory skills as a former Executive Board Member at Australian Prudential Regulation Authority and CEO of Suncorp Life, in addition to being recognised as a global leader on climate change financial risk regulation. Geoff is a Director of Heartland Group Holdings Ltd NZ and Senior Advisor working with Pollination Group, CSIRO and Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership.

Geoff has led significant regulatory change on climate risk in Australia and globally and chaired the Council of Financial Regulators Working Group on Climate Change.

### **BZE Board Directors include:**

**Elisa de Wit** is a Partner of Norton Rose Fulbright and heads the firm's Climate Change and Sustainability practice.

**Phil Vernon** has more than 30 years experience in financial services, including 10 years as Managing Director and Chief Executive of Australian Ethical Investment.

**Dr Anne Hellstedt** is a strategic leader with experience across a broad range of sectors, including construction, consulting and academia.

**Cristina Talacko** is a director of the Export Council of Australia, Chair of the Coalition for Conservation and Vice-President of the Australian-Brazil Chamber of Commerce.

**Susheela Peres da Costa** is Principal at the Stewardship Centre, Director of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW and of US-based think tank, The Shareholder Commons.

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Beyond Zero Emissions audit firm is **RSM Australia**.



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# 1. Our moment has arrived

A large field of white wind turbines is situated on a grassy hillside. The turbines are arranged in a line, with some in the foreground and others receding into the distance. The sky is a clear, light blue, and the overall scene is bright and open.

**“Together we can take advantage of the opportunity for Australia to be a renewable energy superpower.”**

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese,  
election victory speech, 21 May 2022

BZE report *Renewable Energy Superpower* first published in 2015

# We're accelerating climate action, together.

## For all of us inspired by urgent climate action, these are heady days.

In just the past six months, Australia has legislated a more ambitious 2030 emissions reduction target and several states have even begun exploring new growth areas in critical minerals mining and green hydrogen production, and the United States Congress passed historic climate laws that present a new opportunity to secure Australia's economic prosperity for decades to come.

**Climate solutions are finally getting the attention they deserve.** But still the question remains: with CO2 concentration reaching 420 parts per million and regional Australia experiencing record fires, floods, heat and drought, are we acting with enough urgency in response to this existential threat?

Beyond Zero Emissions (BZE) was established in 2006 by scientists and engineers intent on quantifying, for the first time, how Australia could be powered by 100% renewable energy within ten years. This report, the *Stationary Energy Plan (2010)*, was launched by Malcolm Turnbull, raised the level of ambition held by the Australian Energy Market Operator and profoundly shifted the national conversation about renewable energy in Australia.

The *Stationary Energy Plan (2010)* is an example of BZE at its best, with Australian governments, industry and communities following our lead and raising their own level of ambition for climate action. **It is with the same spirit that BZE commits to redefining what ambition on climate needs to be.**

In 2023 we will:

**Accelerate the pace of industrial decarbonisation** to create new

jobs and support Australian manufacturers to grow, by securing funding and policy support for a national network of *Renewable Energy Industrial Precincts* that reduce industrial emissions at an ecosystem level.

**Accelerate the deployment of climate solutions** that improve the lives of all Australians, by demonstrating how we can end the cost of energy crisis forever, and by developing Australia's first free and independently available online platform to connect great, green projects with the government funding they need to succeed.

**Accelerate the spread of good news about the benefits of climate action**, by starting national conversations about opportunities for regional Australia to prosper in the green economy and how Australia can leverage historic opportunities such as America's Inflation Reduction Act to become a green exports powerhouse.

We are proud to have contributed to the climate action Australia has already taken to reduce carbon emissions and set our economy up for long-term prosperity. Now it's time to raise our expectations about what is achievable, so that we do what is needed to maintain a safe climate and improve the lives of all Australians by accelerating towards the future beyond zero emissions.

