



Getting to NET ZERO

We are all hearing the term “**Net Zero**” used, and how vital it is for limiting catastrophic climate change.

but what does it actually mean?

*In simple terms, it is having a complete balance between what we use, in terms of energy and resources, and what we emit/put into the environment: a **Net Zero** effect.*

The latest IPCC report details that -

“Limiting warming to ‘well below 2°C’, by 2030, as per the Paris Agreement Targets, will be hard to achieve, but avoiding 1.5°C is still possible.”

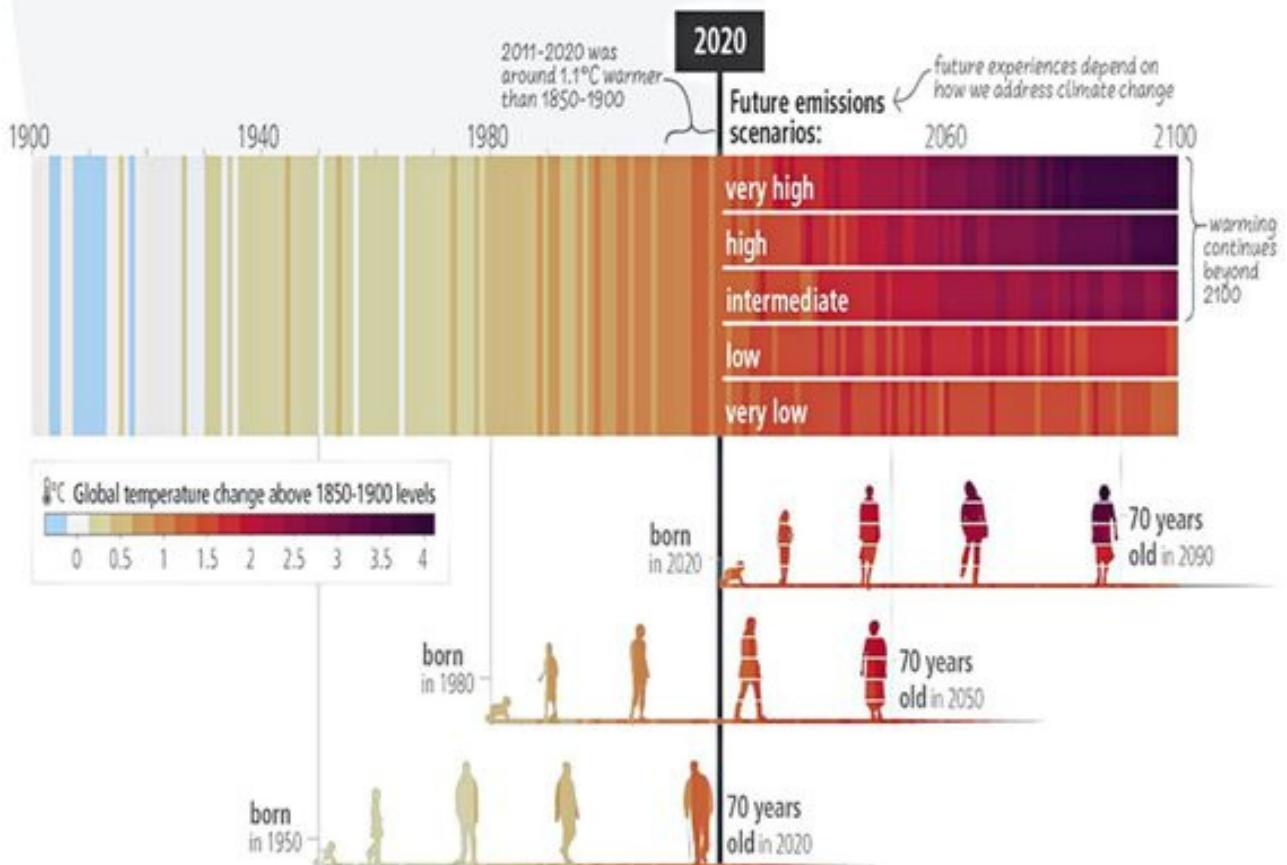
The report also lays out the economic imperative for taking action, finding that the ‘global economic benefit of limiting global warming to 2°C exceeds the cost of mitigation in most of the assessed literature’.

