

Beyond Zero Emissions



Volunteer Position Description

Volunteer Role	Research Assistant - Wheatbelt Region
Purpose	<p>The volunteer(s) in this role will support our Research team with a range of tasks, including research related activities such as generating report summaries, policy analysis, case study development and data gathering.</p> <p>We are now part way through BZE's 3 year strategy to accelerate real emissions reductions in Australia and deliver economic prosperity.</p> <p>A major deliverable under this strategy is the development and roll out of a National Action Plan (NAP). The NAP's goal is to design and develop in conjunction with partner organisations a coordination plan for Australia to build out renewable energy, decarbonise existing industries and grow new green export industries to replace Australia's fossil fuel export mix. The goal of this plan is to understand what Australia's priorities are and the sequence of activities that can best deliver emissions reductions the fastest within Australia's constrained access to resources such as labour, skills and public finance.</p> <p>Having assessed Hunter Valley and Gladstone regions, and part way through Kwinana (WA) and with this, we are looking at renewable energy development in the Wheatbelt to support the South West Interconnected System. (SWIS)</p> <p>Research topic areas will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wheatbelt WA - Social acceptance - Community Engagement - First Nations Engagement and Benefits
Skills required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living in or deep knowledge of the Wheatbelt region of WA is a definite advantage • Research including sourcing key reports, datasets and capacity to provide analysis of and written short summaries • Data analysis • Writing skills • Interest/background in regional communities, social acceptance, the energy transition in regional communities energy, infrastructure, energy systems, planning • (At different points in this project, some volunteers may have strong technical skills and others more general research skills, we don't expect you to have all the skills listed)
Supervision	Supervision and direction for this role is provided by BZE's Senior Project Manager based in the Hunter region

Training and support	An online induction will be provided before the volunteer starts this role. BZE's Volunteer Manager is available for any general questions about the role or about volunteering with BZE.
Location	This is a desk-based task that can be completed from home.
Equipment	You will require your own computer and wifi access.
Time commitment	<p>We expect the time commitment to be 4 to 8 hours per week for a minimum of 6 weeks.</p> <p>The weekly time commitment doesn't need to be done all at once, it can be split over the week to suit your availability.</p> <p>The work can be completed at a time convenient to you, though it will be important to be available to attend an online weekly 30 min meeting</p>
Start date	Commencing from Jan 19 Jan 2026 (BZE Office Closure 20 Dec to 11 Jan)
Health and safety requirements for this role	This role requires extended computer use. BZE can provide advice on setting up an ergonomic workstation if required.
Volunteer benefits	This role offers the opportunity to volunteer with an internationally-recognised climate solutions think tank and join a group of like-minded people who are actively helping plan for a return to a safe climate.
Contact	Madeline Townsend, Volunteer Manager madeline.townsend@bze.org.au

HE 28/11/25 adapted by SM 11/12/2025