

Claire Tucker

NSW Office of Environment and Heritage

Presentation

The future of environmental certification: Learning lessons and avoiding hazards.

Biography

Claire is a senior sustainability professional specialising in sustainability strategy, stakeholder engagement, community investment and social impact assessment in the property, mining and financial services sectors. Claire joined the National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS) program in 2015. NABERS is a national rating system that measures the environmental performance of Australian buildings including energy, water, waste and indoor environment quality. Within NABERS, Claire is responsible for strategic development, program strategy and engagement, and is also managing the development of a new rating tool - NABERS for Hospitals. Prior to joining NABERS Claire worked for social sustainability consulting firm, Banarra (now KPMG Banarra).

Abstract

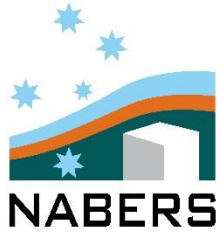
There are labels and certifications for everything these days. Everything from the food we eat, to the products we buy, to the services we use. Many aspects of our personal and professional lives have been vetted, verified and standardised in some way. But it's not all bad, there are many reasons why so many certifications and labels exist, and for good reason too. By definition, standards, labels and certifications should provide a positive point of difference, something that makes the product or service stand out - be trustworthy, robust and reputable.

In the green building space, there are numerous national and international rating schemes that exist to assess, verify and rate the environmental design, construction and operational impact of buildings. Some schemes have worked very well, and others have struggled to maintain market relevance and credibility.

This paper and presentation will explore and share the lessons learnt in developing a successful rating scheme, and what are the hazards to avoid. For example, the National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS) is a national program that measures the environmental performance of Australian buildings. The NABERS program has based its rating tools on a number of principles, including: simplicity; relevance and fairness; and accessibility.

However, other rating schemes have failed where NABERS has succeeded. And many in the sector have explored the hazards that have led to questionable ratings, for instance, how a major casino and hotel in Las Vegas achieved 'green building' certification despite boasting an indoor waterfall, a smoke-filled gaming area, seven

decorative fountains, and guest suites with three TVs and power-controlled curtains...



The future of environmental certification: Learning lessons and avoiding hazards

EIANZ Conference 2016, Brisbane



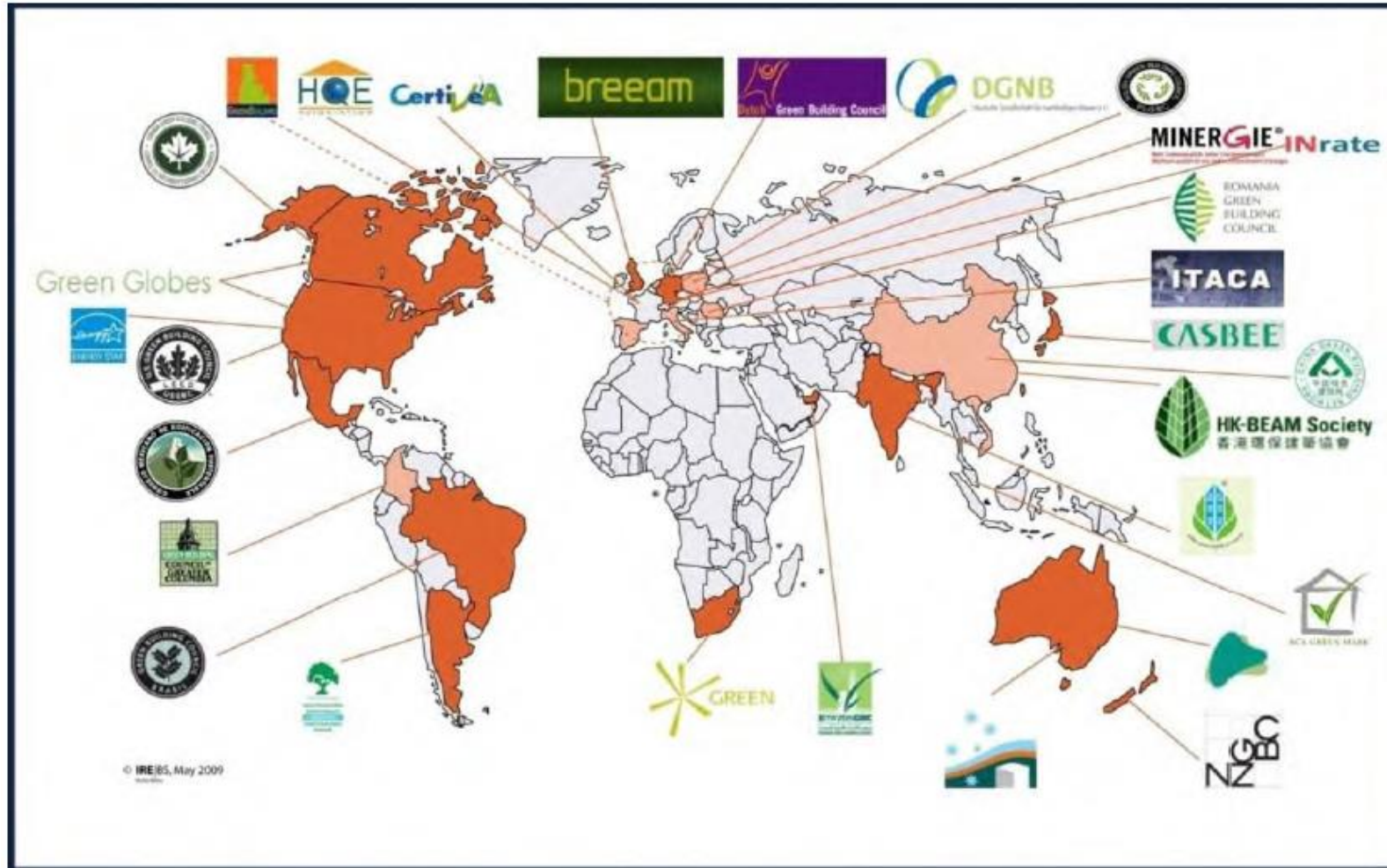
NABERS is a national initiative managed
by the New South Wales Government

