

ALPINE SHIRE COUNCIL
**CLIMATE ACTION
POSITION STATEMENT**
2021-2024



Alpine Shire Council **Climate Action Position Statement** 2021-2024

The Alpine Shire Council recognises the vulnerability of the region's natural and built environment, economic prosperity and health of the community to climate change. Council is committed to acting now to mitigate the contribution of its corporate operations to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions by setting a target of net zero GHG emissions by July 2023. A pathway of initiatives to achieve this target, and the associated investment strategy, has been established in the Climate Action Plan; while the pathway to net zero may vary, the target is fixed.

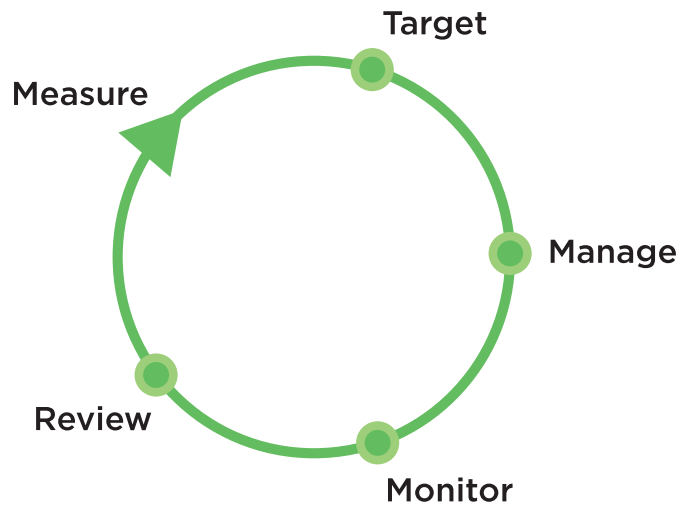
Climate Science

Climate change is having evident environmental, economic and social impacts across the globe. The CSIRO and BOM predict that the region will experience increased average temperatures, more extreme heat waves, fewer frosts, lower average rainfall, more extreme weather events, harsher fire seasons and shorter snow seasons. Recently the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that global warming is occurring faster than previously projected, giving a worldwide call to arms to act now to reduce GHG emissions in order to minimise any further irreversible damage. Therefore it is crucial that Council takes immediate action.



