

Business Energy Advisor

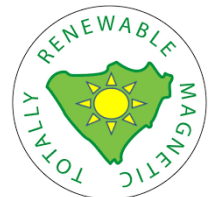
MAGNETIC ISLAND COMMUNITY FORUM

20 SEP 2025



MAGNETIC
ISLAND
COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT
ASSOCIATION

We acknowledge the Wulgurukaba people as the
traditional custodians of Magnetic Island
(Yunbenun)



Agenda

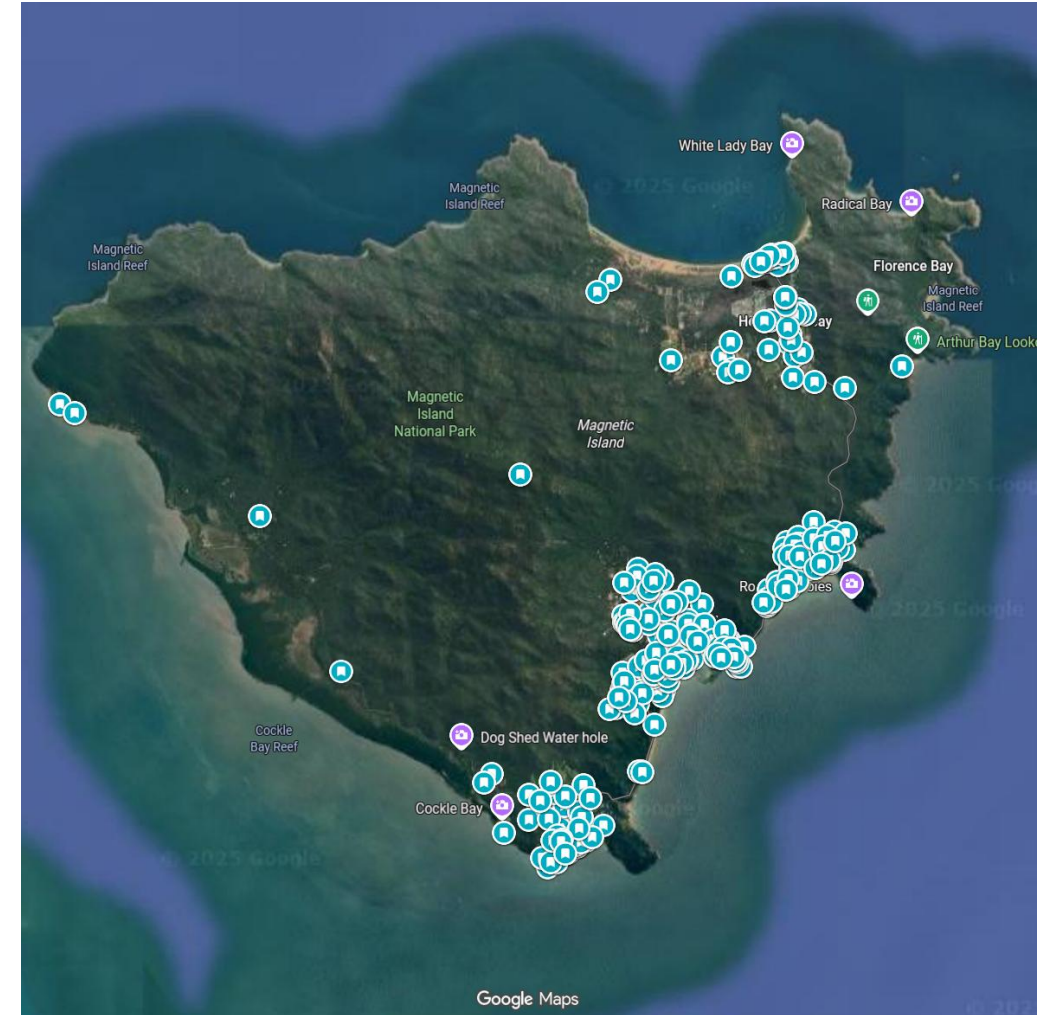
- 01.** Goal + Method
- 02.** Background
- 03.** Energy Vocabulary
- 04.** Energy Bills, Smart Meters, Interval Data
- 05.** Key Findings + Final Remarks

Goal

Approximately **~200 businesses** account for **~50%** of Magnetic Island's annual energy consumption.

