

# Save with solar. It's that simple.



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CEO, Solar Victoria



Solar  
Victoria



Environment,  
Land, Water  
and Planning







## Victoria's \$1.3 billion Solar Homes Program

Solar Homes is supporting Victorians to access affordable, clean, reliable energy



### Solar panels (PV)

- Eligible homeowners and rental providers can apply for a **rebate of \$1,400** to install a rooftop solar system.
- A **\$1,400 interest free loan**, repaid over four years, is also available to further reduce upfront installation costs.



### Solar and heat pump hot water

A **\$1,000 rebate** is also available to replace a hot water service more than three years old with solar hot water or an energy-efficient heat pump hot water system.



### Solar battery

Those who have not previously accessed a Solar Homes rebate can also apply for a **\$2,950 rebate** to install a solar battery (subject to eligibility criteria).



## Solar panels (PV) and Solar hot water for owner occupiers

Homeowners must:

- Be the owner-occupier of the property
- Have a combined household taxable income of less than \$180,000 per year
- Have not already received a solar battery rebate as an owner-occupier under the Solar Homes Program
- Be applying for an existing property, valued at under \$3 million
- Ensure there has been no prior participation in the Solar Homes Program for the address
- Not have an existing solar PV system.



## Solar panels (PV) for rental properties

Victorian rental providers are eligible for two solar PV rebates each financial year if:

- Their tenants have a combined annual household income of less than \$180,000
- The property is valued at under \$3 million and does not already have solar panels (PV) installed
- There has been no prior participation in the Solar Homes Program for that address
- A Solar Homes Program Agreement between Rental Provider and Renter is signed by the rental provider and all renters
- The property is currently tenanted with a rental agreement in place.



## Solar battery

Victorians are eligible to receive a battery rebate if they meet criteria for the Solar PV rebate, in addition to:

- The property has solar panels with at least 5kW capacity or a system will be installed in conjunction with the battery installation
- Pre-approval is obtained from the Distributed Network Service Provider (DNSP) to safely connect a battery to the grid
- It is listed on Solar Victoria's Approved Battery List and the property does not have an existing battery
- The owner/s agrees to receive information from their DNSP about battery trials.

## Supporting customers

There are Buyers Guides available for all Solar Homes Program streams at:

**[solar.vic.gov.au/solar-buyers-guides](https://solar.vic.gov.au/solar-buyers-guides)**

These guides provide information on how to get the most out of your system, with advice on the planning and proper installation of the system.

It also provides advice on warranties and consumer protections for homeowners and rental providers.

There are also FAQs on the website and a contact centre to answer any questions you may have.



# Program benefits

## Savings to customers



Solar Homes target:

**\$890**

average household savings per year over the life of the program

Solar Homes achieved:

**\$1,073**

average household savings per year by Solar Homes customers\*

\*Result based on a randomised study of 129 participating households using National Meter Identifier data between Nov 2019 and Oct 2020



## Consumer savings

- A typical household can save up to \$1073 per year on their electricity bills when they **install solar panels**.
- **A solar battery** can help save up to \$640 further a year.
- Solar homes can **save even more** by using appliances during the day when solar systems are operating at their peak.

## Jobs supported



Solar Homes target:

**5,500**

Solar Homes supported jobs\* by 2022-23

Jobs supported by Solar Homes in the first three years:

**4,400**

\*FTE for one year



## Clean energy jobs

- **\$420 million** directly invested in Victoria's solar industry via **Solar Homes rebates** since 2018
- **\$11 million** to fund **free and low-cost training** to attract new people to the industry and upskill existing workers.

## Emissions reduction



Reduced electricity sector emissions by:

**1.6 million**

tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>-e in the National Electricity Market (NEM) since 2018



## Environmental impacts

- Since 2018, the Solar Homes Program has cut electricity sector emissions by 1.6 million tonnes – **the equivalent produced by 500,000 cars each year**.

## Victorian Renewable Energy Target



Legislated VRET state target:

**40% by 2025**

Solar Homes is on track to support:

**15%**

of legislated target by 2025



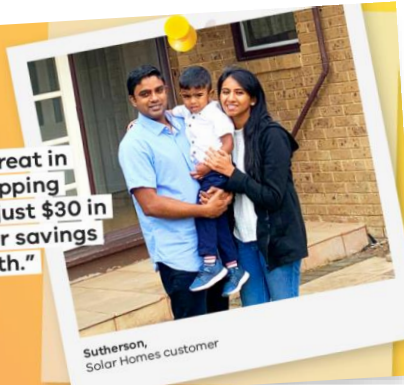
## The road to net zero

- More than three million rooftop solar panels now produce more than **1.33GW of clean energy**
- The Solar Homes Program is on track to generate **15 per cent of Victoria's 40 per cent renewable energy target** by 2025.



