



University of
South Australia

How do we create a net zero carbon UniSA?

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Policy Context

- Carbon Neutral Adelaide policy target
- Energy security in South Australia a major issue
- Cost of energy to UniSA increasing quickly
- International movement towards carbon neutral campuses
- Charles Sturt becomes first Australian carbon neutral university
- UNIJAM 2016 flagged interest for lower carbon UniSA



Carbon Neutral Universities Network



Many universities are on their transition to zero carbon, some examples:

- **University of Warwick** created a ‘Sustainability Champion’ position
 - Helps schools, students, FMU, & senior management deliver change
- **Edinburgh University** created £2.75m/pa ‘Sustainability Campus Fund’
 - Funding direct to schools and students to implement local solutions
- **London University** staff and students own the campus PV system
 - Sell electricity to the university under a power purchase agreement
- **Manchester Metropolitan University** generates its own low carbon electricity and water supply
 - Completely refocused university to be leader of practical low carbon solutions





Research *Testbed* for low carbon action

Carbon neutral *testbed* at Mawson Lakes could re-position UniSA

- Showcase local and international solutions
- Build long term industry partnerships
- Attract new research grants
- Provide ‘hands on’ experience to students
- Enhance reputation as ‘*University of Enterprise*’





System optimisation software tools, future ARENA funding

Campus load and energy spot price forecasting



Long term research and development

Energy Efficiency

Waste to Energy

Building Design

Heat Recovery

Electric Vehicles

Water Management

Waste Recovery

Refrigeration

Control Systems

Mawson Lakes Six Point Plan

1

Immediate supply side program

Capital investment to install photovoltaic panels on building rooftops

2

Define best technology pathway to carbon neutrality

Detailed and fully costed pathway to achieve a net carbon neutral balance

3

Demand side program

An accelerated investment in advanced technologies to reduce energy demand

4

Load management program

Capital investment to install thermal and electrical (battery) storage

5

Additional supply program

Capital investment in solar tracking and heat recovery technology

6

Offset gap analysis

Identify the quantity and cost of carbon credits to claim a net zero carbon balance



Industry Partnerships

Solar PV

- Testing built environment applications for PV systems
- Expanding PV usage to transport and industrial applications

Tracking

- Creating an R&D centre for single and double axis tracking systems
- Improving industrial design, ease of installation, pre-fabrication

Thermal Storage

- District heating and cooling systems
- Large scale demonstration of thermal storage to reduce peak demand

Battery Storage

- R&D centre for precinct and grid scale electrical storage
- Predictive optimisation systems to maximise storage utilisation

Waste to Energy

- Demonstration of high temperature incineration technology
- Demonstration of waste heat recovery systems

Appliances & Equipment

- Super efficient refrigeration
- Energy management controls

Building Systems

- Low carbon building design
- Pre-fabrication & integration of solar technologies