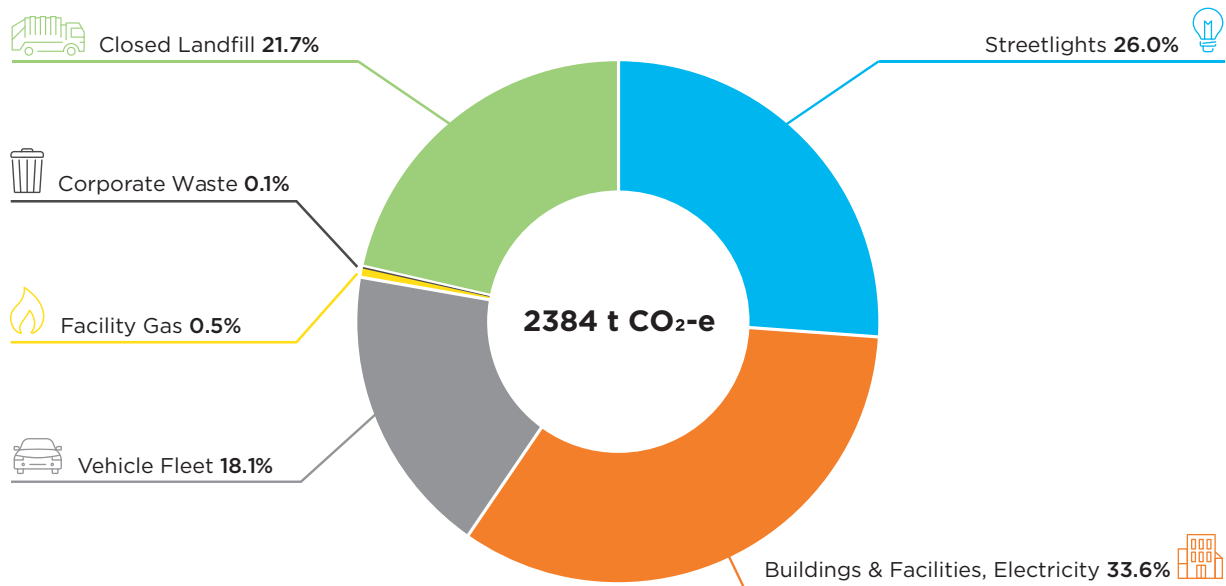
Mitigation

Climate change mitigation is an ongoing process, continuously attuned with developments in technology, carbon accounting practices and climate science



Measure

2018-2019 GHG Emissions Summary



Council's baseline GHG emissions, based on 2018/2019 emissions are 2834 t CO₂-e per year.

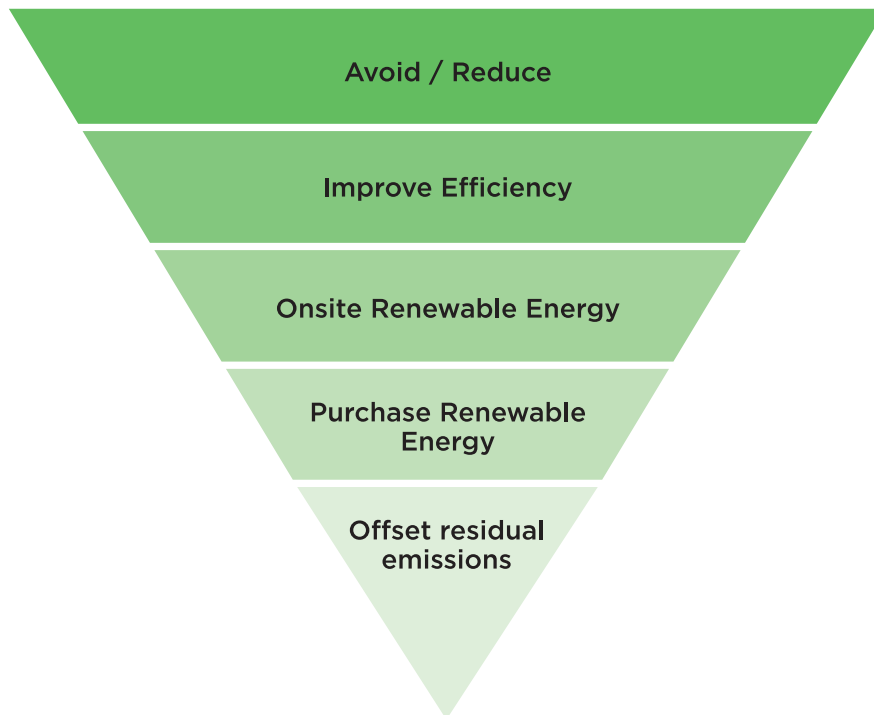
Target



Council has set a target of **net zero GHG emissions** from Council's own operations by July 2023

Manage

The pathway **to net zero** will follow the Energy Hierarchy



Actions

1.



Avoid/Reduce

Undertake capping and explore methane abatement projects at closed landfill sites. Implement measures to reduce energy usage at Council buildings and facilities such as automated lighting and HVAC control

2.



Improve Efficiency

Invest in infrastructure improvement projects to improve energy efficiency such as streetlight upgrade to LED's, vehicle fleet upgrade to zero emissions fleet, ESD standard for new and upgraded Council buildings and facilities

3.



Onsite Renewable Energy

Invest in on-site solar PV and battery storage across council facilities, including islandability for emergency resilience

4.



Purchase Renewable Energy

Alpine Shire Council is one of 46 Victorian councils signed up to the VECO PPA, ensuring all electricity is from 100% renewable sources from 1 July 2021

5.



