



# WELCOME

## CLIMATE EMERGENCY CONFERENCE 2024

*Councils and communities  
reclaiming the climate emergency*



Climate  
Emergency  
Australia



Maribyrnong  
CITY COUNCIL

Proudly supported by





# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

**Everywhere on this continent, we are all on unceded Aboriginal land. We acknowledge that we are meeting today on the land of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung.**

**We thank and acknowledge the elders of all First Nations for looking after Country since the Dreamtime.**

**We will do all we can to look after it too, and to restore a safe climate for current and future generations of all species.**



# Break-out Block 1

# Climate emergency advocacy approaches



Climate  
Emergency  
Australia



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## Speakers:

- Bryony Edwards, Council and Community Action in the Climate Emergency
- Natasha Palich, The Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment
- Tim Kelly, Town of Gawler
- Cr HY William Chan, City of Sydney



## **Facilitator:**

- Karen Gardham, Victorian Climate Resilient Councils



# QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Go to: **slido.com**

Enter event code: **9445716**

**Climate Emergency Australia Conference 2024**

## **Advocating for clear, fair and legislated greenhouse gas and renewable energy accounting standards**

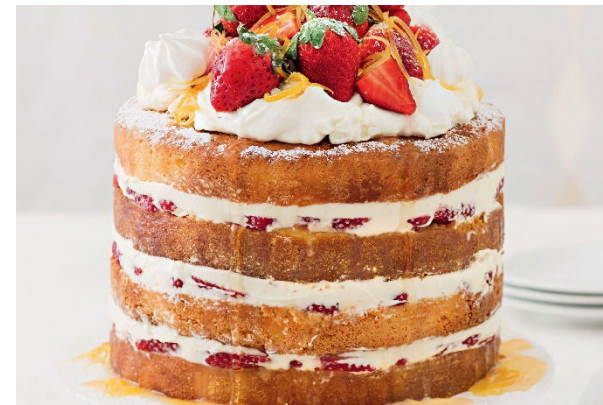
**Friday 19 April 2024  
Victoria University, Footscray Park**

**Tim Kelly**

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# Introduction and Scope

1. Lack of clear and consistent rules for renewable electricity and offsets
2. Consequences of ambiguity
3. Advocacy for reform
4. Barriers
5. Lessons



Having cake and eating it too?



# Lack of Legal Clarity and Consistency

- **GreenPower** – Paying for ~130% renewables when buying **100% GreenPower**
- **GreenPower** and ACCU Carbon Offsets do not legally incorporate attributes
- All accredited renewables are double counted because two different accounting practices are in play without adequate guidance
- Large scale *behind-the-meter* renewables can be claimed on site and sold as certificates (at a scale likely larger than the voluntary market)
- Carbon offset abatement can be claimed *onsite* and *sold* as Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).

# Consequences of Ambiguity

## RENEWABLES

- Pricing - Renewable electricity is cheaper to produce but more expensive to buy for ordinary customers
- Lack of market wide guidance and widespread confusion – *Buying Renewables vs The Grid is Getting Greener* (or Market accounting vs Location Accounting)

## OFFSETS

- Abatement is being claimed on-site and by consumers
- On top of integrity concerns regarding junk offsets

## BOTH

- Systemic double counting erodes integrity and outcomes
- Puts organisations at risk in their planning and claims

## Clear Message of the Town of Gawler:

*Clear and consistent legislated rules for Renewable electricity and abatement claimed through Carbon offsets*

**Submissions:** **1)** Climate Active, **2)** Corporate Emissions Reduction Transparency (CERT) Report, **3)** GreenPower Review, **4)** SA Government (Climate Legislation), **5)** ACCC Draft Guidance Environmental and Sustainability Claims, **6)** Proposed DCCEEW Guarantee of Origin & Renewables Certification scheme and **7)** Greenhouse Gas Protocol – Review of guidance documents.

**Resolutions:** Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), South Australian Local Government Association

**2005** – Systemic Double Counting of Renewables Identified, ACCC contacted

**2006- 2024** Engagement with Federal and State Agencies + Submissions

**2010** – Contacted GHG Protocol – Helped initiate Scope 2 Guidance for Electricity

**2015** – GHG Protocol released its Scope 2 Guidance for electricity

**2019** – **Town of Gawler, Declares a *Climate Emergency* & supports advocacy**

**2021** – Climate Active publish the first Residual Mix Factor for Australia

**2023** – DCCEEW (Fed Dept) **begin** to include Market Accounting in NGER Scheme

**2023** – Climate Active propose discontinuing the Location Method for renewable claims

**2024** – South Australian Government propose State legislated Carbon Neutral framework without market-based accounting and with a renewable electricity generation only target

**2024** – GreenPower have promised that customers buying 100% renewables will get recognition for some of the mandatory renewables they have already paid for

## Barriers

- The subject matter is made excessively complex through multiple schemes
- There are many vested interests
- Working arounds are necessary but it do not fix the problems – Both required
- Results are not immediate (2 decades and counting)
- Loss of corporate knowledge and memory in organisations and departments

## Lessons

1. Climate change does not respond to short cuts, free riding or double counting
2. Accounting frameworks are not mature. Expect further change and avoid overclaiming that could be viewed as greenwashing
3. Understanding the detail is important
4. Collaborate collectively to amplify voices calling for reform
5. Making a commitment to advocate for better policy and reform for Councils and their communities is a key step.

