



Net Zero Expo

Simplifying Solar

Simplifying Solar

Moderator: Craig Reucassel



Ellie Kallmier

UNSW / Australian
Photovoltaic Institute
(APVI)



Fred Hopley

NB Resident



Ian Moxon

Watts Going Down!



Brent Clark

Wattblock



Bryn Hernandez

Ausgrid



Simplifying Solar: Question 1

- What are the benefits of installing rooftop solar, and why hasn't everyone done it yet?

> Ian – Watts Going Down



Rebates

Shade

Cost

Trust

Safety

Time

Quality

Value

Roof

Visibility

Technical



GREAT ADVICE @ COUNCIL'S WEBSITE



Simplifying Solar

www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/climate-emergency-and-sustainability/solar-and-energy/simplifying-solar

Solar Conversations

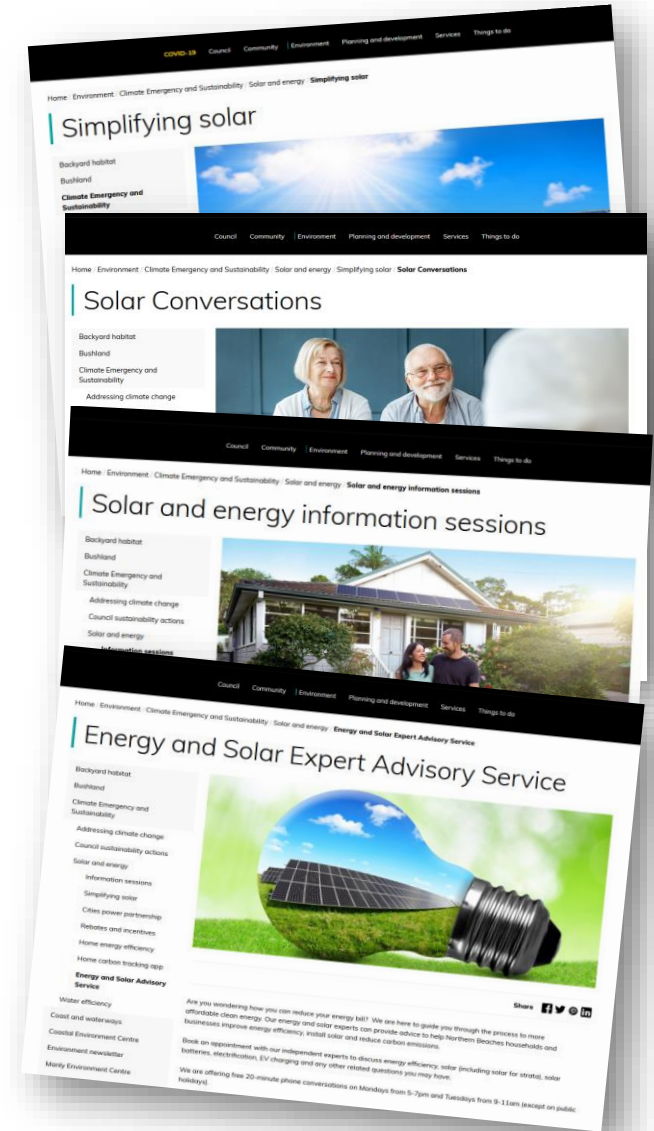
www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/climate-emergency-and-sustainability/solar-and-energy/simplifying-solar/solar-conversations

Solar and Energy information sessions

www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/climate-emergency-and-sustainability/solar-and-energy/information-sessions

Energy and Solar Expert Advisory Service

www.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/environment/climate-emergency-and-sustainability/solar-and-energy/energy-and-solar-expert-advisory



Simplifying Solar: Question 2

- What's the cost and size of an average rooftop solar system
- How can I work out what's right for me?
- What is this DIY solar tool that we've heard about?

> Ellie @ SunSPoT





My Solar Estimate

6b Spring Road, North Curl Curl New South Wales 2099

This estimate is based on your inputs and average data for your area. To refine the estimate, follow the next steps.