It states that:

“warming above pre-industrial levels, with a likely range of 0.8°C to 1.2°C. Global warming is likely to reach 1.5°C between 2030 and 2052 if it continues to increase at the current rate.”

What happens if the Earth warms 1.5C?

The extent to which current and future generations will experience a hotter and different world depends on choices now and in the near-term.



According to the IPCC report, with global warming of 1.5 °C there would be increased risks to "health, livelihoods, food security, water supply, human security, and economic growth." Impact vectors include reduction in crop yields and nutritional quality.

A good summary of the report is available here:

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/03/the-ipcc-just-published-its-summary-of-5-years-of-reports-here-s-what-you-need-to-know/>

What can I do?

Of course, it is quite a complex balancing act – but to think it is ‘too hard’ and ‘nothing can be done’ is a fallacy. Every little bit helps!

SOME IDEAS!

BIG ACTION



Lobby for no more Fossil Fuels

Support Circular Economy businesses/enterprises

Lobby for the 'right to repair'

Refuse to support climate harming ventures

Get involved in local climate action

PERSONAL ACTION



Use your car less

Reduce Household waste

Recycle, Reuse, Repurpose, Repair

Do 'Meat free Monday'

Control your energy use

One big piece of the puzzle is ENERGY USE.

"Energy production is the largest contributor to Australia's carbon emissions. This is followed by transport, agriculture, and industrial processes."

(Source: CSIRO)

So, looking at energy production in the categories of:

- A. Industrial/Manufacturing
- B. Transport
- C. Home/Personal

it may be erroneously concluded that we only influence (C).

However, as an individual, we have varying degrees of influence over each of them.

**Here are some easily actionable ways
to reduce emissions in each category**

A Industrial/Manufacturing

CONSUME LESS

- it won't be made if we don't buy it,
- support circular economy businesses,
- right to repair – no more 'built-in obsolescence',
- buy local,
- reduce, reuse, repair, repurpose, recycle.

B Transport

USE CLIMATE FRIENDLY OPTIONS

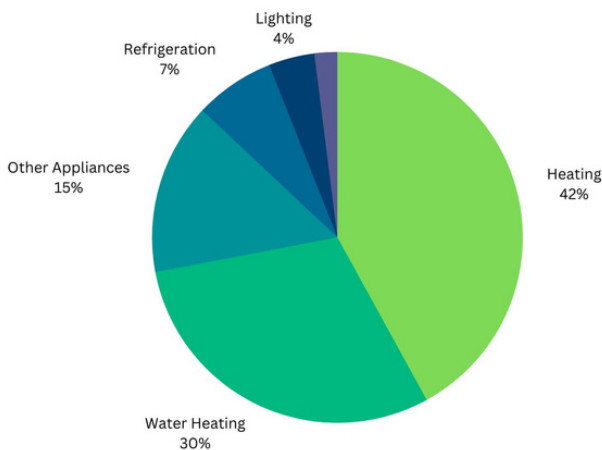
- drive less (or use an EV),
- use public transport,
- walk/cycle where practicable,
- if you have to fly - make sure that your ticket has the carbon offset option.

C Home/Personal

REDUCE

- become more efficient in your energy usage.
- Install solar so that your energy is emissions free.
- lobby/support fast equitable transition to a renewables future –
 - (i)solar farms,
 - (ii)solar gardens,
 - (iii)community batteries.

**AUSTRALIAN HOUSEHOLD
ENERGY USE**



**AUSTRALIAN HOUSEHOLD
GREENHOUSE GAS
EMISSIONS**

