

ANNUAL REPORT OF KEY ACTIVITIES 2015-2016



TEC's resources have been stretched to the limit as several major campaigns took hold and we combatted serious threats to the environment.



A Big Win

After 13 years of hard work battling Coca Cola and allied big beverage companies – Australia is now on the road to a container deposit scheme. When NSW announced it will implement the 10cent refund system, other states took notice and now Qld, WA and the ACT will too.

This is a massive win that will make big inroads into litter, marine plastic pollution and grow recycling. The campaign led by the Boomerang Alliance, hosted and managed by TEC (our Director is also the head of Boomerang) has gained overwhelming support from the community. In the latter stages of the government's decision process we were able to arrange advocacy with key charity groups such as scouts and the Uniting Church.

Now that the adversary process is over, TEC is working with government, industry and community stakeholders to bring in the best system possible. Over the next few years our landscape and waters will become much cleaner; and charities will gain a significant new source of income.

Along with Boomerang we have embarked on a goal of reducing the entry of plastic into our waterways by 70% by 2020. As well as a CDS, it also targets plastic bags, microbeads and factory pollution. TEC has launched the Ocean Action Pod, an interactive exhibit on marine plastic pollution associated with a community education program. Its first outing along the coast included dozens of events and was a great success; and it is now being booked by councils for the summer season.

Standing Up For Nature

Governments are reviewing land clearing laws to make it easier to bulldoze our remaining native vegetation. Originally brought in after intense campaigns by environment groups, the developer counter push is gaining traction. There's a lot at stake – endangered species, soil and water quality, CO₂ emissions and sustainable agriculture.

NSW has seen the worst recent attack on land clearing controls. The successful Native Vegetation Act is proposed to be abolished and state planning laws are being used to clear critically endangered communities for infrastructure. TEC has been prominent in the effort to maintain and improve the laws. It's a tough battle.

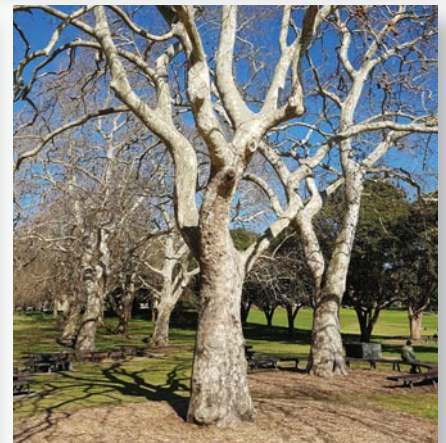
While engaging with the detail and prosecuting the policy case with government – we have also alerted communities in the city and country with local briefings, arranged meetings with MPs, obtained mainstream media coverage, run street stalls – the basics of grass roots campaigning.

SOS Liveable City

Our cities are in a growth spiral that is creating big challenges for a liveable environment. Sydney is a hot spot with massive housing and infrastructure development.



Protest on Sydney Harbour



TEC has been the urban green defender and we are assisting dozens of local groups to keep their green spaces.

Whether it's the heritage fig trees felled for the south east light rail; an endangered ecological community cleared for the West Connex; mature gums dismissed as unimportant by a housing developer; or a council selling off parks — TEC has been the urban green defender and we are assisting dozens of local groups to keep their green spaces. We are elevating the issue on the metro agenda so that green spaces are not regarded as disposable. We have held community meetings, organised protest rallies, undertaken inspections with community advocates and media, met ministers and developed better legal protection mechanisms.

As Sydney enters a new round of metro and district planning we are also mobilising peak environment, academic and professional groups to produce a ground breaking report that will benchmark the environmental sustainability of the new plans and assert a vision for a liveable future.

Green Power

Our primary focus over the last year has been to defend solar households from discrimination by traditional power utilities after the phase out of feed-in tariffs (we have been working with Solar Citizens) and support the expansion of on-site storage such as batteries and integrating this into the National Electricity Market.

We are continuing to press for a far-reaching rule change to require networks to pay local or decentralised generators for their reduced use of the whole network, especially during the evening peaks. If implemented, this would increase the financial viability of a

range of renewable energy projects involving community energy groups, local councils and precinct scale co-and tri-generation.

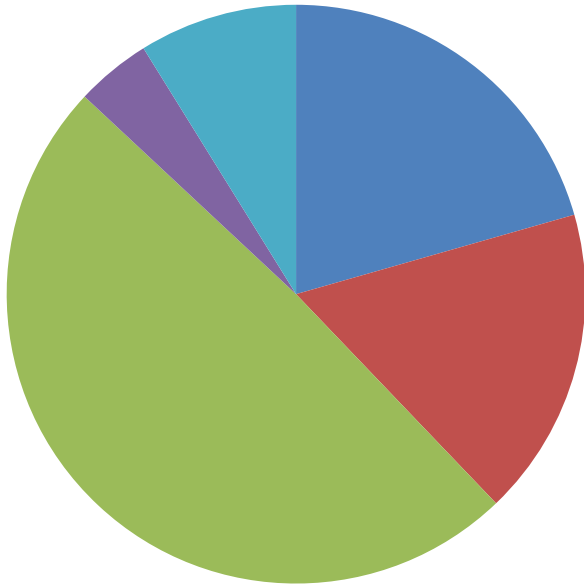
The 2015 update of TEC and Greenpeace's Green Electricity Guide was launched with great consumer interest and competition between suppliers to achieve a high ranking. (www.greenelectricityguide.org.au)

Hothouse and Smart Locale

We have held 7 Greenhouse events covering a range of frontier sustainability issues with GreenUps, Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Flow Systems and the Pyrmont Ultimo Chamber of Commerce (PUCC). Smart Locale is working on a Love Food Hate Waste program, trialling at the Pyrmont Festival Stall Savers project; and is developing the Ultimo Virtual Power Station, in collaboration with Brookfield Energy (via Flow Systems).

