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ACU's sector leadership on renewable electricity

On 01 July 2021 all ACU campuses entered a 100% renewable electricity contracts with the energy companies Engie, and Shell Energy.

The contract will run for three years and meet ACU's annual demand for around 17 million kilowatt hours of electricity to run its campuses. When sourced from conventional (non-renewable) power suppliers, that amount of electricity added around 16,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide to ACU's greenhouse gas account.

The renewable electricity contracts eliminate these emissions, which in a typical year comprise at least 80% of ACU's annual carbon emissions. The contracts will also deliver a 10% - 20% cut to electricity tariffs compared to the previous contract. This is ACU's most significant sustainability action to date, and positions ACU to eliminate and offset its carbon footprint entirely in just a few years.

ACU now joins ten other Australian universities to have purchased 100% renewable electricity, in a sector-wide switch that started only in 2019, making the Australian university sector one of the fastest adopters of clean electricity in the Australian economy.