Next Steps



Map My Roof

TO DO



Energy Usage

IN PROGRESS



Add a Battery

TO DO



Solar System

This is a summary for your suggested system. [Learn more](#)

SOLAR SYSTEM SIZE (SUGGESTED SIZE 10 kW) ⓘ



10 kW



ESTIMATED SYSTEM COST

\$7,200–\$11,031

ANNUAL ELECTRICITY BILL WITH SOLAR

\$2,060

ANNUAL BILL SAVINGS

\$2,544 savings

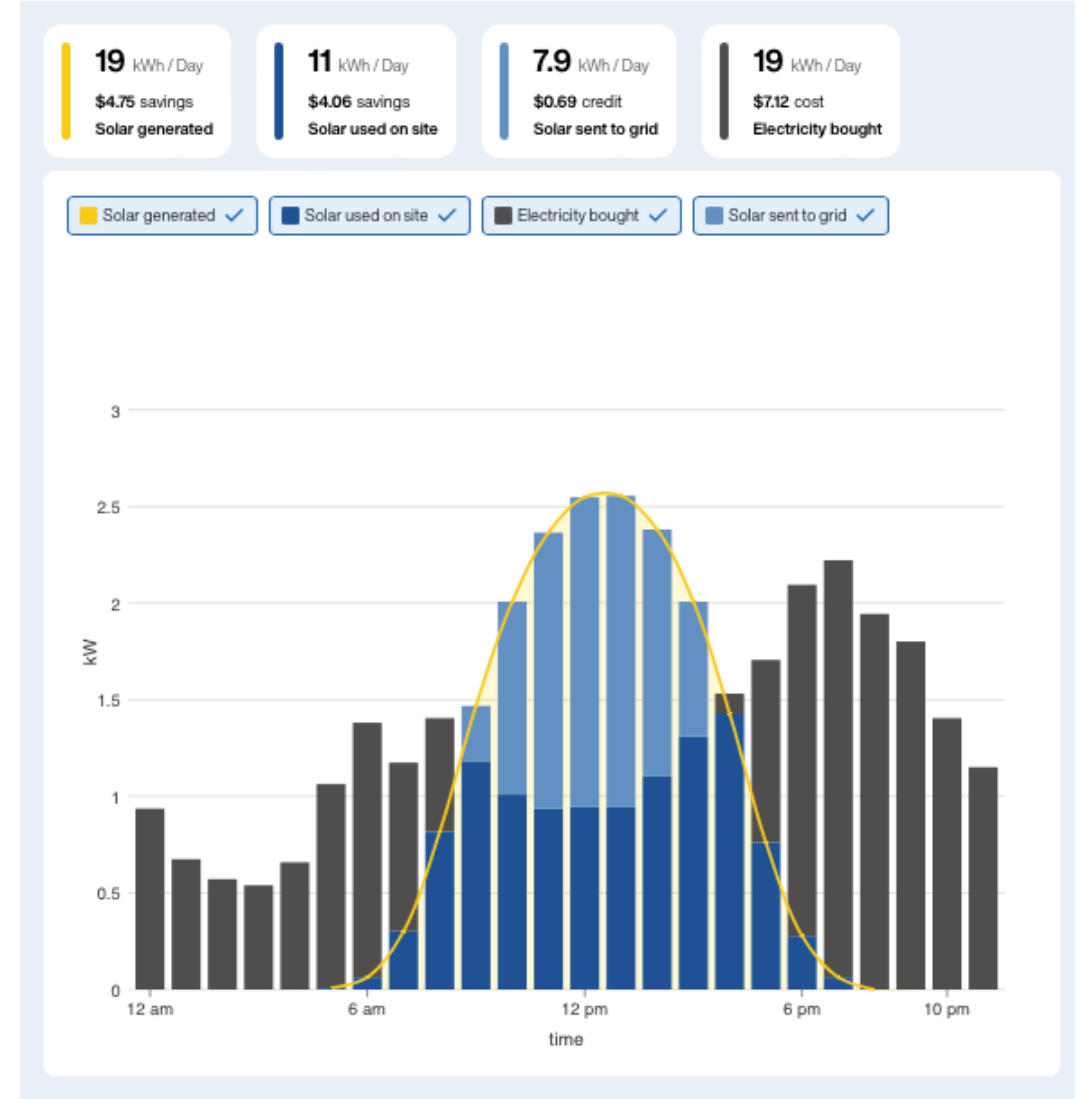
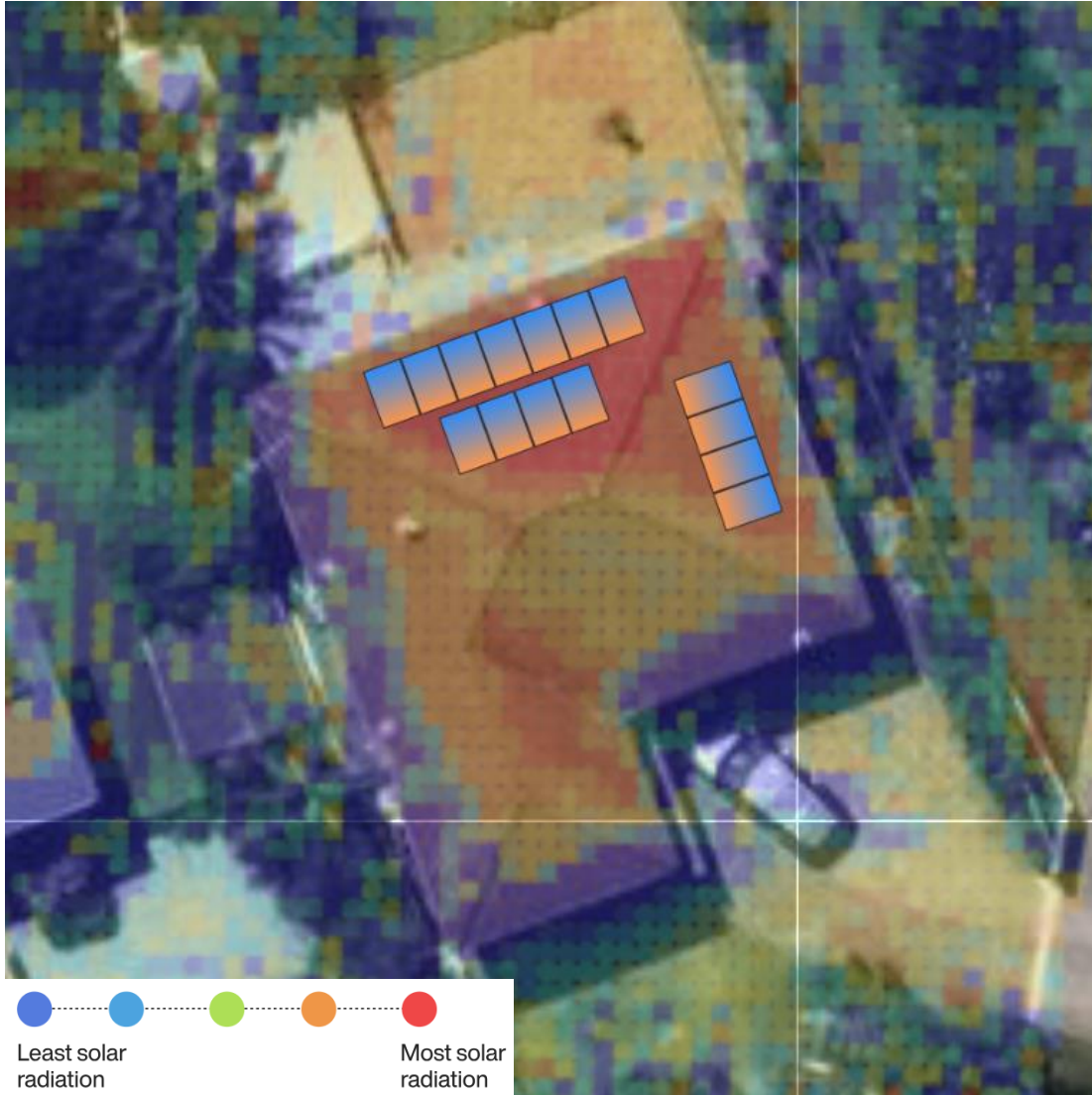
TIME TO PAY BACK YOUR SYSTEM

2.8–4.3 years

Next: Map My Roof

Next, map your solar system to your roof to see how it will fit and perform.