The Business Advisor Energy role was created to assist business owners to:

- Consult on power needs
- Provide advice to reduce bills (\$)
- Advise on energy efficiency tips
- Guide businesses in obtaining renewable electricity
- Facilitate grants, subsidies, and tax incentives



Method

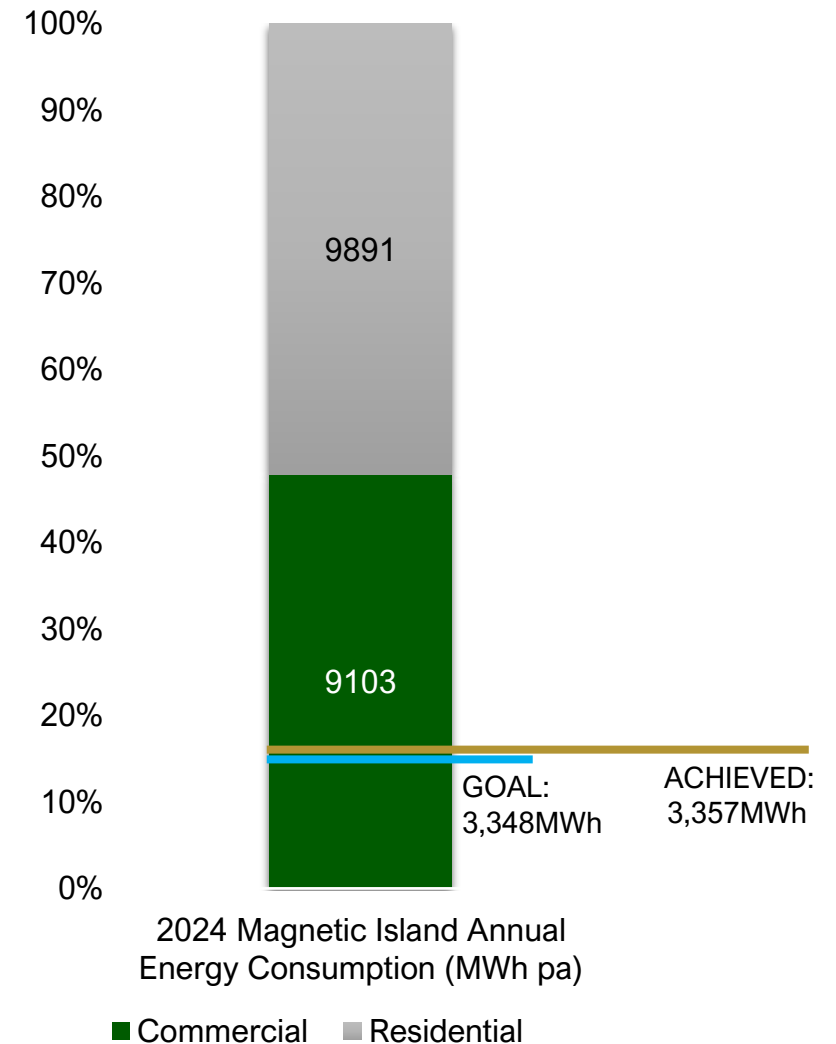
With grant funding provided by the GBRF and Australian Government Reef Trust, the Business Energy Advisor role provided trusted, local expert energy advice to businesses free of charge.

7.5 hrs/week over the course of 18 months

70 businesses contacted

45 energy bills received

3,537MWh (38.8%) of business annual energy consumption accounted (**Goal: 36.6%**)



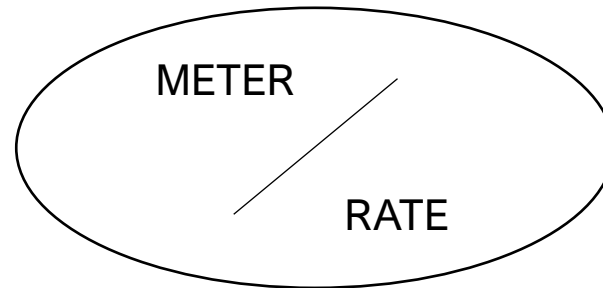
Background

- State and federal grants providing ~40% rebates are being used to purchase sizeable solar battery systems for residents, businesses, and community centers.
- Magnetic Island has strong uptake of solar PV power and is well-positioned for continued battery storage implementation and wholesale energy arbitrage on a commercial scale.
- Businesses are generally receptive to consultation and support regarding renewable power and energy storage solutions. Those businesses that are not receptive to advice typically have their own solutions or little-to-no energy needs.
- Solar PV and battery (BESS) systems provide positive financial returns on investment with favorable timelines.
- Misinformation and unreliable energy solutions providers exist. Nonetheless, building community resilience and energy independence is essential—especially in the face of cyclonic weather and outages.
- Improvements are available for smart energy meters, efficient air con systems, soft-start pool pumps, controlled-load hot water systems, and hybrid-battery inverters.

