



Beyond Zero Emissions
Strategic Plan
2017-2020

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Message from the Chair and CEO

Australia has world-beating renewable energy resources, wealth, land, industrial capacity and the skills needed to rapidly transform our economy to zero emissions. There is no time or reason for debate. Climate change is upon us and we have an ethical obligation to use everything we have to quickly remove greenhouse emissions from our economy and our atmosphere.

Beyond Zero Emissions is the only Australian organisation developing solutions and advocating for a ten year transition across all sectors of the economy. We are the only think-tank powered by volunteers that willingly give their expertise in engineering, science, economics and communications to create climate solutions.

For more than ten years we have been inspiring action and confidence with bold, credible pathways to zero carbon. We've had great success:

- Our pioneering **Stationary Energy Plan** changed the conversation on renewables in Australia, convincing governments, businesses and communities that 100% renewable electricity was possible
- **Repowering Port Augusta** - a blueprint for replacing coal with solar - galvanised a successful five-year community campaign that resulted in the South Australian Government backing a concentrated solar thermal plant
- **Renewable Energy Superpower** has become the spoken ambition of Australian climate leaders
- Our **Electric Vehicle** report showed Australia could easily and affordably match and even top the UK's lead on electric vehicles, and was endorsed by the ACT and Queensland Governments
- **Zero Carbon Communities Guide** quickly inspired community confidence and action at the local level

- **Rethinking Cement** - the world's first report showing how cement can be decarbonised - generated national interest and support across the construction and infrastructure sector within months of its release.

There is more Beyond Zero Emissions needs to do. We need to finish our industry research to show Australia how its manufacturing and metals industry can wipe out carbon emissions, prosper and generate jobs. Expand on our transport and land use work to develop clear pathways to zero emissions. Produce targeted reports showing how regional areas - like Port Augusta - can transition to zero carbon and thrive.

And we need to commence drawdown research as it becomes increasingly clear that getting to zero is not enough to stabilise a safe climate.

Beyond Zero Emissions will continue to mobilise our large network of volunteers and partners in academia, business, government and community to build support for a rapid transition to zero emissions. Our task is more important than ever.

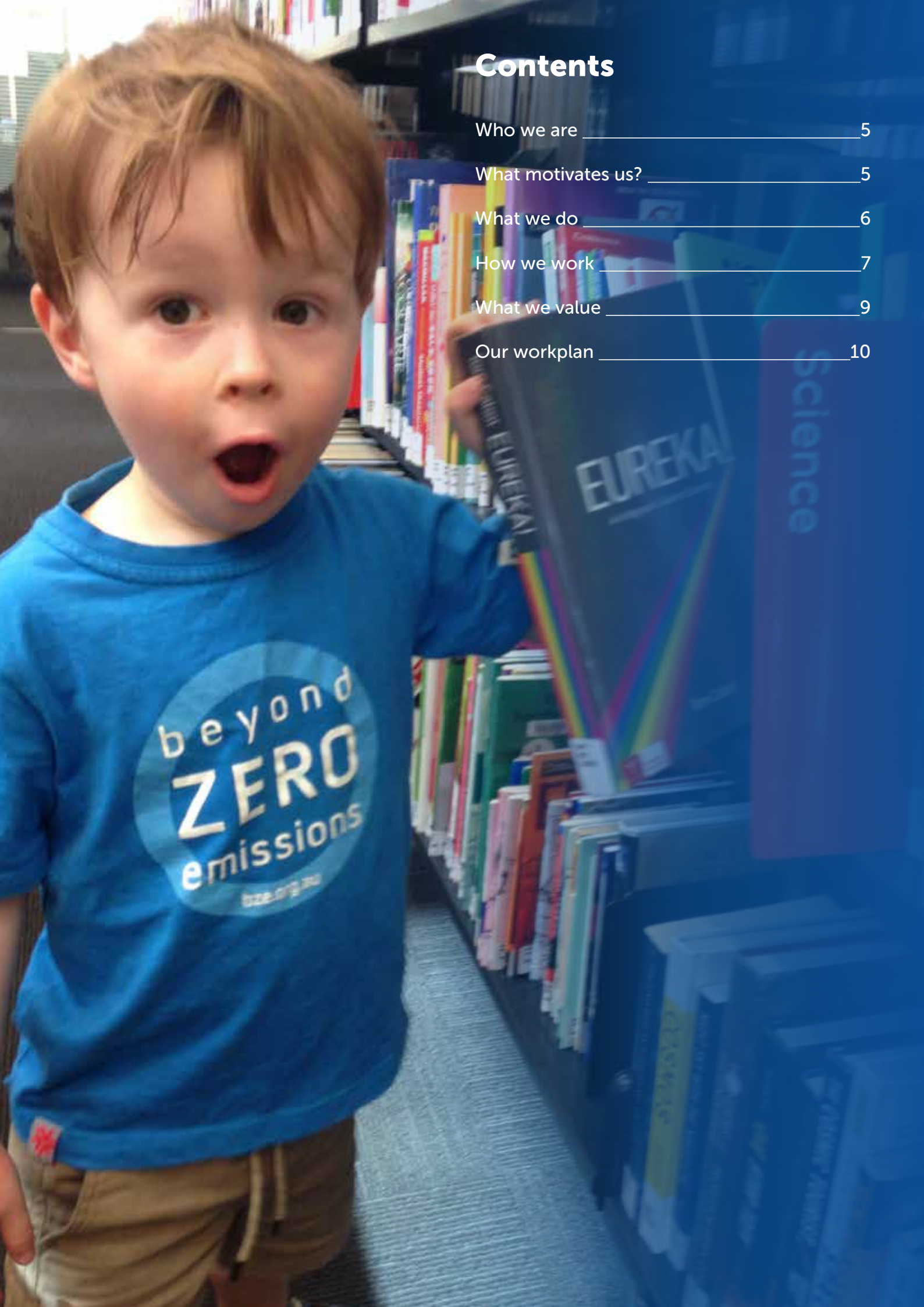
Please make our vision possible. With your support Beyond Zero Emissions will continue to accelerate the transition by demonstrating that a zero emissions Australia is achievable, affordable and beneficial for all.