Solar System

With battery ☒

This is a summary for your mapped system. [Learn more](#)

SOLAR SYSTEM SIZE

5.25 kW

NUMBER OF PANELS MAPPED

15

BATTERY SIZE ⓘ

8 kWh

ESTIMATED SYSTEM COST

\$13,429–\$17,622

ANNUAL ELECTRICITY BILL WITH SOLAR
+ BATTERY

\$1,934

ANNUAL BILL SAVINGS

\$2,534 savings

TIME TO PAY BACK YOUR SYSTEM

5.3–7 years

[View System Details](#)

Review your system details to see how your panel groups perform at different times of the year.

Solar Usage

Annual

This is an estimate of your daily electricity usage and solar generation, averaged Annually or by season. [Learn more](#)

19 kWh / Day
\$6.94 savings
Solar generated

10 kWh / Day
\$6.75 savings
Solar used on site

2.2 kWh / Day
\$0.19 credit
Solar sent to grid

14 kWh / Day
\$4.42 cost
Electricity bought

☒ Solar generated

☒ Solar used on site

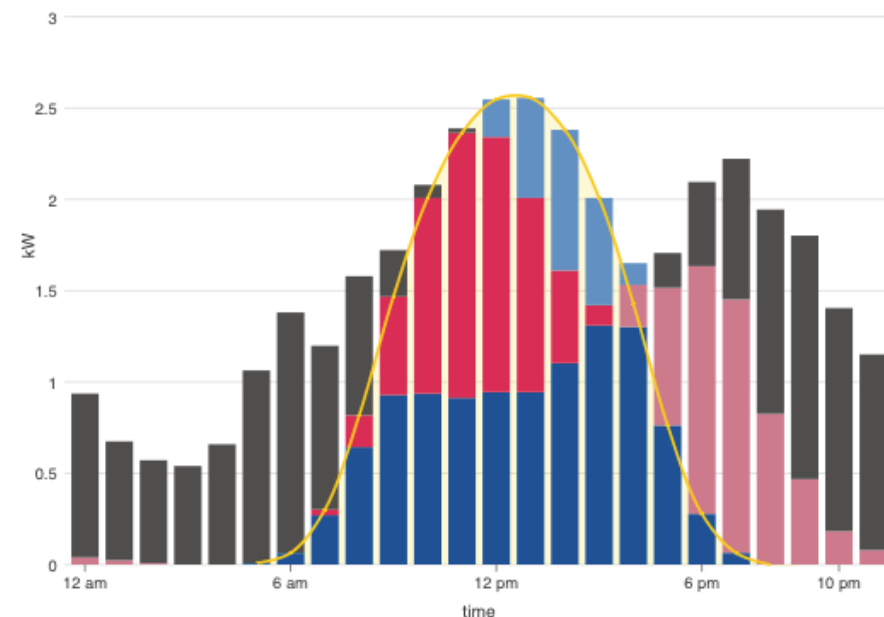
☒ Electricity bought

With battery ☒

☒ Solar sent to grid

☒ Charging battery

☒ Using battery



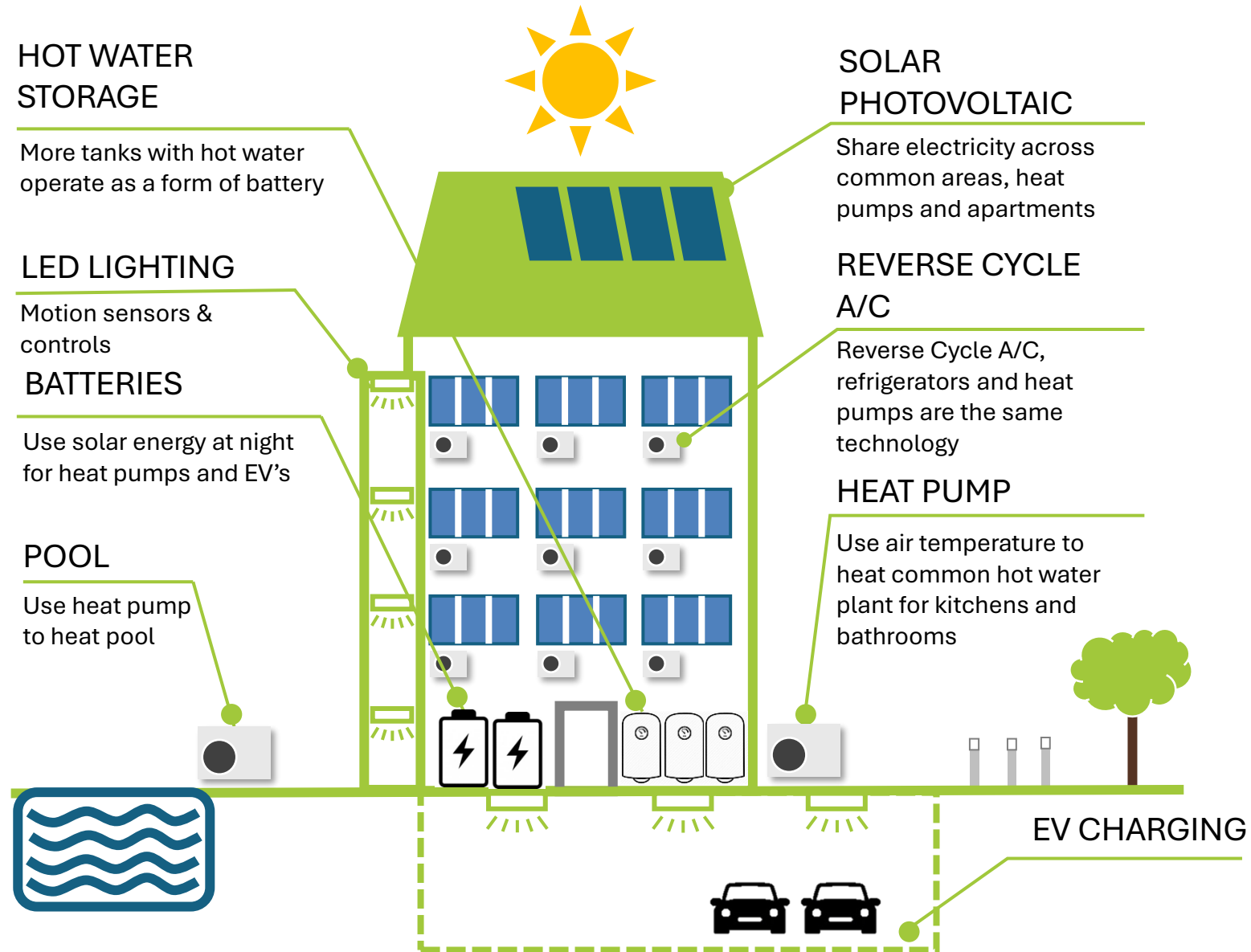
Simplifying Solar: Question 3

- What about solar for strata?
- And what about businesses?
- And renters?

