



## Update 14 – November 2020

Welcome to our newsletter combining news and information on renewable energy and climate change adaptation in our region and beyond.

The Victorian Government is committed to [being climate ready and resilient by 2050](#) and is helping our regional communities and organisations work together to adapt to the impacts of climate change by investing \$9.3 million in the [Supporting our Regions to Adapt program](#).



Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) Hume region is working with our communities to develop a Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy (RAS) identifying our regional priorities, the necessary skills and knowledge required by communities, and to fund local adaptation and mitigation projects.

## Climate Ready Hume project update

Welcome to the latest edition of Climate Ready Hume!

In September we shared the launch of the online community survey, which has now just closed. Thank you to all those who contributed valuable information and insights. We look forward to sharing a summary of results with you in the next edition.



## Do you have photos to share?

The Climate Ready Hume team is busy developing the draft Hume Regional Climate Change Adaptation Strategy and we need your help!

To all the budding artists, photographers and those who just like taking images.

We are seeking suitable images for the Adaptation Strategy that are taken in the Hume region and capture:

- local landscapes
- iconic parts of Hume region (our environment, towns, community, places and people)
- close up pictures of local people
- community members and activities relating to the environment and climate change.

If you would like to share an image with us (and have consent of the people in your images)

please get in touch at [climateready.hume@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:climateready.hume@delwp.vic.gov.au)



## State of the Climate report 2020

This biennial climate snapshot draws on the latest observations and climate research from the marine, atmospheric and terrestrial monitoring programs at CSIRO and Bureau of Meteorology (BoM).

The 2020 report highlights many recent changes in Australia's climate including:

- warmer air and sea temperatures
- increased numbers of very hot days
- ongoing sea level rise
- more periods of dangerous fire weather
- longer and warmer marine heatwaves.

Access the report and resources at either the [CSIRO](#) or [BoM](#) websites and read an interesting article discussing the report and what it means by CSIRO and BoM scientists in [The Conversation](#).

## Understanding and preparing for severe weather

Severe weather can disrupt our lives in all sorts of ways. Understanding how it happens, knowing it's on the way and being ready to act all help you to stay safe.



[Explore the Bureau of Meteorology's](#) severe weather information to be better prepared when hazardous weather looms and view the October 2020-February 2021 Severe Weather Outlook.



## Solar on public buildings program – Solar installer tender now closed

There was a terrific response to the Solar Installer Tender. The Tender Assessment Panel is currently reviewing the large number of responses from potential installers.

The project team has identified a number of regional-based energy auditors to conduct energy audits across DELWP committee of management and Crown land sites. The team will be notifying energy auditors and committees of management about the next steps soon.



For more information about the program see the DELWP website [link](#).

## Celebrating the Chiltern Box-Ironbark Forest



Photo courtesy of Luke Morrison, DELWP

Award winning local artist Kirrily Anderson has completed work on 'Reverence', a mural commissioned by DELWP to raise awareness for the critically endangered Regent Honeyeater and other threatened species who call the [Chiltern Box - Ironbark Forest](#) home.

The artwork, situated at the Chiltern Recreation Reserve, is hard to miss at 12 metres wide by 9 metres high. The mural depicts a wide variety of species, ranging from the well-known and loved Regent Honeyeater, the Barking Owl, the rare and delicate Spider Orchid and the majestic Ironbark which provides essential food and shelter for these species.

Check out [Kirrily's instagram](#) to see up close her work on the mural (right)



Kirrily's next project is looking at the impacts of bushfires in the [Burrowa-Pine National Park](#) including the human response to both the loss and damage of national park, as well as the regeneration that is occurring. This work will be exhibited at [mamalbury](#) in 2021.

## Large retailers commit to 100 per cent renewables



Last week Woolworths announced they are committed to powering all of their operations with 100 per cent renewable energy within five years and be carbon positive by 2050. That's more than two terawatt hours' worth of energy demand. Read the [RenewEconomy article](#) to find out more.

In late October, [Bunnings announced](#) its pledge to source 100 per cent renewable electricity for all of its operations, setting the date for this goal at 2025 – halfway to its 2030 target of net-zero emissions. This commitment is in addition to plans to roll out 20 new solar rooftop solar systems.

Other exciting commitments include [ALDI supermarkets](#) powering stores and warehouses with 100 per cent renewable energy by the end of 2021. ALDI has been rolling out widespread energy

efficiency measures, installing solar panels across hundreds of its stores and distribution centres, and signing agreements to buy electricity from wind projects, including Dundonnell wind farm in western Victoria.

[Read about the plans](#) for the Adelaide's Ikea superstore to be Australia's largest grid-connected commercial microgrid. Solar is set to be installed on every available square inch of the Adelaide superstore. This project will include the installation of solar carports, as well as a co-located battery storage system. The installation will allow the location to be entirely self-sufficient, from an energy perspective, with excess generation being fed back to the grid.



## Webinars

[Vermont Farm to Plate](#) (F2P) program is providing a series of webinars for an Australian audience to learn about Vermont's (USA) comprehensive bipartisan food program that coordinates agriculture, regional development, health, education, environment, equity and social justice issues. F2P is now entering its second ten-year cycle and has delivered extraordinary results across a number of indicators.

Register for the [three webinars](#) organised by [Sustain, the Australian Food Network](#) and supported by the [North East Local Food Strategy](#) working group. Tickets for each webinar are \$11 and \$22.

**2 December** 11am-1pm: Vermont Farm to Plate Plan-from 2009 to 2020 and beyond

**9 December** 11am-1pm: Planning for Sustainable Farming and Healthy Food Access

**16 December** 11am-1pm: How the Public Purse Can Drive Food Systems Change: The Role of Institutional Procurement



## Podcasts

RenewEconomy offers a variety of podcasts including Energy Insiders, the EV-focused The Driven and also Solar Insiders. Find the episodes here:

<https://reneweconomy.com.au/series/podcasts/>

## Wondering how Victoria's regions are transitioning to renewable energy?

[Visit the link](#) to see how Hume and other regions are making the transition to renewable energy and access all the regional renewable energy roadmaps.

For a printed copy of the Hume roadmap email [HumeRenewableEnergy.Roadmap@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:HumeRenewableEnergy.Roadmap@delwp.vic.gov.au)

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Climate Ready Hume | Hume Region

Forest, Fire and Regions | Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