Phil Vernon
Chair



Vanessa Petrie
Chief Executive Officer



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Beyond Zero Emissions is a volunteer led climate solutions think tank. We are a community of technology experts, scientists, researchers, communicators and concerned citizens who freely give our time and expertise so that a safe climate can be secured for all.

Our Vision is for a zero emissions Australia.

Our Mission is to show a zero emissions Australia is achievable and affordable now. We draw on the expertise of our volunteers to develop our research, communicate its outcomes and influence others.

Our bold approach has won us global recognition being ranked in the top 100 'Best Independent Think Tanks in the world' (one of only five Australian think tanks) by the Lauder Institute (University of Pennsylvania) in 2016.

The world needs to act fast to limit and reverse the devastating effects of climate change on humanity.

Most countries have committed to limiting warming to no more than 2°C above pre-industrial levels. This is a critical step towards decarbonising our world, but it is the bare minimum of what we need to achieve.

Stabilising temperature increase to below 1.5°C requires an urgent and fundamental departure from business as usual, but little effort is spent into detailed plans showing how this can be done.

Beyond Zero Emissions' research is based on a ten-year pathway for achieving zero emissions. We show that a rapid transition is achievable and affordable, and will have many benefits in Australia.

We are the only organisation dedicated to researching rapid transition pathways to zero across all sectors. Our deep commitment to the planet and humanity drives us to roll up our sleeves and do the work needed to safeguard our future.



Research

We develop detailed plans for all sectors of the economy, showing how each sector can be decarbonised in ten years.

We focus on solutions that:

- enable us to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions
- are proven, affordable and relevant to Australian conditions
- improve environmental and social conditions.

We focus our research on emission sources that receive little campaigning or policy attention. Our community of volunteer researchers allows us to draw on a wide range of expertise and capabilities. No other think tank in Australia offers this wealth of collaboration, experience and insight.

Mobilise community action

Our volunteer network operates in all walks of life and positions of influence. We use that influence to communicate the outcomes of our research, build support for rapid decarbonisation and inspire people to act on solutions..

Our message is one of hope, confidence and clarity of direction rather than of despair.

Through presentations, stakeholder meetings, radio shows and discussion groups, our engagement program shares the story of practical climate solutions with government, business and community showing Australians what can be achieved through existing technology.

Volunteering with Beyond Zero Emissions is transformative. Young professionals develop skills, experience and a life-long commitment to carbon solutions. Experienced professionals use their formidable experience and networks to drive urgent change, and mentor younger people learning their craft.

Our two weekly radio shows on 3CR provide a platform for Australian and global climate leaders to share their expertise and work. Hundreds of podcasts are freely available, helping to empower community change with knowledge.

Our collaborative approach with industry, universities, governments and community groups helps to amplify our message and influence so that we 'punch above our weight'. We also collaborate with other not for profits and campaign organisations.

Our Zero Carbon Communities program implements our research at the local level empowering communities with knowledge and turning that knowledge into action. We are creating a national network to share successes and experiences to build the critical 'feedback loop' needed for speeding up transition.