> Brent - Wattblock



Net Zero Apartment Building of the Future



Electrify Strata Northern Beaches

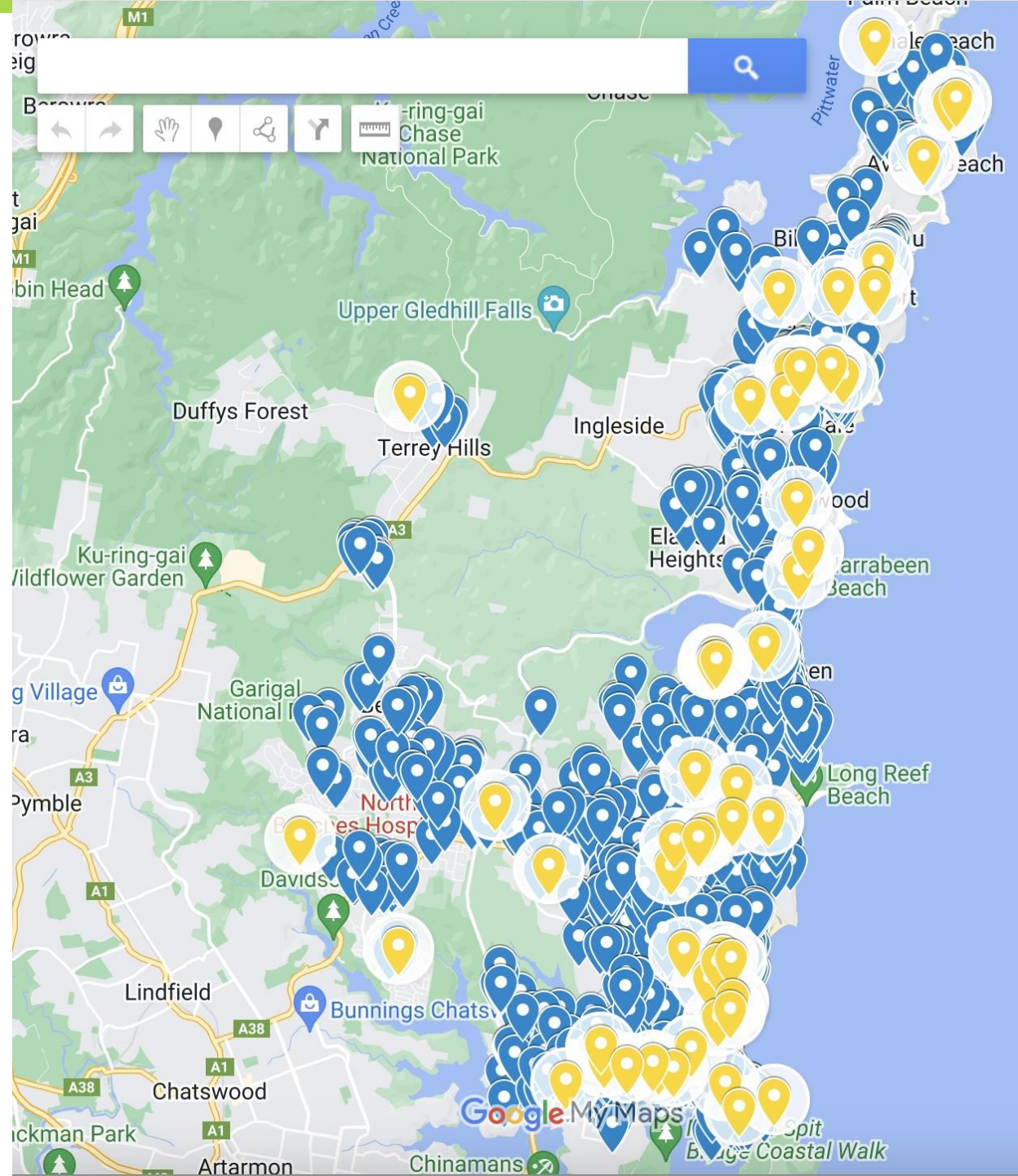


55

strata schemes
with solar

www.wattblock.com

- Electrify Strata
- Northern Beaches



Qubec Townhouses, Newport

- Solar and batteries
- Each apartment has its own solar system and battery system



Edgewater Apartments, Bayview

- 33 apartments
- 30kWp common area solar system
- 30kWp shared solar system for 22 apartments opting in
- Residents choose from two buy-in levels for the shared system (1.5kW or 2.5kW)