*Geoff Summerhayes & Heidi Lee*

# Who is Beyond Zero Emissions?

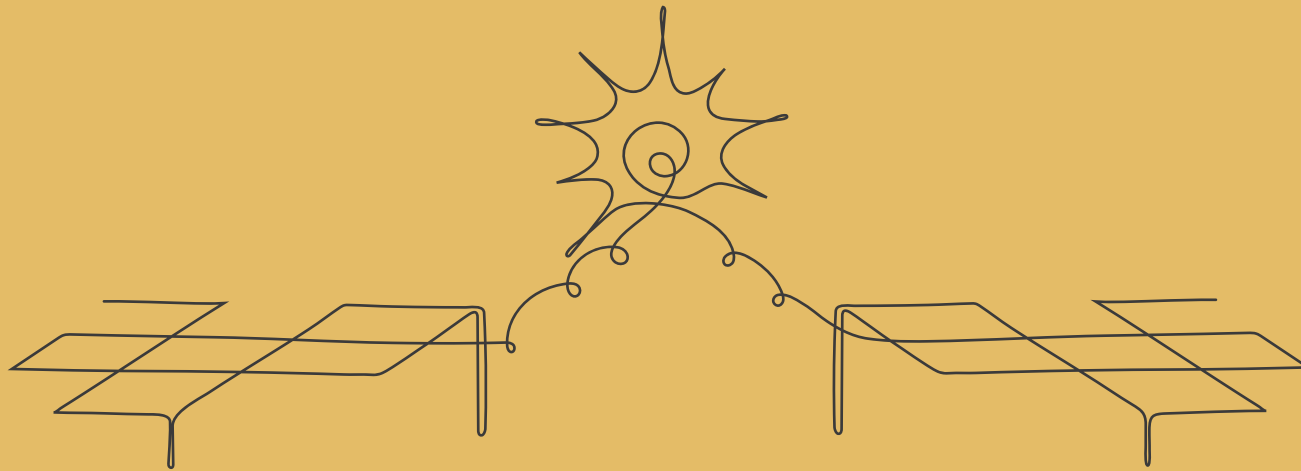
**Beyond Zero Emissions is an independent think tank creating solutions for a prosperous, zero-emissions Australia.**

We publish research on solutions that unlock economic potential for industries, regions and communities.

We showcase real-world projects as opportunities to prosper in a zero-emissions economy, and we supercharge our work through a network of expert volunteers.

Our role in Australia's climate movement is to shift political discourse and accelerate the pace of policy change to address the climate

crisis. We do this by publishing ambitious and credible zero-emissions research, by engaging influential decision-makers, and by sharing compelling narratives through the media and paid advertising.





# Our theory of change.

BZE's research, advocacy and communications are designed to solve two problems. The scientific problem is that Australia is not bringing carbon emissions down fast enough for a 1.5C degree increase in global warming. The perception problem, created and perpetuated by the fossil fuel industry, is that decarbonising Australia will ruin our economy. Our theory of change reflects these twin challenges.

When regional communities that depend on fossil fuels become vocal supporters of a clean economy, we will see greater adoption of climate-positive solutions on a national scale. This support is critical to decarbonising Australia at scale and speed.

## 2. Our impact in 2022

**“Based on BZE’s achievements, strategic approach to addressing climate policy barriers, and the impact that additional funding would have, we recommend it as one of our top organisations for influencing climate policy in Australia.”**

Independent evaluation of high-impact climate action organisations conducted by Giving Green



# 2022 Snapshot.



**3**

**groundbreaking reports released**

Deploy, Gladstone REIP Briefing Paper, Hunter REIP Briefing Paper

**9**

**submissions made to parliamentary committees and inquiries**

To shape policy outcomes

**38**

**conferences, presentations and webinars**

To share our work with partners and industry leaders

**109**

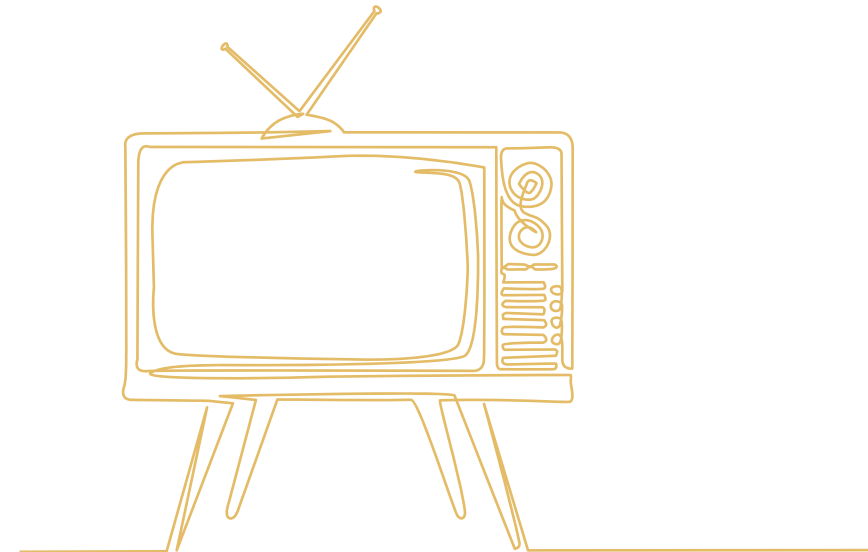
**industry partners support our programs**