Offset Residual Emissions

Purchase offsets for all residual carbon emissions from July 2023

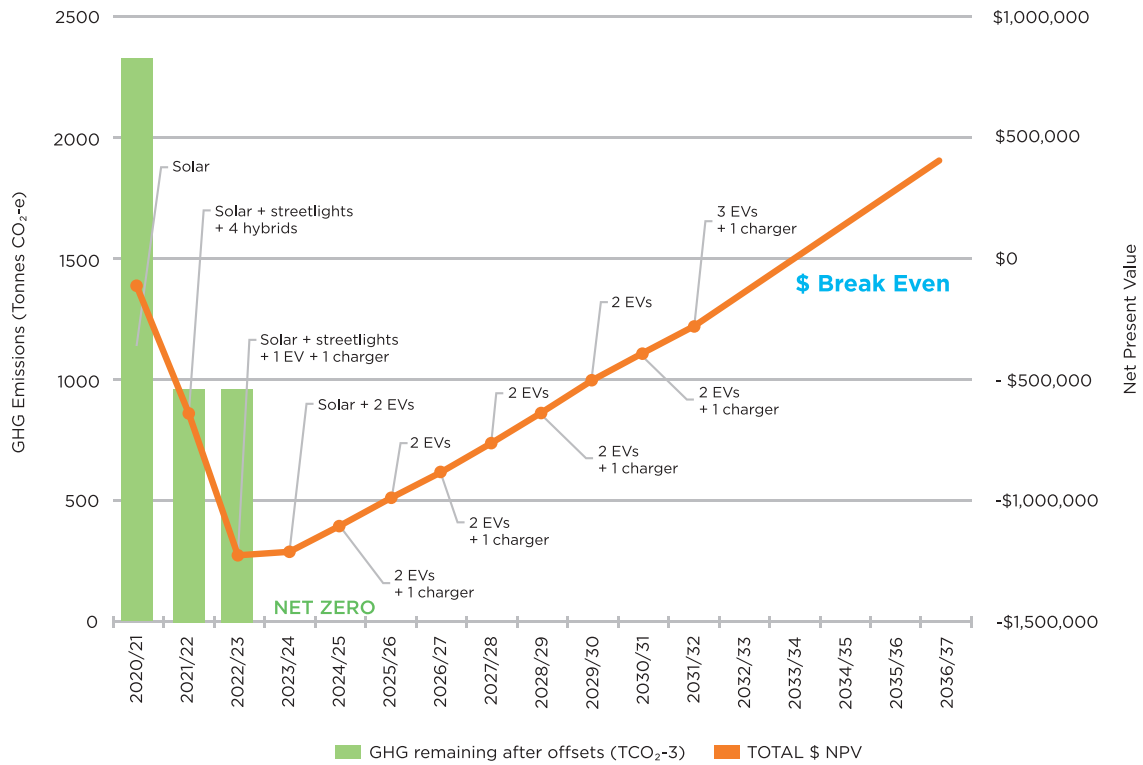
6.



Non-Carbon Accounting Improvements

Develop measures to reduce embodied carbon in infrastructure projects and conduct regular research into expansion of emissions reduction activities

Likely Investment Plan to Net Zero July 2023



Monitor and Review

Annual evaluation and public reporting of emissions for the financial year

Annual review of enhanced improvement opportunities with technological advancements

Long term aim to continuously reduce residual emissions and thus reduce costs



Municipal Wide Mitigation Support

Through this Climate Action Plan, Council demonstrates leadership by reducing our corporate emissions. Beyond this, Council will seek to support the community in reducing their emissions through planning scheme amendments, support to community groups, education opportunities and kerbside collection recycling enhancements.



Adaptation

The next step of ensuring Council is Climate Ready is to develop a Climate Adaptation and Resilience Plan to improve the resilience of Council assets and provide support to the community to prepare for the reality of a changing climate.