# Solar Superheroes

“The cost savings were great in spring and summer, dropping from \$300 pre-solar to just \$30 in summer. On average our savings are around \$240 a month.”



Sutherson,  
Solar Homes customer

“Our habits have changed very much so. We use our power between sunrise and sunset each day.”



Barbara,  
Homeowner, Lifestyle Communities

“If I look at my usage, I've hardly used any grid electricity since the installation, it's been 100% green energy so far.”

Rushin, Solar Homes customer  
(battery rebate)

#SOLARSTORY



“

***You reap the benefits  
as soon as you get  
your first power bill.”***

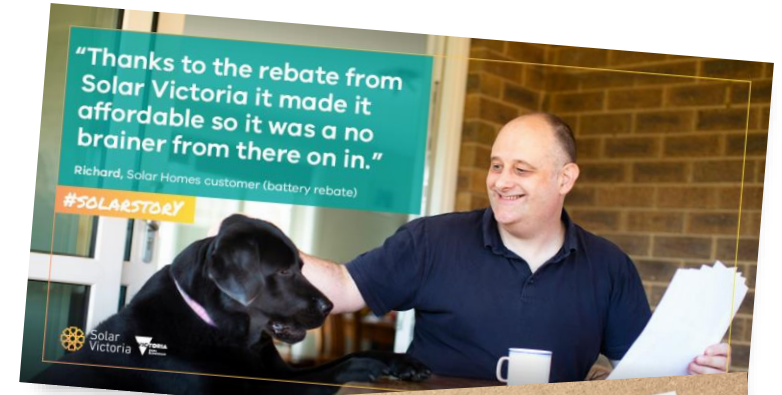
*Steve and Noelene, Solar PV and battery  
customers, Drouin*



“Thanks to the rebate from Solar Victoria it made it affordable so it was a no brainer from there on in.”

Richard, Solar Homes customer (battery rebate)

#SOLARSTORY



“For me it's about the environment – the more we can use natural energy the better”



Shirley,  
Resident, Southeast Housing Cooperative

“

***It increases the value  
of your property and  
also, it's the right thing to  
do by the environment.”***

— Richard (landlord)



Tania (tenant) and Richard (landlord),  
Solar Homes customers



## Victorians building a new home can now apply for a solar (PV) system while their home is under construction



- ✓ **Existing eligibility criteria** remains the same



- ✓ Applicants can use a **Certificate of title** or a **Council rates notice** to prove ownership



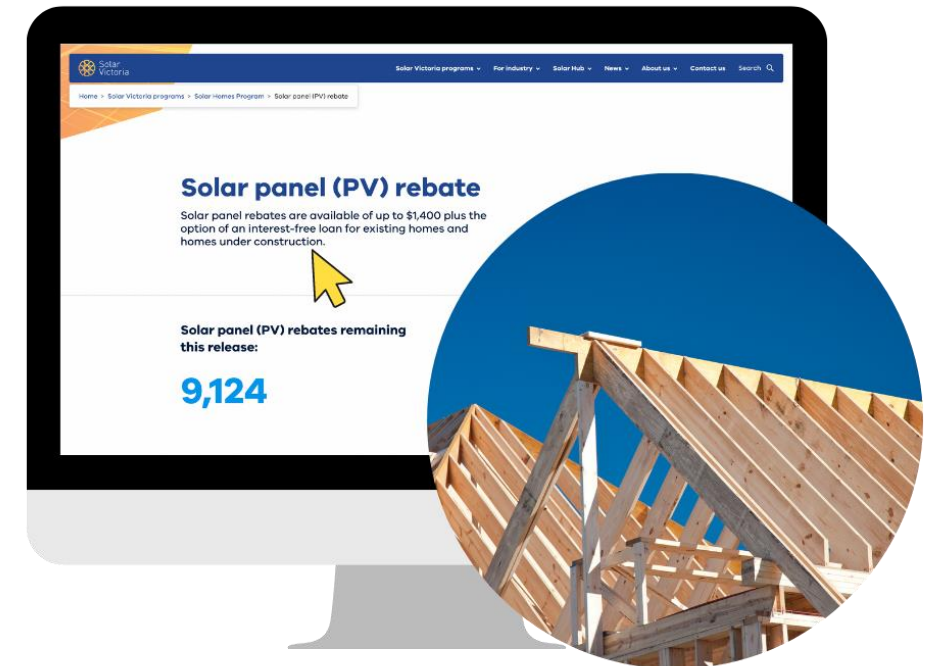
- ✓ Open to **owner-occupiers** and **rental providers**



- ✓ A Solar Victoria **Authorised Solar Retailer** must be used to complete installation (there are over 800).



- ✓ **Solar Victoria Terms and Conditions** apply for the homeowner, retailer and installer to ensure customer protections and safe installations.