Employing over 13,000 people in Australia

**1,048**

**media appearances**

Reaching over 22 million people via TV, press, radio and online news



# Reflecting, learning and growing our impact.

Beyond Zero Emissions is committed to open and transparent communication, and this applies to our impact reporting. Our staff continually monitor our external environment, identifying and sharing examples of organisational impact on a daily basis. This is used to prepare monthly management reports and quarterly impact reports that track change over time and hold us to account.

In our inaugural *Impact 2022: Accelerating Climate Action* report, we are focussed on the outcomes we have achieved (what has changed) rather than outputs (activities completed) as a result of our work in 2022. Going forward, we will continue to refine impact measurement, with annual data collection enabling us to demonstrate progress over time and strengthen our understanding about what works and why.



## daily

Our staff share examples of organisational impact on a daily basis



## monthly

monthly management reports for internal distribution



## quarterly

quarterly impact reports (distributed to 50+ partners)

# Our 8 impact measures are:



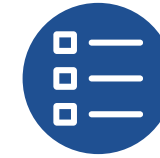
**Regional communities** are convinced that decarbonisation is an opportunity, not a threat



**Emissions intensive industries** are convinced that decarbonisation is an opportunity, not a threat



**Politicians** are convinced that decarbonisation is a political opportunity, not a threat



Increase in governments adopting **BZE's policy recommendations**



Increase in **government funding** of BZE's policy and project recommendations



**Decrease in opposition** to decarbonisation at an industry, political and community level



Increase in **public and private investment** in renewable energy and clean technology



Increase in ambition of government **policies and targets** which reduce emissions across all jurisdictions

# 3. Our results in 2022



**"BZE is a catalyst for real change. The BZE team do great research and have the connections in government and business to get it implemented."**

*Jeff Wicks, ACME Foundation*

# 2022 Program and project highlights.



## Momentum builds for Renewable Energy Industrial Precincts

Renewable Energy Industrial Precincts (REIPs) are Australia's best opportunity to revitalise domestic manufacturing, by repowering our industries with cheap and abundant renewable energy.

Working with our partners in the climate movement and across dozens of emerging manufacturers, we have never been closer to securing funding and policy support for this opportunity to modernise our economy and diversify our exports for decades to come.



## Deploy cleantech, reduce emissions by 81% this decade

BZE's *Deploy* report, released in October, shows how a mass deployment of proven, available clean technologies can reduce Australia's emissions by 81% by 2030.

This research, which focuses on six technologies that will do the heavy lifting, demonstrates that the solutions to tackle climate change are readily available and what is now required are policies, investment and courage to turn "what" (solutions) into "how" (action).



## BZE's election ad campaign seen 2,200,000 times in Central Queensland

BZE played an important role to ensure a "climate war" did not break out in Central Queensland during the 2022 election, as occurred during the 2019 election.

One of the tactics we employed was a mass marketing campaign running throughout the election period. Our "Protecting jobs in Gladstone by repowering manufacturing with renewables" message was seen over 2.2 million times across target electorates.



## 2022 program and project highlights.



### BZE crowds-out fossil fuels from Australia's biggest regional innovation event

The **Hunter Innovation Festival** is an opportunity to showcase the many emerging green manufacturers we work with in the Hunter region who are re-shaping the economic landscape in one of Australia's most fossil-fuel focussed communities.

This year, BZE was the principal event sponsor and took the opportunity to maximise our engagement with the local community (including members of parliament) and ensure fossil fuel companies were unable to participate in the event.



### Climate change, not climate wars, was the big story at this year's federal election

In the 2019 election, Central Queensland and the Hunter were locations where the "climate wars" took centre stage.

To support an opportunity – and solutions-focussed message in the 2022 election, BZE published comprehensive briefing papers, coordinated media activity and held briefings with candidates. The strong connection created between jobs, manufacturing and renewable energy ensured anti-climate platforms became a risky proposition for the major parties in this campaign.



### BZE showcases Australian cleantech manufacturers at COP27 in Egypt

Having demonstrated the potential of up-and-coming manufacturers at the Hunter Innovation Festival, we were pleased to work with the Australian Government to put Renewable Energy Industrial Precincts and 27 cleantech innovators on the global stage at COP27.