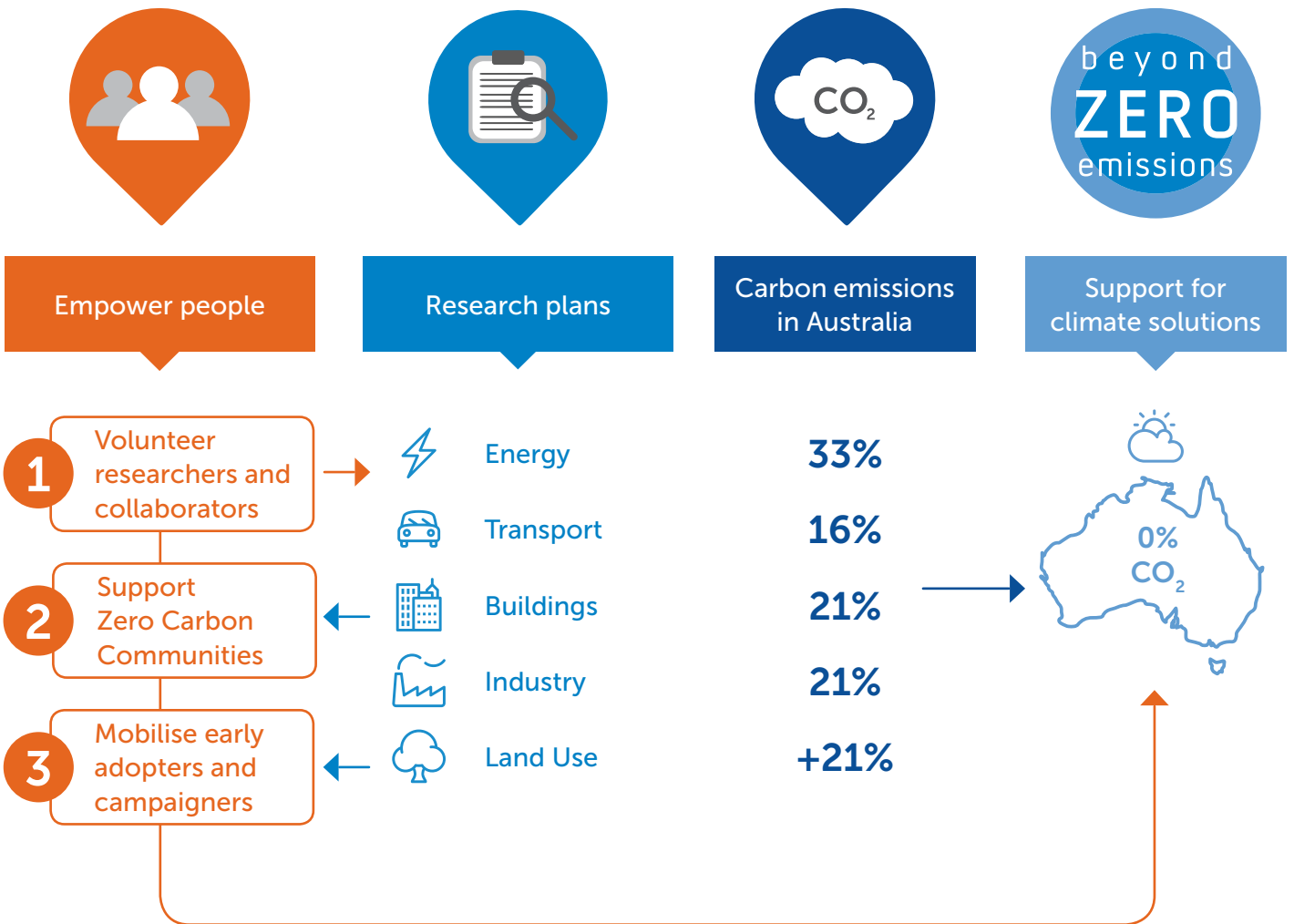
Volunteer-led research

Beyond Zero Emissions' is a volunteer-led organisation – 85% of our researchers are volunteers. Experts who provide consultation and who peer review our work do so on a pro bono basis.

We mobilise the immense skills, experience and goodwill of our community to develop ground-breaking research, communicate it and influence others.



Figure 1: How Beyond Zero Emissions builds support for climate solutions



Maximising our impact through collaboration

Beyond Zero Emissions is collaborative by nature - working with researchers, industry, volunteers, government, campaigners and communities to provide solutions to climate change.

We are a small research organisation, and collaborating allows us to maximise our impact.