www.nabers.gov.au

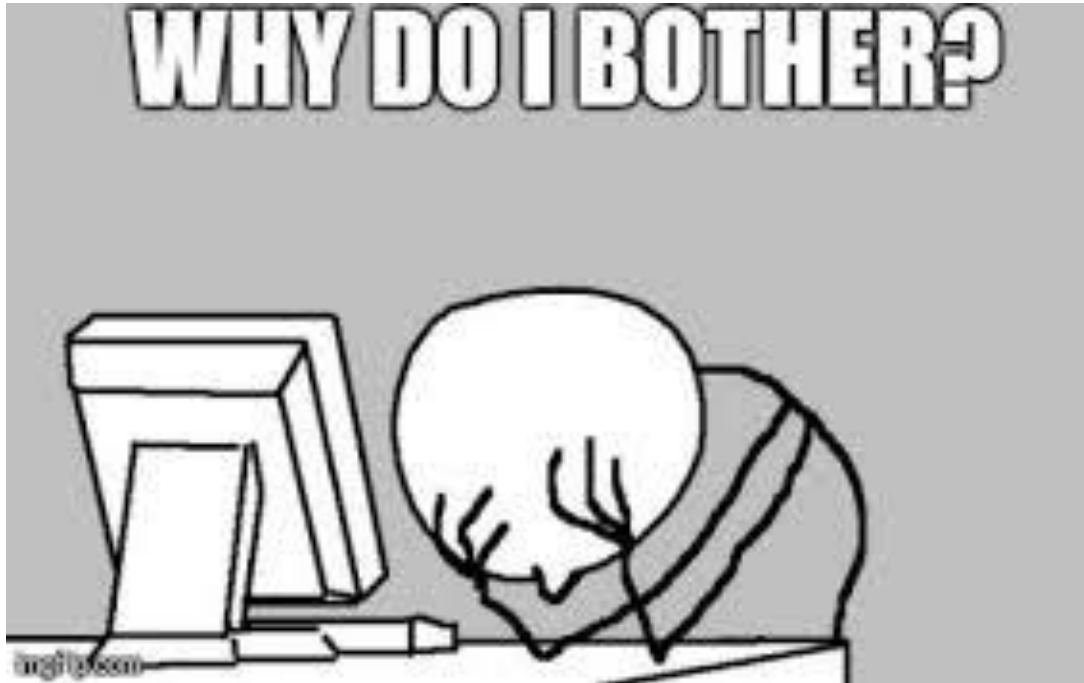
Today I'll cover...

