



2 December 2016

Dear Researcher

**Subject: Lake Macquarie Environmental Research Grants 2016-2017**

Since 1987, Lake Macquarie City Council has provided more than 130 research grants to support environmental research by universities, the CSIRO, and other organisations. This year, more funds are available to encourage projects that have been identified as warranting research include air quality, water quality, biodiversity, living sustainably, alternative sources and efficient use of energy and water, and the effectiveness of environmental management strategies. A copy of *Information for Researchers* is attached for your information. We would appreciate if you would please ensure that this information is disseminated throughout your organisation, and to others who you consider may be interested in applying for a Lake Macquarie Environmental Research Grant. The information is also available by accessing our website:

[LMCC Environmental Research Grants 2016-20167](#)

This year, Council and the Sponsors are particularly interested in a project on the following topics:

- feral species in Lake Macquarie;
- behaviour of cats and their impacts on biodiversity;
- habitat trees and hollows;
- adaptable building and infrastructure design;
- freshwater aquatic surveys;
- heavy metals;
- air Quality (including the gravity of wood smoke in the City and its impacts on health);
- water Quality (including the effectiveness of Water Sensitive Urban Design devices);
- impacts and benefits of aquatic recreation structures including design for environmental benefit (moorings, jetties, boat ramps, slip-rails, etc);
- environmental impact of extreme weather events (bushfire, storms, etc);
- strategies for businesses and households to retain value from past investment in rooftop solar PV post 31 December 2016 when mandated feed in tariffs end. For example maximising internal consumption, use of demand response, and potential of battery storage;
- identify opportunities for residential efficiency upgrade e.g. air conditioning and lighting;
- monitoring Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) in building;
- investigating opportunities to incorporate compost in road works and housing developments (stormwater retention, verges, median strips, roadsides), and bush and mine regeneration; and
- glass recycling (application of glass fines and improved processes for cleaning of glass fines from MRF waste stream).

The closing date for submissions is **Friday 27 January 2017**. The attached Application Form **MUST** be completed and attached to your submission which can be forwarded by email to: [ssarkar@lakemac.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ssarkar@lakemac.nsw.gov.au). If you wish to discuss the grants scheme further, please contact me on 61 2 4921 0333, or via email, prior to Friday 16 December 2016.

Yours faithfully

Kaisar Sarkar  
**Sustainability Risk Officer**  
**Sustainability Department**

Our Ref: F2016/01160/01 Your Ref: