FACT SHEET



Renewable Energy Solutions Fact Sheet

POWER YOUR HOME

Solar Energy

To promote a sustainable future, we must harness renewable, local and abundant energy sources - such as sunlight. By switching to solar power using rooftop photovoltaic (PV) systems at your home you are helping the environment by producing zero greenhouse gas emissions. Using coal powered electricity produces harmful greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to global warming.

You may be able to obtain rebates or feed-in tariffs from the government by installing a solar system. This helps to offset the initial cost of installing the PV system. Once paid for, you can than enjoy the financial savings of generating free electricity during daylight hours. There are also options to have excess electricity stored into a rechargeable battery for use at a later time such as night time or on cloudy days. No more worrying about future increases in electricity prices.

Choosing the right system

Before deciding on a solar system it is best to do some research. The Queensland Government has provided a checklist on their website that helps you do just that. By simply following the steps in the checklist you can join the many other Australians and consider having solar installed at your home. You will also help Australia's government plan to reach net zero emissions by 2050.

Maintenance and inspections

You will need to ensure you arrange regular maintenance on the components of your solar system (including solar panels, control systems and wiring) to maximise performance throughout the whole system's lifespan which can be up to 25 years. This can be achieved by ensuring any overhanging vegetation is removed and making sure it is free from dust

and debris including fallen leaves. Storms can also cause damage.

Following your installers maintenance instructions will help to keep your system functioning effectively. You can also take the following steps.

- Checking how your system is performing via your • electricity bill - compare any changes in your energy usage or your solar feed-in tariff (if applicable).
- Undertaking visual inspections of your solar system from • the safety of the ground. Look for any build-up of any bird droppings or tree sap, damaged solar panels, cracked or damage to the isolation switch and invertor case, damaged or fraying wiring.
- Engaging a licensed electrician to undertake an inspection.

More information

You can find out more information by accessing the following government websites:

https://www.gld.gov.au/housing/buying-owning-home/energywater-home/solar

https://www.energy.gov.au/households/solar-pv-and-batteries

https://arena.gov.au/renewable-energy/solar/

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