

INFORMATION SHEET FOR PARTICIPANTS

I wish to invite you to participate in my research project, described below.

My name is Kara Tighe and I am conducting this research as part of my Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in the School of School of Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences at the University of New England. My supervisor is Professor Neil Argent.

Research Project	Project Zero30 Armidale Regional Local Government Area Household Energy Use Survey
Aim of the Research	The research aims estimate greenhouse gas emissions from Armidale Regional Government Area household activities including heating, cooling, refrigeration, transportation and maintenance methods and habits. Results from this survey will contribute to robust emissions estimates that will help inform appropriate reduction and offset strategies to guide our community's collective transition to carbon neutrality.
Online survey	I would like you to complete an online survey. The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.
Confidentiality	The information collected in this survey will be used for the purposes described above and for any directly related purpose, such as the generation of research papers, as permitted under the Privacy Act. No identifiable data will be disclosed to others, but de-identified data may be shared for research purposes. Information shared cannot be linked back to any individual and will not be sold for any market research or other purposes. Any personal details gathered in the course of the survey will remain confidential. No individual will be identified in any publication of the results.
Participation is Voluntary	Please understand that your involvement in this study is voluntary and I respect your right to stop participating in the study at any time without consequence and without needing to provide an explanation, however, once you begin the survey your anonymous data which you have already provided cannot be withdrawn.
Questions	The interview questions will not be of a sensitive nature: rather they are general, and will enable me to enhance my knowledge of household energy use in the Armidale Regional Government Area.
Use of Information	I will use information from the survey as part of my Postdoctoral Research project, which I expect to complete in July 2023. Information from the survey may also be used in academic journal articles and conference presentations before and after this date. At all times, I will safeguard your identity by presenting the information in a way that will not allow you to be identified.

Upsetting Issues

It is unlikely that this research will raise any personal or upsetting issues but if it does you may wish to contact your local Community Health Centre (02 6776 9600) or Lifeline on 13 11 14.

Storage of Information

Electronic data will be kept on the Qualtrics survey platform and cloud.une.edu.au, UNE's centrally managed cloud server managed by the research team. It will also be kept on a password protected computer in the same location. Only the research team will have access to the data. No hard copies of the data will be stored.

Disposal of Information

All the data collected in this research will be kept for a minimum of five years, after which it will be disposed of by deleting relevant computer files, and destroying or shredding hardcopy materials.

Approval

This project has been approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the University of New England (Approval No HE21-150, Valid to 31/01/2022).

Researchers Contact Details

Feel free to contact me with any questions about this research by email at kjones27@une.edu.au or by phone on 02 6773 5318.

You may also contact my supervisor. My supervisor's name is Professor Neil Argent and he can be contacted by email at nargent@une.edu.au or by phone on 02 6773 2803.

Complaints

Should you have any complaints concerning the manner in which this research is conducted, please contact:

Research Ethics Officer
Research Services
University of New England
Armidale, NSW 2351
Tel: (02) 6773 3715
Email: humanethics@une.edu.au

Thank you for considering this request and I look forward to further contact with you.

regards,

Kara Tighe