

Celebrating One Year of Emission Reductions and Cost Savings through VECO

South Gippsland Shire Council is one of 51 Victorian councils that have cut their energy bills and reduced emissions through the Victorian Energy Collaboration (VECO), a joint renewable electricity contract.

The partnership was initiated and facilitated with the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances, and is now led by Glen Eira City Council. It recognises the benefits of renewable energy for the environment and the economy.

The renewable energy is being provided by Red Energy, who is 100 per cent Australian-owned and operated by the Snowy Hydro.

The collective investment in Victorian renewables has delivered all partnering councils with cheaper electricity.

Approximately 172,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions have been saved by councils in the first 12 months of the partnership, which is the equivalent of powering up to 35,000 homes or taking 66,000 cars off the road each year.

Quotes attributable to Kerryn Ellis, Chief Executive Officer at South Gippsland Shire Council:

“The project delivers 100 per cent renewable energy at a cheaper price than we were previously paying for non-renewable power. Now all of our operations are powered by renewable energy including street lights and libraries.”

“Collaboration and working together with other Councils is a real positive of local government. We get more done when we work together.”

“This long-term contract with Red Energy will continue to protect us and other councils from the wholesale price changes.”

“South Gippsland Shire Council has saved 5.1 per cent on our electricity bill and reduced our greenhouse gas emissions by 1,588 tonnes. These savings can be redirected to critical community services we provide, and thus creating better outcomes for our community.”

Participating Councils:

Alpine Shire Council	Glen Eira City Council	Pyrenees Shire Council
Ararat Rural City Council	Golden Plains Shire Council	Borough of Queenscliffe
Ballarat City Council	Hepburn Shire Council	Greater Shepparton City Council
Banyule City Council	Horsham Rural City Council	South Gippsland Shire Council
Bass Coast Shire Council	Indigo Shire Council	Southern Grampians Shire Council
Baw Baw Shire Council	Loddon Shire Council	Stonnington City Council
Greater Bendigo City Council	Macedon Ranges Shire Council	Strathbogie Shire Council
Brimbank City Council	Manningham City Council	Surf Coast Shire Council
Buloke Shire Council	Maribyrnong City Council	Swan Hill Rural City Council
Campaspe Shire Council	Maroondah City Council	Rural City of Wangaratta Council
Cardinia Shire Council	Melton City Council	Warrnambool City Council
Central Goldfields Shire Council	Mildura Rural City Council	Wellington Shire Council
Colac Otway Shire Council	Moira Shire Council	Whitehorse City Council
Greater Dandenong City Council	Monash City Council	Whittlesea City Council
Darebin City Council	Moonee Valley City Council	Wodonga City Council
East Gippsland Shire Council	Mount Alexander Shire Council	Wyndham City Council
Greater Geelong City Council	Murrindindi Shire Council	Yarra Ranges Council