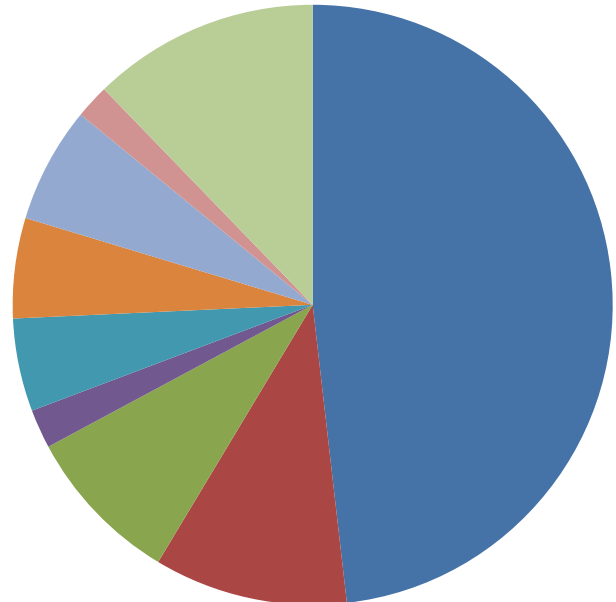
TEC Funds

Funds Received 2015 – 16



- Donations
- Govt Grants
- NonGovt Grants
- Bequests
- Other

Funds Allocated 2015 – 16



- Container Deposit Scheme
- National Electricity Market
- Ocean Action Pod
- Biodiversity/ Urban Sanctuary
- Green Capital/HotHouse
- Tyre Recycling Campaign
- Other Campaigns
- Fundraising
- TEC Operations Cost

Our thanks for key project funding and philanthropic support:

Purves Environmental Fund and Purry Burry Trust – Container Deposits

National Electricity Consumer Advocacy Panel – NEM advocacy and various research projects

City of Sydney – Smart Locale

Lead Environment and Conservation Groups (Environmental Trust) – Ocean Action Pod

Diversicon – Container Deposits and marine plastic

The Morris Family Foundation – Container Deposits

Flow Systems

Staff

Jeff Angel (Executive Director). Jo Cory (Accounts Manager). Jenn Brewer (Office Manager). Leigh Martin (Living Landscapes Campaigner). Dave Burgess (Natural Areas Campaigner). Ruth Hessey (Communications Director). Mark Byrne (NEM Advocate). Lisa Wriley (Waste Campaigner). Andrew Tovey (Hothouse/Smart Locale). Brooklyn Sulaeman (Events). Murray Hogarth (Green Capital Senior Advisor). Boomerang Campaigns: Dave West (National Policy Director). Toby Hutcheon (Qld Manager). Anthony Lazzaro (Investigations). Rachel Dujardin (Program and Mobilisation). Kellie Lindsay (Qld Community Campaigner), Annett Finger (Vic Community Campaigner), Interns: Andy Gray, Leisha Duncan, Ali Taylor, Rikki Gunn.

Management Committee

Seb Crawford (Chair). Gerri Ormonde (Secretary). Bob Wallace (Treasurer). Anita Mitchell. Fabian Sack. Ronnie Harding. Nari Sahukar. Alec Bombell. Kaia Hodge.

Volunteers

Steve Granger, Caroline Alt, Alex Mitchell, Kate Moppett, Lindsay Schiffhauer, Anne Collings, Ulrike Meyer, Annette Cam, Dave McAlpin, Gaye White, Miriam Fagueret, Anne Matheson, Marie Quinn, Katharine Richardson, Julie Barnes, Adnil Ramos, Jann Dark, Suzan Zabeti, Margaret O'Brien, Bridget Kennedy, Kathryn Foley, Suszan Rogers, Maria Bradley, Greg Vankuyk, Amber Forrest-Bisley, Merril Witt, Jillian Snell, Randall Wood, David Hufton, Debadrita Guha, Ros Poole, Rebecca Anderson, Wendy Chapman, Lyn McColl, Edward Fernandez, Amy Fairall, Sjirk Bangma, Rosanna Perillo, Silke Stuckenbrock, Cath Leach, Judy Pincus, Charles Gream, Gavin Imhof,

Lyn Nasir, Wendy Bishop, Ann Goeth, Shauna Forrest, Catriona Duncan, Paul Von Willer.

Government Committees

TEC staff were members of: Container Deposit Advisory Committee. Microplastic Taskforce. Sydney Water Customer Council.

Environmental Management

During the year TEC purchased 50% GreenPower; implemented an action plan to recycle paper, containers; and organics via our worm farm.

THANKS TO OUR DONORS!

