

Renewable Energy Solutions for TONY, **TENANT IN A STRATA-TITLED APARTMENT**





Smart Energy Future

TONY WANTS TO:

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

CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES:

- Contact his landlord/property manager to get solar panels installed. Strata and individual apartment PV installations need to be approved by a special resolution at a general meeting. A special resolution is passed at a properly convened general meeting if no more than 25% of the value of the votes cast at the meeting (in person or by proxy) are against the motion. This is different from the common myth that 75% of all owners need to agree.
- Nominate for the position of Tenant Representative on the strata committee (in buildings where over 50% of apartments are leased), and then advocate for solutions such as SunTenants and Allume.
- Seek to become an ordinary strata committee member (by being nominated by an owner that is not nominating themselves), and then advocate for solutions such as SunTenants and Allume.
- Switch to a carbon neutral electricity account
- Buy renewable energy
- Invest in community renewables

NEAR FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES:

 Participate in peer-to-peer energy trading and buy energy directly from renewable sources

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)

WHO CAN HELP TONY?

- Solar PV/monitoring/billing: Providers like <u>Sun Tenants</u>, <u>Power Ledger</u>, <u>Allume</u>, Wattwatchers
- Community renewables:
 Community renewables are explained in this <u>article</u>.
 Contact groups such as <u>Community Power</u>
 <u>Australia</u>, <u>ClearSky Solar Investments</u>, <u>Enova</u> or Solar Cloud.
- Incentivising renewable energy on an international scale:
 - Solutions like SolarCoin, NRGcoin
- Purchasing renewables:
 <u>GreenPower</u> can be purchased through electricity retailers or other providers such as <u>Climate Chest</u>
 (GreenPower® is tax deductible if purchased through a community organisation such as Climate Chest)
- Carbon neutral electricity suppliers such as <u>Energy</u> Australia, Powershop, Energy Locals
- Energy efficiency measures:
 Reputable products and installers, energy ratings of appliances
- Independent assistance:
 Our Energy Future helpline: 1300 339 915
 Council's sustainability team: 9336 8100, Council's
 <u>Green Events</u> program, <u>Renew Energy Consult</u>,
 Green Strata service providers
- Compare energy offers at Energymadeeasy.gov.au
- 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
- Guide to comfortable and sustainable homes
- 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.



Renewable energy can be bought from any address.



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



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



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



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.



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.



If there is both gas and reverse cycle air conditioning available, using the air conditioner on heating mode will reduce heating costs by around one third, and reduce emissions.



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.

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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