By hosting a cleantech showcase at the "Australia Pavilion" at COP, we were able to show stakeholders from Australia and around the world that our domestic cleantech sector is open for business.







## Development begins on Australia's first free, independent cleantech investment hub

Australia does not have a free and independent one-stop-shop for investors and businesses to connect and fast-track cleantech projects. As a result, big opportunities are going begging.

BZE is committed to solving this challenge, and in 2022 we started development on a new, online resource for Australia's most promising emissions reducing projects to be identified, validated and presented to governments.



## Pushing parliament to go further and faster on climate action

To accelerate climate action, BZE briefs members of parliament and their staff, as well as senior members of government departments, every month.

In 2022, we hired a Government Affairs Specialist with considerable public sector experience and, alongside the wider BZE team, held briefings with MPs across the political spectrum to ensure our parliamentary representatives understand why it is in Australia's national interest to move further and faster on climate action.



## Connecting with regional communities through sustained media activity

At BZE, we believe that convincing regional communities of the benefits of climate action will lead to rapid economic decarbonisation.

To deliver this objective, we engage with regional media to share narratives about climate solutions and regional economic opportunities. In 2022, regional media published 827 articles and editorials, reaching over 3.9 million people in regional Australia.



# 4. Our community



**“Amazing work this year – and big congrats to the entire team. I am so delighted and proud of you all!”**

Major philanthropic donor to BZE

In 2022 we showcased 78 of Australia's leading clean technology organisations to key decision-makers locally, nationally and internationally.



# Our philanthropic network.

Beyond Zero Emissions is funded by a small network of generous donors, including over 200 regular monthly contributors. Thank you to the following philanthropic partners who have made it possible to produce impactful work in 2022. We couldn't do it without you!



# The Beyond Zero Emissions community in 2022.

**22**

project partners

**22**

major donors contributed  
**\$2.7 million**

**28**

staff and directors

**33**

expert reviewers of  
our reports

**57**

volunteers

**109**

industry partners

**229**

monthly donors  
contributed **\$62,000**  
in essential ongoing  
support

**772**

one-time donors  
contributed  
**\$212,000**

**50k**

online followers across  
Facebook, Twitter,  
LinkedIn and more



# 5. Our next steps

A wide-angle photograph of a solar farm. The foreground and middle ground are filled with rows of solar panels mounted on metal frames, extending towards the horizon. The sky is a deep blue with scattered white clouds. In the distance, there are dark, silhouetted hills or mountains. The overall lighting suggests late afternoon or early morning.

**“We have 86 months till 2030. That’s not long for this massive transformation.”**

Hon. Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Climate Change and Energy, October 2022

# This year is pivotal. We can't stop now.

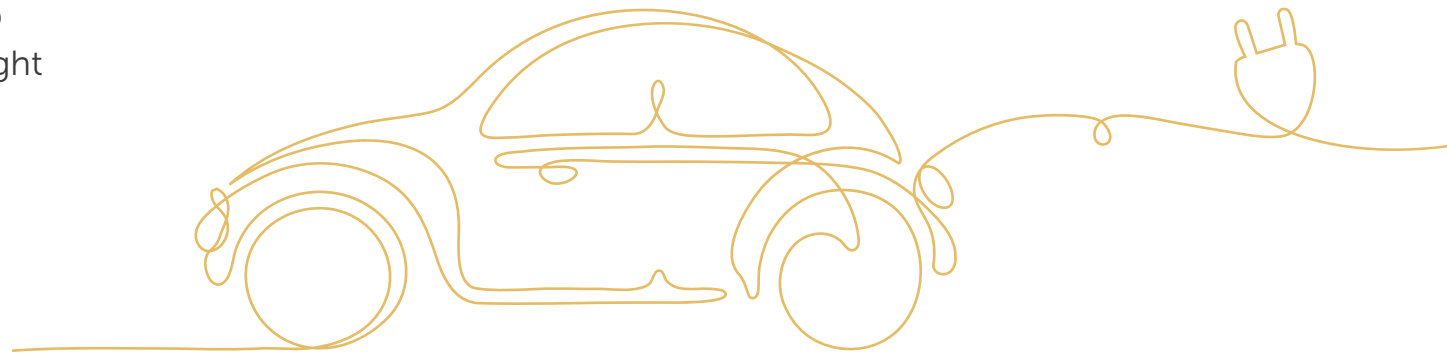
**The race to decarbonise is on, with action this decade deciding the winners in the global green economy of the future.**

Australia has everything we need to become a zero-emissions powerhouse: cheap and abundant renewable energy, a smart and capable workforce, and access to the resources that will dominate economic growth for the rest of this century. According to CSIRO, we are “uniquely well placed to capitalise on a zero-carbon future”.