# Thank you and Questions

Please feel free to contact me if you require further detail on particular areas of concern regarding accounting and claims



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Environment & Sustainability Officer

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*A liveable, cohesive, active, innovative and sustainable community*





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**Please move  
immediately to your  
next break-out room –  
the next session will  
start at 2:20PM.**



**Not sure where to go?**

**Check the program:**



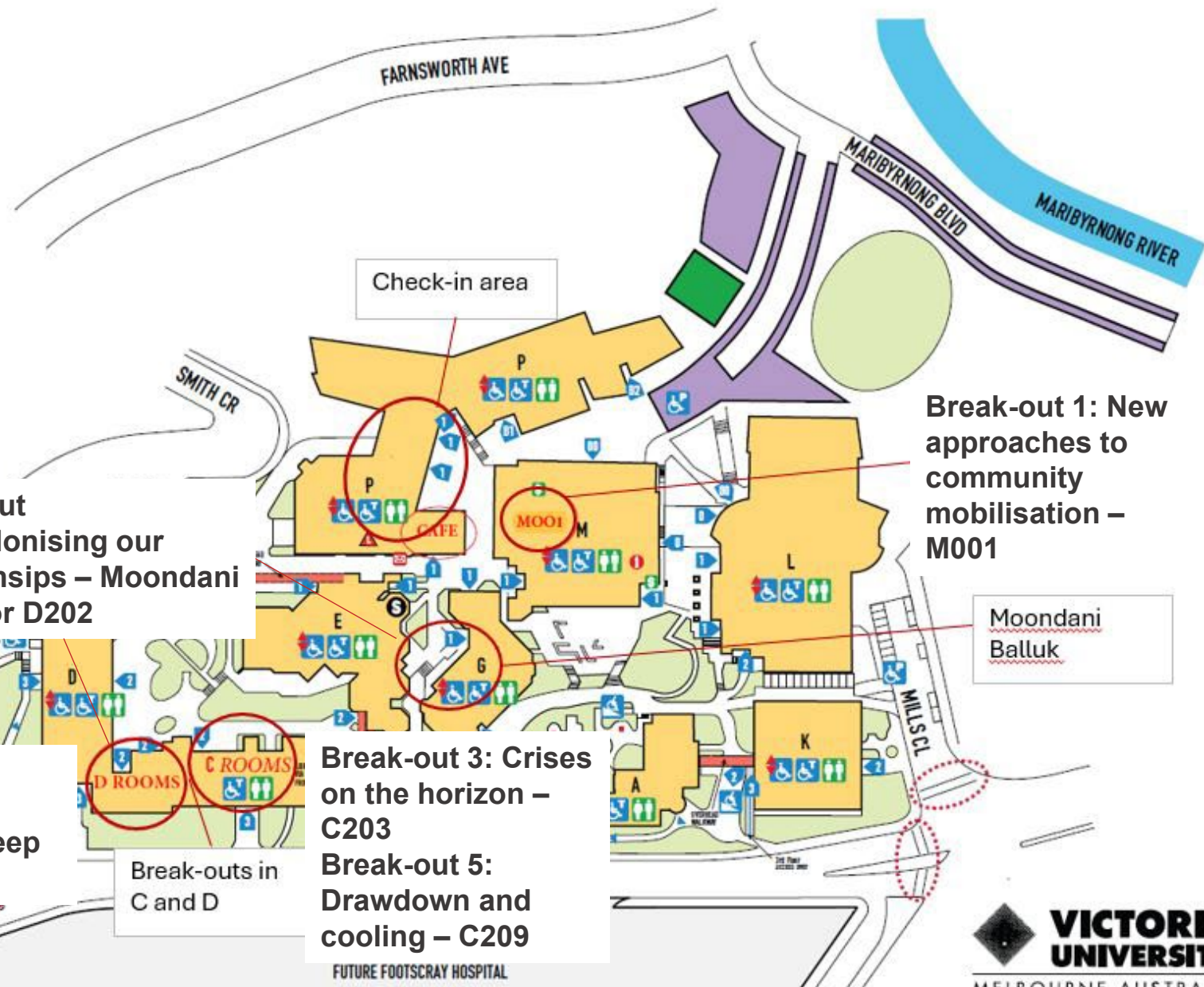


# FOOTSCRAY PARK CAMPUS ACCESS AND MOBILITY MAP



## LEGEND

- Accessible Parking
- Accessible Toilet
- Accessible Lift
- Steep Gradient
- Toilets
- Public Telephone - SMS
- Bus Stop
- ATM
- Student Service Centre
- Car Parks
- University Buildings
- Overhead Walkways
- Tennis Courts
- Bar-B-Q
- Accessible Building Entry
- Library
- Traffic Sign
- Security



Updates:



**Break-out 4: Decolonising our partnerships – Moondani Balluk or D202**

**Break-out 1: New approaches to community mobilisation – M001**

Moondani Balluk

**Break-out 2: Council mobilisation deep dive – D200**

**Break-out 3: Crises on the horizon – C203**

**Break-out 5: Drawdown and cooling – C209**

Break-outs in C and D