

Case Study WWF-Australia - tackling climate change from the office up



WWF-Australia is part of the WWF International Network, the world's largest and most experienced conservation organisation.

Established in Australia since 1978, and globally since 1961, WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment.

CitySwitch in action

WWF's involvement in CitySwitch goes back to CEO, Greg Bourne's engagement during the program's early days when it was known as the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative.

Consistent with a personal commitment and drive in the fight against global warming, Greg Bourne adopted the CitySwitch

program in WWF's Sydney office as a key part in the organisation's own efforts on the climate change front.

Goals

- Demonstrate dedication to conservation within its own operations
- Achieve a 5 star NABERS Energy tenancy rating
- Share energy efficiency benefits with staff, stakeholders and neighbouring tenants

Turning a commitment into practical actions

Following WWF's commitment as a CitySwitch signatory in 2007, the organisation set about integrating the program's energy efficiency principles into its environmental management system.

The first key activity was to undertake the NABERS accreditation process to set up a benchmark for achievement and provide guidance for effective outcomes.



Signatory status	
Date joined CitySwitch	March 2007
Tenancy size	822 sqm
NABERS Commitment rating	★★★★★
Website	www.wwf.org.au
Key outcomes	
Annual energy savings	6% (per capita)
Technology	Appliance upgrades, modification to existing lighting and heating, 100% GreenPower behavioural change.

Practical initiatives result in 5 star NABERS Energy tenancy rating

Having set an ambitious 5 star NABERS Energy commitment rating, a range of simple, cost effective and practical initiatives were put in place to reduce power consumption within WWF's offices. These initiatives included:

- modifying air conditioning settings
- installing timers on all water heaters
- reducing lighting loads
- installing blinds on external windows
- switching from CRT to TFT computer monitors
- altering procurement practices towards more environmentally friendly options.

Of these simple initiatives, perhaps the single most beneficial action was the seasonal changing of the organisation's air conditioning thermostat with just a one degree adjustment between summer and winter settings.

The value of increasing staff awareness

These practical initiatives have led to the key tenets of CitySwitch being embedded in WWF's own 'consciousness'. The program represents an important element in

the organisation's internal environmental management system, with staff education about emissions reduction along with practical initiatives in the office serving to constantly improve WWF's energy efficiency.

Key achievements

- a 5-star NABERS rating
- a 6% reduction in energy consumption
- increased staff awareness of WWF's commitment to continuous improvement in energy efficiency.

Working in partnership

The commitment by WWF to track and reduce its energy consumption led to working with its landlord University of Technology, Sydney (UTS) to ensure that systems such as electrical sub-metering are in place to allow requisite monitoring and reporting.

WWF has also been able to use its role to 'spread the CitySwitch word' to UTS itself, as well as neighbouring tenants. UTS has been very supportive of WWF's efforts, and sharing of information and ideas between the two organisations has increased the reach of the environmental

"I'm delighted to be a part of CitySwitch Green Office. Encouraging commercial tenants of some of Sydney's largest energy-using buildings to do their bit to reduce their climate change impact is a great initiative.

We hope to see many more planet-savers among CBD inhabitants."

Greg Bourne
CEO
WWF-Australia

message and energy efficiency efforts.

WWF has used its role as a CitySwitch Signatory to demonstrate the organisation's own commitment to the climate change cause. Involvement in the program continues to be a valuable conduit to the network of other organisations taking responsibility for improving energy efficiency in their own operations.

Get involved

Visit www.cityswitch.net.au for more information or call the CitySwitch Program Manager in your state. Contact details are listed on the website.

CitySwitch is a national tenant energy management program. Previously known as the 3CBDs Greenhouse Initiative, the program works with tenants to improve office energy efficiency, reducing the CO₂ emissions attributed to climate change.

CitySwitch Partners



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

