

## Media release

5.4.05

## Council signs up to run on "clean energy"

The Townsville City Council is showing the way in sustainability with an agreement with Ergon Energy to support the production of renewable energy.

A full meeting of council tonight signed off on a three-year deal to become part of Ergon's Clean Power program which already has nine renewable energy providers supplying the grid with "green" power.

Under the terms of the agreement, Ergon will supply the council's city hall with its power needs, help review and reduce energy use and set-up a \$25,000 "Solar School" project in Townsville.

The cost to council is \$55,424 per annum.

Ergon is supplied with renewable energy by the Tablelands, Invicta, South Johnstone, Kalamia, Marian and Tully sugar mills; the Coconut Island Wind Turbine and Solar Array; and the Windy Hill Farm at Ravenshoe.

Deputy Mayor Cr Ann Bunnell said the Clean Power agreement, the council's decision to switch its vehicle fleet over to E-10 blended fuel, and its recent forums on sustainability was providing environmental leadership for the community.

"Supporting the concept of clean power sends a positive message to the community on the importance of adopting sustainable practices and encourages other renewable energy generators to come on line," Cr Bunnell said.

"The council's major policy commitments in water recycling, greening, sustainable development and use of renewable energy is ensuring that the environment is a priority and a major consideration in everything we do."

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