The Solar Victoria website has [FAQs](#) for both customers and builders



# Benefits of installing solar during construction

## For homeowners



**Save up to \$800** by installing in conjunction with foundation electrical works



**Save on energy bills from the moment you move in** (average savings for Solar Homes customers: \$1,073 per year)



**Cut carbon emissions** and contribute to Victoria's Renewable Energy Target of 50% by 2030

## For builders



Meet market demand for clean energy. There have been more than **320 rebate applications made** for new builds since the 24 August announcement.



**Safer, cheaper and more convenient** to install at time of build



Secure **ongoing savings for your customers**, with significantly lower electricity costs – and even no gas bills –from the beginning

## Supporting new National Construction Code energy efficiency requirements

The recently announced changes to the **National Construction Code** (NCC 2022) include new energy efficiency requirements, such as:

- An **increase from 6 to 7-star ratings** for minimum energy efficiency standards when using the Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme.
- A new **annual energy use budget** for fixed appliances to encourage greater energy efficiency in new homes.

## Installing solar PV can help households meet new energy efficiency requirements and save on their energy bills

- Installing **energy efficient electric appliances** such as heating and cooling and hot water alongside solar PV can help households **reduce their energy bills and emissions even further**.

## NCC 2022 is available now

- Builders can adopt the new NCC 2022 energy efficiency requirements before they become mandatory from 1 October 2023 and help meet the growing demand from home buyers for energy efficient solutions.
- Eligible home owners can receive a **\$1,400 rebate** to install solar PV through the Solar Homes Program.





## Reasons for installing solar



**53%** to save money  
on energy costs



**32%** to reduce carbon  
footprint/environmental reasons

## Influence of rebate



**61%** of customers were **influenced by the rebate** to install solar

**74%** were **influenced by the interest-free loan** (of those who had applied for the loan)

## Customer benefits



**73%** customers are saving  
more or as expected



**1 in 2** customers are feeling  
good that their choices are reducing  
carbon footprint

## Interest in other programs



**79%** customers are interested in  
applying for another Solar Victoria rebate

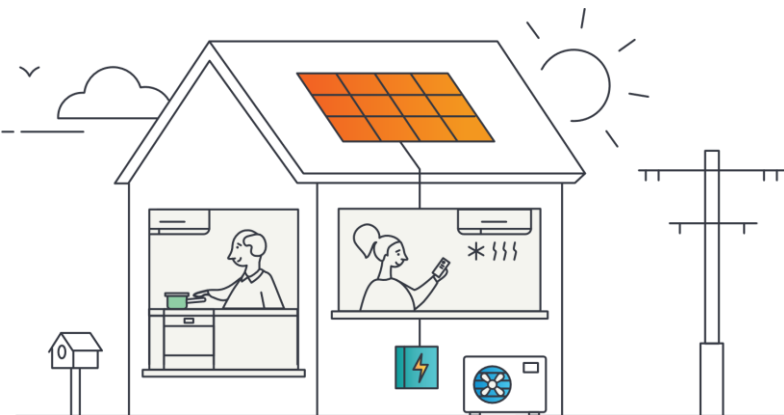
**1 in 2** Solar Homes rebate customers  
are interested in the solar battery rebate

## Increasing home electrification

Additionally, Victoria's recently released **Gas Substitution Roadmap** paves the way for increased home electrification, for both existing and new builds.

Solar Victoria's **Voice of Customer** (VoC) survey results show:

- About **50% of respondents** have either replaced, are replacing or are thinking about replacing their gas cooktops and gas hot water with electric assets
- In the case of gas heating, **that rises to 60%**
- **45% of respondents** say they are already switching, or thinking of switching, to a **fully electrified** home

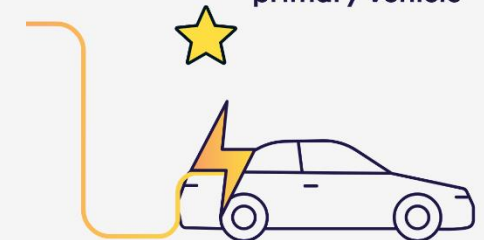


## Growing demand for ZEVs

- Solar Victoria's **\$3000 ZEV subsidy** was announced in May 2021. ZEV sales in 2021 were **310 per cent higher** than in 2020.
- Solar Victoria's VoC survey shows **43% of respondents** either already have, are buying, or are thinking of buying a ZEV.
- The survey also shows the majority of ZEV buyers **have solar or intend to install solar**.

**87 %**  
**of customers**  
**are very satisfied**

with their Zero Emissions Vehicle.  
**8%** stated they are satisfied.



**98%**

of customers stated  
that their electric  
vehicle is their  
**primary vehicle**



# Thank you

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