Figure 2: Climate solutions in Australia

People and organisations working towards a zero carbon transition in Australia can be thought of in four broad groups:

- **Implementers** deliver solutions, for example Governments, investors and businesses
- **Solutions providers** create plans that decarbonise the economy and atmosphere. Beyond Zero Emissions operates in this space.



- **Researchers/ Scientists** show us what is happening in the Earth's climate and what needs to be done for safe climate restoration
- **Campaigners** advocate for the changes needed to safeguard our climate

What we value



- **Courage of conviction.**
We will be bold and innovative and we will have the courage to propose the climate actions needed to address the serious crisis humanity faces.
- **Independence.**
Our research is factual, independent and free from political or corporate influence.
- **Honesty and openness.**
We are accountable and open in our communication.
- **Respect.**
We respect and value a diversity of opinion and viewpoints.
- **Collaboration.**
We work with many people and organisations throughout the community toward our common goal.
- **Sustaining our people.**
We are resilient and compassionate and recognise the importance of people's well-being. We celebrate our successes, and continue to learn together.



Program area



Research

Undertake unique research into technical solutions that can rapidly decarbonise our economy and remove excess greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.



Communication

Demonstrate that a zero carbon economy is achievable, affordable and of benefit to all Australians.

Key objectives

Finalise sector coverage

- **Industrial processes** – give industry and governments the knowledge and confidence they need to move forward without coal and gas, and without chemical processes that emit carbon. We will engage with industry and manufacturers to write practical plans that set out the best way of eliminating emissions across this vital sector
- **Transport** – design zero carbon transport system that can provide a similar level of mobility to Australians as the current system and eliminate the need for oil
- **Agriculture and Land use** – prepare a pathway for agriculture and land use, building on our 2014 Land Use: Agriculture and Forestry Discussion Paper

Drawdown series

- Commence the Drawdown series exploring existing and emerging solutions to draw carbon out of the atmosphere

Enhance existing sector reports

- **Whole economy view** – develop a strategic overview of the whole economy to provide context for the sectoral plans showing how all the pieces fit together
- **Targeted case studies** – produce focused pieces of research and case studies adapting our sector-wide plans to emerging opportunities and dispel myths that stand as a barrier to rapid transition

- **Website and social media** – revitalise our communications platforms as key portals for communicating our work and engaging with our community
- **Radio** – revitalise our radio programs, positioning Beyond Zero Emissions radio as a platform for sharing innovative climate solutions and community mobilisation
- Establish and deliver an overarching communications, marketing and media strategy to maximise reach of BZE narrative, messages and impact, including establishing a sector by sector communications and influencing plan
- **Partner** – collaborate with organisations that can extend the reach and implementation of Beyond Zero Emissions' research and advocacy
- Develop a 'theory of change' for an economy wide, emergency transformation, mapping out what's needed to implement all BZE pathways in ten years

Program area



Community engagement

Mobilise a network of volunteers and communities to bring to life and implement our research.



Governance

Ensure a well-functioning and sustainable organisation that supports its people in fulfilling its mission.

Key objectives

Volunteer network

- Revitalise and grow our presentation program and discussion groups across all BZE volunteer chapters
- Engage “train the trainer” skills to maximise the effectiveness of the presentation and engagement skills of volunteers
- Enhance support and management of volunteers, including engaging a volunteer coordinator to support the network and the strategy.

Zero carbon communities

- **Guidelines and templates** – build on the recently released Zero Carbon Community Guide to produce technical guidelines and templates including baseload reports, transition strategies, community engagement and business cases
- **Expert support network** – establish a team of experts to support communities on a pro-bono basis, and facilitate peer-to-peer learning and support across communities
- **Local Government Surveys** – undertake a biennial, national survey of local governments to develop a picture of national policy commitment and action
- **Advocacy** – advocate for state and national governments to support zero carbon communities
- **Build the community** – grow the **Zero Carbon Community network** through promoting the program and collaborating with other climate NGOs, sharing knowledge and expertise

- Ensure a board that is collaborative, mission aligned and who actively contribute to the pursuit of the organisation’s mission
- Ensure a structured fundraising strategy that steers the organisation to a secure financial future
- Ensure a supportive governance structure for our volunteers recognising that they are the lifeblood of the organisation
- Nurture our people, ensuring their time with Beyond Zero Emissions fulfils them professionally and personally
- Ensure sound risk management and governance to ensure that the organisation’s brand, assets and reputation are protected



Donate to Beyond Zero Emissions

Your donation will support our world-leading research into carbon solutions that is driving commitment and action for a zero carbon Australia.

Donate: bze.org.au/donate

Contact us: info@bze.org.au