



The Aussie Solar Drive

Australia is a leader in rooftop solar, with our world-famous sunshine now a major source of clean energy for communities around the country. **Over 3.6 million households are already saving an average of \$1,500 a year off their electricity bills with solar and storage systems.** That's why rooftop solar is consistently rated as the most popular form of clean energy by Aussies from coast to coast.

We have huge potential to keep growing clean energy capacity by getting even more panels onto our homes and businesses. This will help add new energy supply quickly to keep up with the needs of our growing economy, while we continue important work to build large-scale renewables. Getting more solar onto rooftops in our cities and suburbs, backed by household and community-scale storage, can also help limit the need for additional grid upgrades as we store and use more energy right where it's created.

The Aussie Solar Drive is a bold, national push to double rooftop solar and storage by the end of the decade, to reach 50 GW of clean generation and 24GW of storage. This will cut power bills for millions more Aussies, grow clean energy supply and slash climate pollution further and faster.

How to deliver it:

Roll out rooftop solar and storage for all social homes - The Federal Government can work with states and territories to install solar on Australia's roughly 260,000 social housing properties. This would deliver cheaper power for Aussies who often struggle the most with the costs of living. This can be done with a Commonwealth green bond to finance solar installations and accompanying energy upgrades to properties. The costs can then be paid back over time by the states and territories through a reduced need for expensive, ongoing energy bill subsidies – which currently cost hundreds of millions a year but deliver only modest bill savings for struggling households.

POPULAR POLICIES FOR SLASHING CLIMATE POLLUTION

Accelerate 'solar soaker' community-scale batteries - Boosting storage is essential for maximising the benefits of solar for every Aussie. Community-scale batteries can soak up solar power during the day when it's abundant, and share it back to homes and businesses cheaply later in the day. The Federal Government can support the delivery of more battery systems by expanding the successful [Community Batteries for Household Solar Scheme](#) with dedicated funding rounds particularly engaging local governments and businesses.

Re-focus the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES) to commercial solar and storage - The popular and successful national SRES helped drive the first wave of rooftop solar on Aussie homes; an updated and re-focused scheme can now do the same for businesses. Large corporations can have minimum renewable energy requirements, locking in the voluntary commitments many have already made. These can be met either by installing their own solar and storage, or purchasing clean energy certificates from other small and medium businesses.

Update the National Construction Code to require solar on all new homes and commercial buildings - Solar and space to install storage can be delivered as a standard feature for all new and substantially rebuilt homes and buildings. This could see solar and storage systems added to around 537,000 more homes by the end of the decade.

For more information on how much more clean energy these actions could add to our grid, check out Climate Council's 2024 report:

[Seize the Sun: How Australia can supercharge rooftop solar and storage.](#)

Who will benefit:

Australian households and families

Doubling rooftop solar and rolling out more storage will enable millions more families to slash their electricity bills by generating their own low-cost, clean power. Even those without solar on the roof, like renters and those in apartments, will benefit as more solar made, stored and used in communities puts downward pressure on power prices.

New energy apprentices and existing workers looking to reskill

Rolling out solar and storage for millions more homes and businesses will create tens of thousands more good jobs in our cities, suburbs and regions. For Climate Council's recommendations on how we can ensure workers have the right skills and training to seize these opportunities, see our policy pitch paper on the Australian Energy Corps.

Small and medium businesses

Businesses will benefit through lower electricity costs, helping make them more sustainable to protect good local jobs.



**To discuss this and other popular policies to slash climate pollution, contact
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