



Renewable Energy Solutions for EMMA, OWNER/OCCUPIER OF A COMMERCIAL PROPERTY



Smart Energy Future

EMMA WANTS TO:

- Lower her electricity bills
- Use clean energy
- Have more control over her energy use and supply

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Install solar PV on the roof. Business daytime hours align with solar energy production. This increases the self-consumption of the generated power and maximises the benefit. The current payback period is typically four to six years.
- Businesses can benefit from the asset write-off in the first year, which can be up to \$20,000. Installing solar also adds value to the business brand.
- Install solar hot water or a heat pump to heat water
- Install a heat pump (reverse cycle air conditioner) for heating, which also works in the shade.
- Invest in community renewables
- Host community renewables
- Participate in corporate renewable energy buyers groups
- Purchase renewable energy
- Switch to carbon neutral electricity
- Go carbon neutral (can improve business reputation)
- In strata-titled properties, nominate for the strata committee and advocate for energy efficiency on common property; solar PV; and by-laws that cater for all owners.

NEAR FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

- Increase the solar PV array and install a battery – more than 400 new batteries are being installed in Australia every week with numbers increasing exponentially every month. Innovative solutions are improving the business case even further.
- Lobby the owners corporation to implement peer-to-peer energy trading amongst businesses, if applicable.

OTHER COST SAVING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Change old lights to LED with smart controls
- Always improve efficiency of building before installing solar electricity
- North Sydney Council will pay for energy audit to determine best options (for local LGA)
- Undertake passive energy saving measures like insulation, shading, window coverings, and draught proofing
- Join [CitySwitch](#)
- Join [Better Business Partnerships](#)

- Incorporate passive solar design for free heating and cooling when renovating or building

WHO CAN HELP EMMA?

- Solar PV: Reputable solar PV installer with strata experience for strata properties; third party financing provider (e.g. approved by the [Clean Energy Council](#))
- Financing: Most major retailers offer \$0 upfront under a power purchase agreement (PPA) with savings compared with standard rates
- Metering/billing solution: [Sun Tenants](#), (if solar PV is to be shared behind the meter for common property and individual businesses), and [Wattwatchers](#)
- Community renewables: Community renewables are explained in this [article](#). Contact groups such as [Community Power Australia](#), [ClearSky Solar Investments](#), [Enova](#) or [Solar Cloud](#)
- Incentivising renewable energy on an international scale: Solutions like [SolarCoin](#), [NRGcoin](#)
- Purchasing renewables: [GreenPower](#) can be purchased through electricity retailers or other providers such as [Climate Chest](#) (GreenPower® is tax deductible if purchased through a community organisation such as Climate Chest)
- Carbon neutral electricity suppliers ([Powershop](#), [Energy Locals](#)); renewables aggregated buyers groups, energy and carbon offset brokers, purchase LGCs in the spot market (if big enough), enter into a corporate PPA (if big enough)
- Energy efficiency measures: Reputable products and installers, [energy ratings of appliances](#)
- Independent assistance:
Our Energy Future helpline: 1300 339 915
Council's sustainability team: 9936 8100, Council's [Green Events](#) program
- Compare the environmental performance of electricity retailers at www.greenelectricityguide.org.au

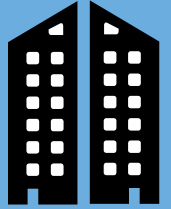
Download these fact sheets on the "Smart Energy Future" homepage to be able to click on links directly.

HELPFUL ONLINE INFORMATION:

- [Renew](#)
- [Renew Economy online publication](#)



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Electricity from solar and wind farms is now cheaper than from new gas and coal-fired power plants.



Solar and Batteries reward their users and provide benefits to the national electricity network. Distributed generation increases grid resilience and reduces the need for network investment.



Roof space is best dedicated to solar electric panels in preference to hot water systems, as the benefits will be greater.



Both reverse cycle air conditioning on heating mode and hot water heat pumps produce renewable energy from the outside air, both at night or in the shade.



Typically, over 10 years, solar PV costs are between half or a third of grid-supplied energy costs.



100% renewable energy can be achieved by disconnecting from gas and switching all appliances to electricity powered from renewables.



Investing in renewable energy will enhance the reputation of your business.



Electric cars can be charged and fuelled by solar electric panels, which uses local renewable energy rather than importing fossil fuels.



Typically, in combination, rooftop solar electricity and hot water heat pumps deliver one of the cheapest hot water solutions. Storing solar energy in hot water systems is the cheapest method of energy storage.



In most cases, investing in renewable energy adds value to property.



Renewable energy can be bought from any address.



If the building is overshadowed, heat pumps for hot water and heating can be an option.

Did you know?

- North Sydney Council uses renewable energy in many of its buildings because of the cost benefits, including solar electricity, solar hot water and heat pumps for space heating and hot water.
- North Sydney Council purchases 50% GreenPower for its six largest sites.
- North Sydney Olympic Pool has heat pumps which deliver 750kW of renewable energy, costing half as much to run as gas boilers, and a 100kW solar hot water system for pool heating.



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