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Please take this as my submission to the Clean Air for NSW initiative.

### **My Details**

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Please keep me informed of progress via email and invite me to the Summit if possible.

In addition to the actions proposed in the Clean Air for NSW paper, I propose the actions below:

## **Actions for Improving Air Quality in NSW and Limiting Exposure to Air Pollution**

### **Transport, Engines and Fuels**

#### **Roll Out Hybrid or Zero Emission Buses**

Commence rolling out hybrid or even zero emission buses for public transport. Set a target for all buses used as school buses to be zero emission.

#### **Shore Power For NSW Ports**

Require ships to plug in the shore power instead of running their own generators. The power provided through such connections could be supplied by 100% Greenpower to maximise the pollution reduction. A reverse auction could be conducted to source zero emission electricity at the cheapest price possible.

#### **Minimum Emission Performance for Trucks Operating to and from NSW Ports**

Set a minimum standard for trucks that operate to/from NSW ports and increment it over time i.e. start with a target for all trucks to be at least Euro V or better by 201x, and then Euro VI by 202x. Such a system has been used successfully at the Port of Long Beach in California USA.

#### **Incentivise the Use of Zero Emission Vehicles in High Profile Roles**

Through the use of subsidies, rebates or discounted financing incentivise the use of zero emission vehicles in high use and/or highly visible roles such as: taxis, hire cars, "unofficial taxis" like Uber vehicles, driving instructor vehicles, council fleets, police, fire and ambulance vehicles (provided relevant role-specific criteria are met), rental cars, car sharing vehicles i.e. GoGet, or even peer-to-peer shared vehicles such as those in the Car Next Door network and delivery vehicles both cars and motorcycles/scooters.

#### **Incentivise the Broad Use of Zero Emission Vehicles**

Offer rebates on the purchase price or discounted stamp duty, or both, on the purchase of zero emission vehicles. Consider reduced registration costs for the first x years to also

reward those who purchase second hand zero emission vehicles. Consider increases stamp duties and/or registration costs on the dirtiest new vehicles available to achieve cost neutrality.

### **"Big Picture" Solar, Zero Emission Vehicle & Equipment Incentives**

To reduce emissions from all of: coal-fired power stations, vehicles, lawn mowing and gardening equipment, offer rebates for new purchases on all of: rooftop solar power, solar hot water heating, electric vehicles and electric lawn mowers and gardening equipment whereby the amount of the rebate increases if more than one of these is used in conjunction with the other. i.e. if a home is rebated x for a solar power system and y for an electric car then a rebate for using both should be greater than the sum of x and y. In other words, a greater reward for zero emission equipment users if they have the potential to charge them from their own solar power and vice versa.

### **Supply Electric Trains with Electricity from Renewables**

Use a reverse auction to source 100% renewable electricity for the state's trains.

## **Households**

**Residential Wood Heating:** Eliminate or at least reduce residential wood heaters from the Sydney greater metropolitan region as it can account for over 50% of PM2.5 for which there is no safe exposure level.

**Lawn Mowing and Garden Equipment Emissions:** Incentivise the use of zero emission lawn mowing and gardening equipment with any one of subsidies or rebates on the purchase price, scrapping two-stroke and even four-stroke equipment to achieve rebates on zero emission equipment. Rebate or subsidise a greater amount of the purchase price if the home contains a child with a respiratory illness or anyone with a respiratory illness.

## **Managing Exposures and Impacts**

### **Congestion Charge Zone with Tiered Pricing for Sydney's CBD**

With the large concentration of people working in Sydney's CBD, a "congestion charge" should be levied on private vehicles entering the zone to incentivise a decrease of private vehicles in the area. There should be a system of tiered pricing: zero emission vehicles should be free, hybrids to pay a small charge, pure internal combustion engine powered vehicles to pay a higher charge, and the oldest of such vehicles to pay the most or even be banned. Over time the prices can be adjusted and criteria altered to continually encourage a reduction of emitting private vehicles and encourage use of more zero emission vehicles.

The charge could also apply to commercial vehicles, again based on their level of emissions.

Additional benefits: a reduction in the number of private vehicles in the CBD could result in reduced travel times for public transport buses which would incentivise greater patronage of such services.

### **Clean Air Zones**

To protect the most vulnerable, the elderly, the young and the ill, create clean air zones around the vicinity of nursing & retirement homes, schools, child care centres and hospitals. In these zones: residential wood heaters should be banned, residents should be

encouraged to drive zero emission vehicles via support such as rebates on the purchase price, use zero emission lawn mowing and garden equipment, again with incentives such as rebates on the purchase price of such equipment, the idling of engines of parked internal combustion vehicles should be banned.

Financial support could be offered to install electric vehicle chargers in hospitals, schools, nursing and retirement homes to encourage the use of zero emission vehicles at these locations.

### **Reduced Public Transport Fares on Days of High Pollution**

To limit the extent of the worst days, or predicted worst days, of pollution, reduce public transport fares for such days to incentivise people to choose public transport instead of using private vehicles. On such days, increase the congestion charge on "dirty" vehicles.

### **Eat Streets Clean Vehicle Parking Priority**

To limit exposure to vehicular pollution, allocate some roadside parking to just hybrids and zero emission vehicles or just to zero emission vehicles, in areas where people linger by the roadside for prolonged periods of time, such as "eat streets". An "eat street" is a street with an above average number of outdoor or open air eating venues eg. sections of Coogee Bay Rd, Coogee, Campbell St, Bondi Beach, King St, Newtown, Willoughby Rd, Crows Nest and so on.

Additional Benefits: incentivises the purchase and use of cleaner vehicles. Reduces parking for "dirty" vehicles which might incentivise some people to take public transport to these areas instead of driving.

### **Public Education Campaign**

Run a public education campaign covering all measures individuals and businesses can use to reduction air pollution. Cover all actions such as: choosing zero emission vehicles, using "active" transport i.e. walking or cycling for short journeys, using public transport, using low VOC paints, using zero emission garden equipment, avoiding residential wood heaters.

### **Promoting Clean Air Co-Benefits**

#### **Review and improve active transport links to public transport hubs such as train stations, ferry wharfs, light rail stops and bus hubs.**

Make it easier for people to cycle and walk to and from these locations. Provide funding to local councils to increase tree planting along such routes if a lack of shade is deterring people from walking or cycling to such locations. The trees will have the added benefit of reducing local temperatures and removing some pollution from the air. This action should focus, at least initially, on Sydney's western suburbs due to the region generally experiencing hotter temperatures and higher levels of pollution than other parts of Sydney.

#### **Offer Funding Support for Businesses to Implement Concentrated Solar Thermal for Industrial Heat**

To support the use of a new/advanced form of energy in place of burning fossil fuels.