But to deliver this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, our leaders need to scale up their ambition and take decisive action right now.

The race to decarbonise is highly competitive, and Australia risks missing out if we are too slow or too timid.

BZE's research shows that we already have the solutions to rapidly reduce emissions while growing our economy and improving our way of life. Now it's time to act, to deliver a safe future for all Australians and to maximise opportunities in the modern industrial revolution that's already under way.



# Our priority projects for 2023.

The Beyond Zero Emissions team is seeking funding to create impact via the following activities in 2023. These projects are subject to change as we develop our plans and project governance.



## Deliver a national network of zero-emissions manufacturing precincts

In 2023, we will create impact by securing federal government policy and funding for infrastructure and equipment that will decarbonise regional industrial precincts.

This matters because industrial emissions will soon become Australia's largest source of planet warming pollution. Once manufacturing is powered by 100% renewable energy, Australia will be capable of producing cleantech to decarbonise our economy at scale and export high-demand products to our trading partners.



## Highlight the "Energy Evolution" that's under way in the Hunter

In 2023, we will create impact by shining a light on one of Australia's best kept secrets: the rapid renewables-powered economic transition taking place in the Hunter, one of our regional "coal communities".

This matters because our video series – featuring several emerging manufacturing businesses – will demonstrate that the shift towards the green economy is already under way in regional locations still considered by some to be depending on fossil fuels.



## Showcase Australia's most promising cleantech manufacturers to political leaders

In 2023, we will create impact by extending the cleantech showcase events we coordinated in 2022, at the Hunter Innovation Festival and COP27, to political leaders in federal parliament.

This matters because showcase events powerfully demonstrate the enormous potential for regional industrial decarbonisation and support our push to secure commitments to establish a national network of Renewable Energy Industrial Precincts.







## Extend our on-the-ground presence to Western Australia

In 2023, Beyond Zero Emissions will extend its on-the-ground presence to Western Australia, by hiring a new team member to lead our activity in that state.

This will create impact by ensuring we maintain a strong local presence to coordinate activity across industry, media, political leaders and local communities in this critical region.



## Launch the Cleantech Investment Hub to secure funding for green projects

In 2023, we will create impact by launching Australia's first free and independent one-stop-shop for investors and businesses to connect and fast-track cleantech projects.

This will create impact by securing funding for Australia's most promising emissions reducing projects.



## Demonstrate how Australia can end the cost of energy crisis forever

In 2023, we will create impact by publishing new research which shows that, with the right policy settings and investment, the cost of energy crisis will be the last that Australians ever experience.

This matters because energy costs will be a major challenge for households, businesses and governments this year and, by demonstrating that climate solutions (not fossil fuels) are the answer, we can decarbonise our economy and improve living standards at the same time.



## Show how a National Supergrid supports the rapid shift to 100% renewable energy

In 2023, we will create impact by releasing a new report to demonstrate the benefit of accelerating the rollout of nation-building electricity grid infrastructure.

This matters because, by extending current government initiatives such as Rewiring the Nation and the National Reconstruction Fund, we can deliver energy sovereignty, supply chain security, thousands of good jobs and low-cost energy for decades to come.



# Help us accelerate climate action to create a prosperous, zero-emissions Australia.

## 1.

Maximise the impact of our priority projects. **We are seeking partners for several priority projects for 2023** that are currently part-funded. Reach out to discuss making a contribution today.

## 2.

Become a regular donor by chipping in **\$20 each month**. Ongoing donations are a great way to deepen your connection with BZE and provide us with the financial certainty we need to confidently scale up our programs and our team.

## 3.

Double your impact by making a **multi-year commitment**. A generous major donor has offered to match all new, large, multi-year funding we receive up to \$1 million per year.

Contact us to discuss this opportunity to double the value of your donation to BZE.



[bze.org.au/donate](https://bze.org.au/donate)



[josh.comer@bze.org.au](mailto:josh.comer@bze.org.au)



0431 048 550



# Thank you!

A big thank you to our wonderful and generous community of donors, partners, supporters and volunteers for making our work and the impact it creates possible.

*We couldn't do what we do without you!*



For more information about moving to a zero-emissions economy, please contact:

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