- The journey towards green building ratings and benchmarking performance
- What NABERS measures and why
- Key features that have worked
- Hazards to avoid

Green building schemes



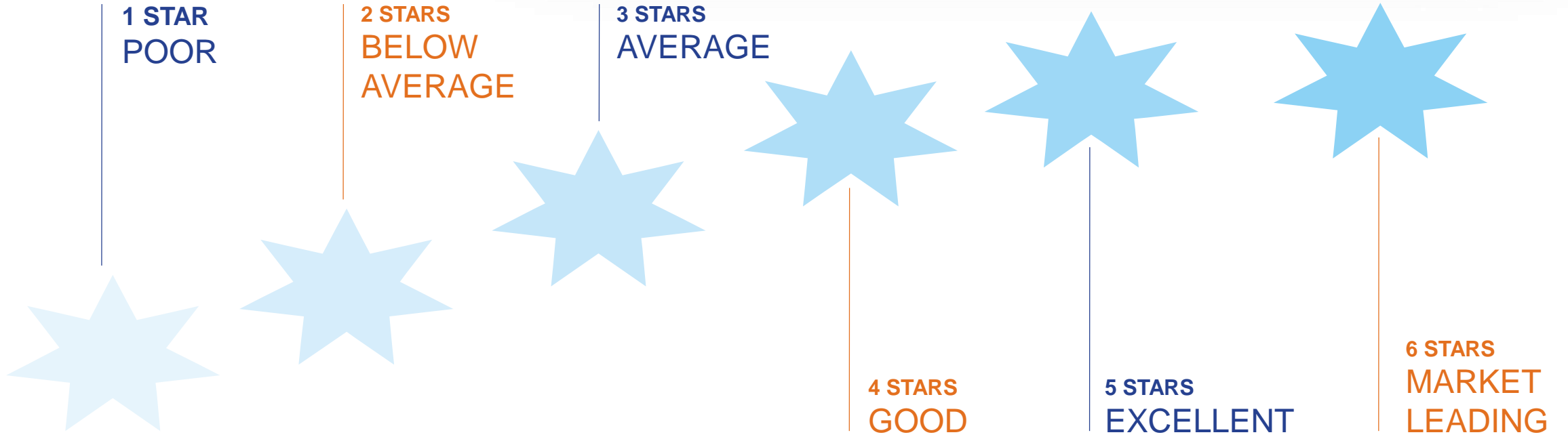
So why do it?



- 90% of our time is spent indoors
- Buildings account for one third of total global greenhouse gas emissions