Energy Vocabulary

TIME

MONEY



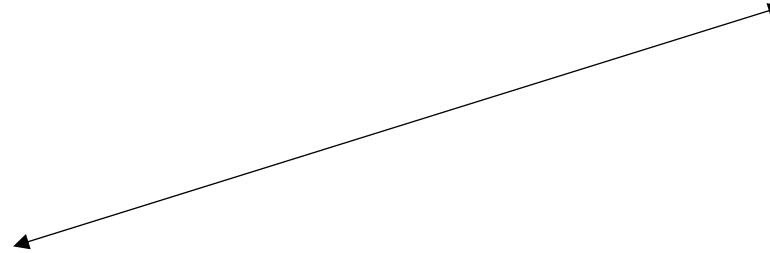
POWER

ENERGY

Energy Vocabulary

POWER × TIME = ENERGY

METER × RATES = MONEY



PAGE 2 OF 4

MY METER READING AND ACCESS

This premises has a **basic meter**.
This bill is **based on actual meter readings** obtained.

MY PLAN SUMMARY

Tariff 20 - Business General Supply
Solar exports - Solar feed-in for Regional Queensland

UNDERSTAND MY BILL

1 BALANCE PRIOR TO THIS BILL

Previous amount	\$4,929.01
Payments	\$4,929.01 CR
Balance brought forward	\$0.00

2 NEW CHARGES

Tariff Component	Start Read	End Read	Quantity (kW/kWh)	Days	Rate (GST Excl)	Total (GST Excl)	GST	Amount (GST Inc)
Tariff 20 - Business General Supply (18/06/25 - 01/07/25)								
All Usage	347734	348675	941.20	13	\$0.33264	\$313.08	\$31.31	\$344.39
All Usage	294227	294973	746.20	13	\$0.33264	\$248.22	\$24.82	\$273.04
Service Fee				13	\$1.4992	\$19.49	\$1.95	\$21.44
Tariff 20 - Business General Supply (01/07/25 - 11/08/25)								
All Usage	348675	353888	5212.80	72	\$0.32365	\$1,687.12	\$168.71	\$1,855.83
All Usage	294973	299106	4132.80	72	\$0.32365	\$1,337.58	\$133.76	\$1,471.34
Service Fee				72	\$1.82788	\$131.61	\$13.16	\$144.77
SUB-TOTAL						\$3,737.10	\$373.71	\$4,110.81
Other Charges								
Metering service charge						\$0.63	\$0.06	\$0.69
SUB-TOTAL						\$0.63	\$0.06	\$0.69

3 NEW CREDITS

Tariff Component	Start Read	End Read	Quantity (kW/kWh)	Days	Rate (GST Excl)	Total (GST Excl)	GST	Amount (GST Inc)
Solar Exports - Solar feed-in for Regional Queensland (18/06/25 - 01/07/25)								
Solar Export	3446	3460	14.53	13	-\$0.12377	\$1.80 CR		\$1.80 CR
Solar Exports - Solar feed-in for Regional Queensland (01/07/25 - 11/08/25)								
Solar Export	3460	3541	80.47	72	-\$0.0886	\$6.97 CR		\$6.97 CR
SUB-TOTAL						\$8.77 CR		\$8.77 CR
Other Credits								
Australian Government Energy Bill Relief						\$75.00 CR	\$0.00	\$75.00 CR
SUB-TOTAL						\$75.00 CR		\$75.00 CR

