

ITEM 7

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JOHN DORAHY - REVIEW OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN COUNCIL OWNED FACILITIES

Councillor John Dorahy has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“By way of a direction from Councillors I propose Wollongong City Council explore the opportunity to be a community leader in saving the planet through energy efficiency. In addition to the environmental benefits, this will improve Wollongong City Council’s cost impacts and benefit residents financially. I formally move that Wollongong City Council –

- 1 Review where power usage can be reduced in all Council owned properties. Particularly when offices, rooms and facilities are vacant for extended periods, such as the evening when facilities are unoccupied.
- 2 Consider options to automate all power devices to turn off when offices, rooms and facilities are vacant after a set time, with a minimum ‘stay on’ period when no activity is detected in the office or room. Examples of this can be found in the Council administration building.
- 3 Deliver a briefing to Councillors by October 31, 2022, outlining the potential energy and financial savings, associated costs of sourcing and installation of automated power devices and return on investment.

Background provided by Councillor John Dorahy:

Power saving devices are already installed in some offices and rooms of the Wollongong City Council administration building, providing either ‘turn on’ and/or ‘turn off’ motion sensors. These devices have potential cost saving benefits and the electricity savings provide power for use by others.

Power outages due to base load power being reduced are a likely threat with the upcoming closure of coal-fired power stations, without an increase in alternative power solutions. We have seen examples of this already. This is an opportunity for Wollongong City Council to become a leader, setting an example to other organisations, businesses and residents, and show a commitment to energy efficiency, not just during ‘Earth Hour’ but at all times.

I ask Councillors to support this motion to show the residents of Wollongong that we are committed to climate change action and leading our community into a clean and prosperous future.