NABERS rating tools





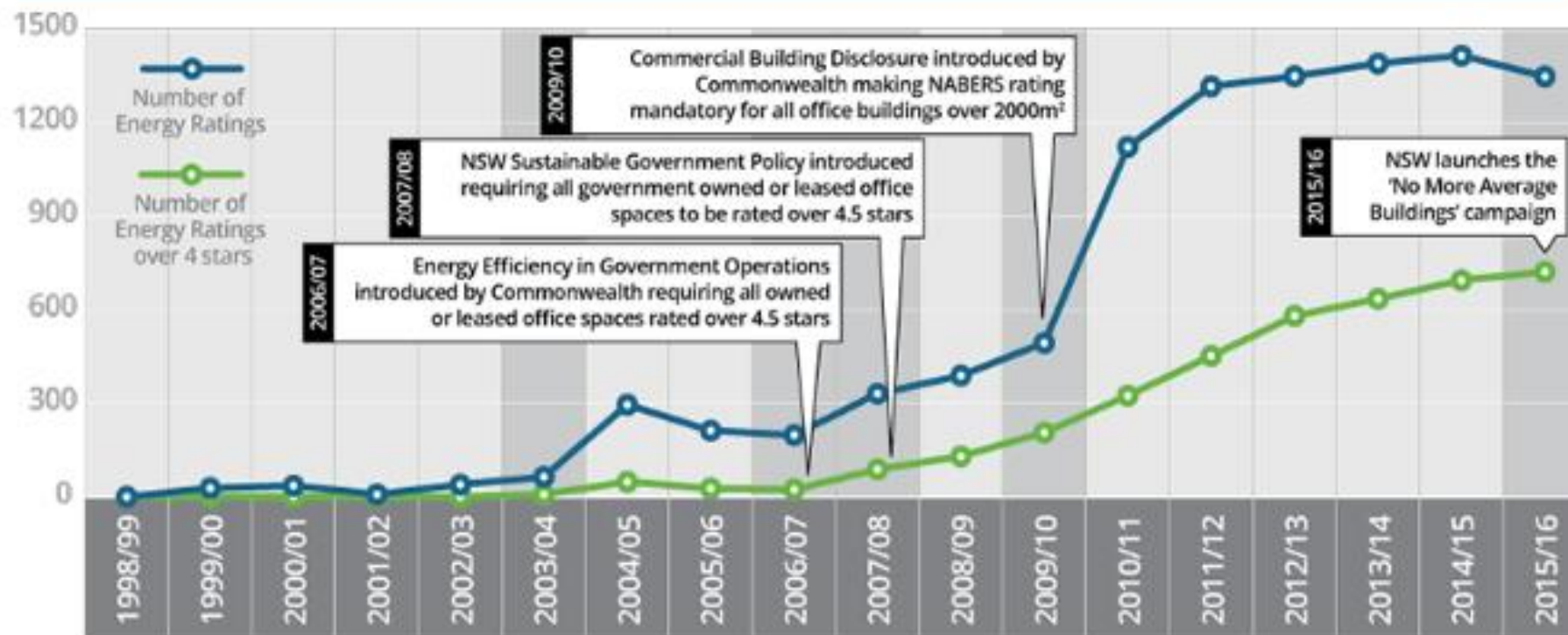
Key features that have worked

- Actual impact and not intent
- Technology neutral, relevant to building operations and aligned with responsibility
- Supported by policy

Policy support

Ratings and government policy

COUNT BUILDINGS AND TENANCIES WITH NABERS OFFICE ENERGY RATINGS CERTIFIED

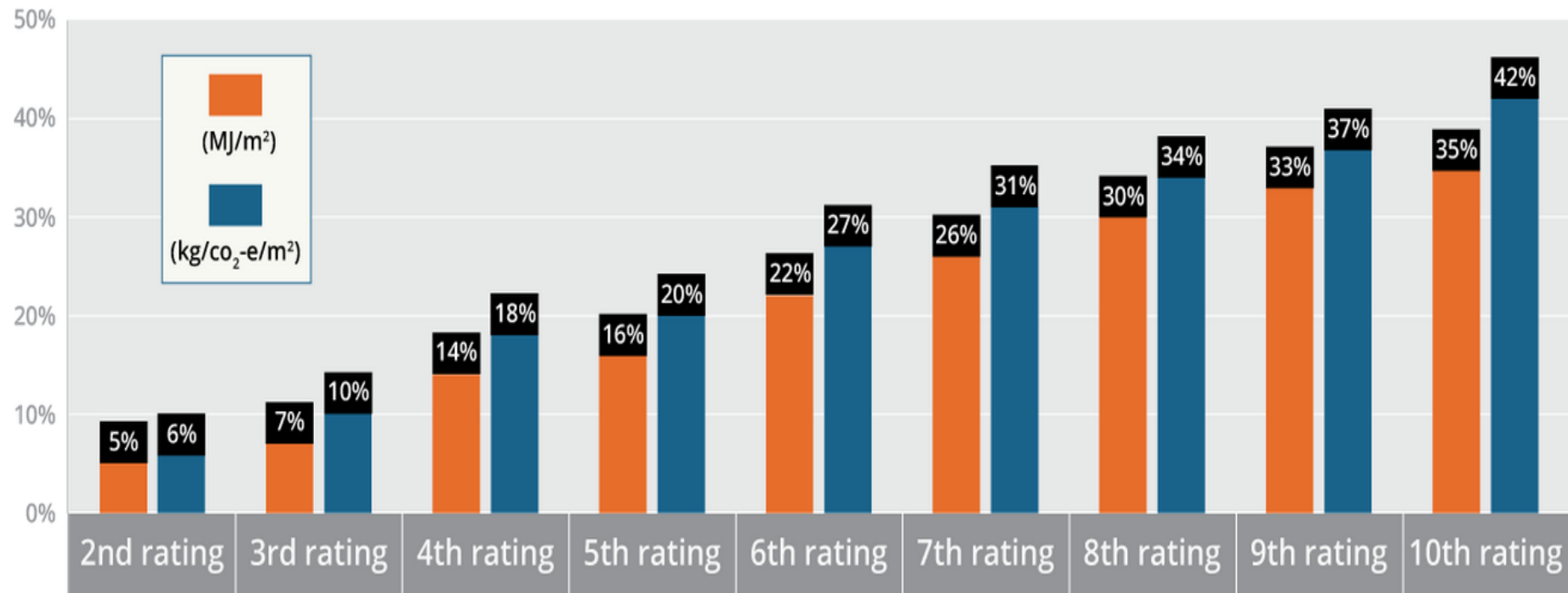


Hazards to be aware of

- Not all stars are the same
- Disclosing only good performance
- Rating for the sake of it

Average reduction in energy use after multiple ratings

NABERS ENERGY FOR OFFICES (Base and Whole Buildings)



Re-cap

- Why we benchmark performance and what NABERS measures and why
- Key features that have worked
- Hazards to avoid



Thank you

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