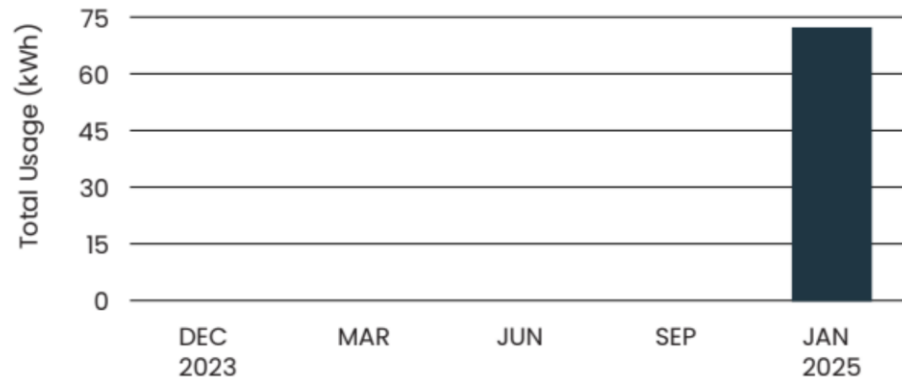
PAGE 3 OF 4

Smart Meter → Interval Data

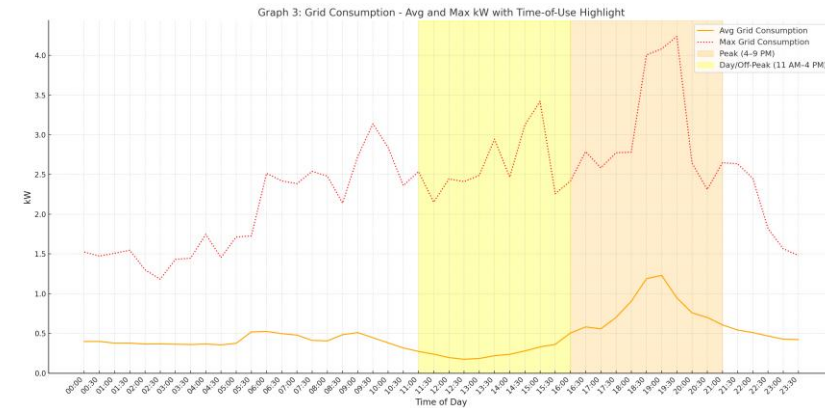
BASIC METER



COMPARE YOUR USAGE OVER TIME



SMART METER



Apply for Smart Meter Upgrade

<https://myaccount.ergonretail.com.au/forms/request-smart-meter>



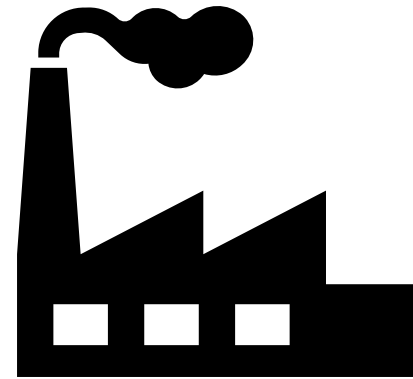
Comparison of Energy Usage

RESIDENTIAL



Consumes: 12-50 kWh/day

BUSINESS



Consumes: 12-5,000 kWh/day

Save Money on Energy Bills

**Better Behaviour
Management
with Air Cons**



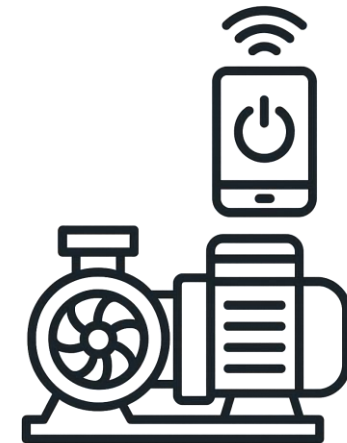
**Delay Onset and
Optimisation for
Hot Water Heaters**



**Invest in Solar PV
and Battery
Storage**



**Purchase Smart
Hardware
Upgrades**



Business Energy Advisor Results

Community Engagement: 7.5 hrs/week sustained over 18 months; many additional volunteer hours contributed. Outreach to 70 businesses with 45 energy bills collected. Presentations at Residents Energy Forum and Community Energy Forum.

Business Support: First-time grid connections; assistance in planning and site layout of renewable energy systems; facilitation and chaperoning of energy solutions installers; electrical hardware and software debugging; detailed energy bill and interval data analysis; reporting and presenting to business owners and body corporate panels; bespoke design and successful test of off-grid system for First Nations business; support in accessing and installing efficient hardware; general professional support for a variety of related tasks.

Grants, Rebates, and Quotes: 2 large businesses in final round of ARENA Round 2 community battery grants; 5 other businesses supported with application of community resilience grant applications; access to millions of dollars in potential rebates and thousands of dollars of real energy credits; multiple businesses seeking solar quotes and working more efficiently.

Energy Coverage: 3,537 MWh (38.8%) of annual business energy consumption accounted for, exceeding a statistically relevant (36.6%) target for island-wide analysis of commercial usage.

Emissions Impact: 1,040 tonnes CO₂-e/year potential identified; **236 tonnes CO₂-e/year** confirmed reductions.

“ Next Steps

Hi,

*I'm reaching out as the **new Business Energy Advisor for Zero Emissions Noosa (ZEN)**, a role inspired by your own on Magnetic Island... Really excited to be working with our local business to save dollars and emissions.”*

Josh S. (Noosa, QLD)

Thank you



...for your commitment and interest in Totally Renewable Magnetic and the Business Energy Advisor. Please consider collaborating with my colleague, the Business Waste Advisor. You are welcome to contact me for any further enquiries on this presentation.

Stephen Rodan

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Great Barrier
Reef Foundation