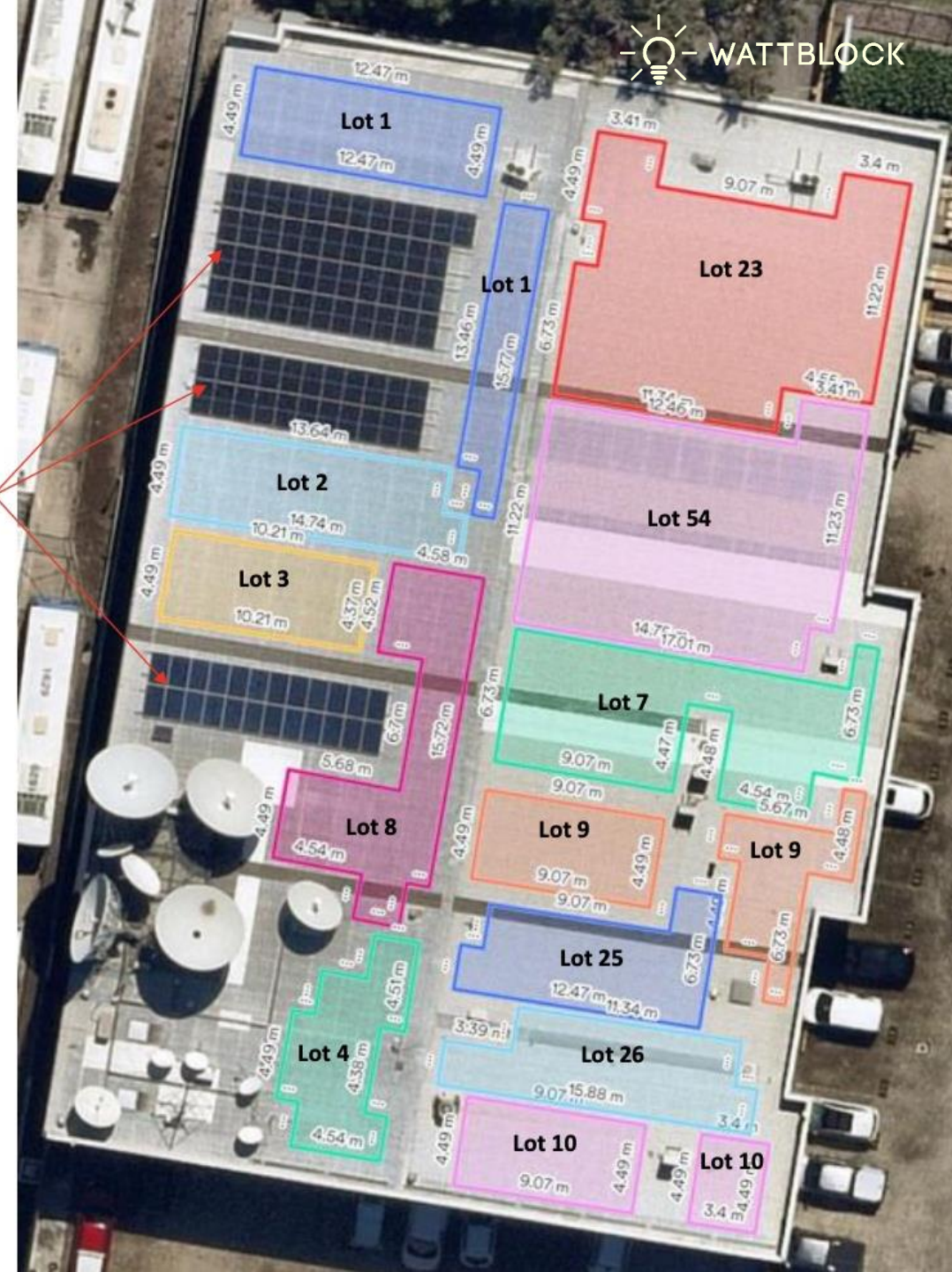


9 Powell St Brookvale (Industrial Estate)

- 2 x 30kW solar systems for tenancies
- Equitable allocation of roof space to allow 49 other commercial tenancies at the site to install solar



Lot 24's
existing
system



Simplifying Solar: Question 4

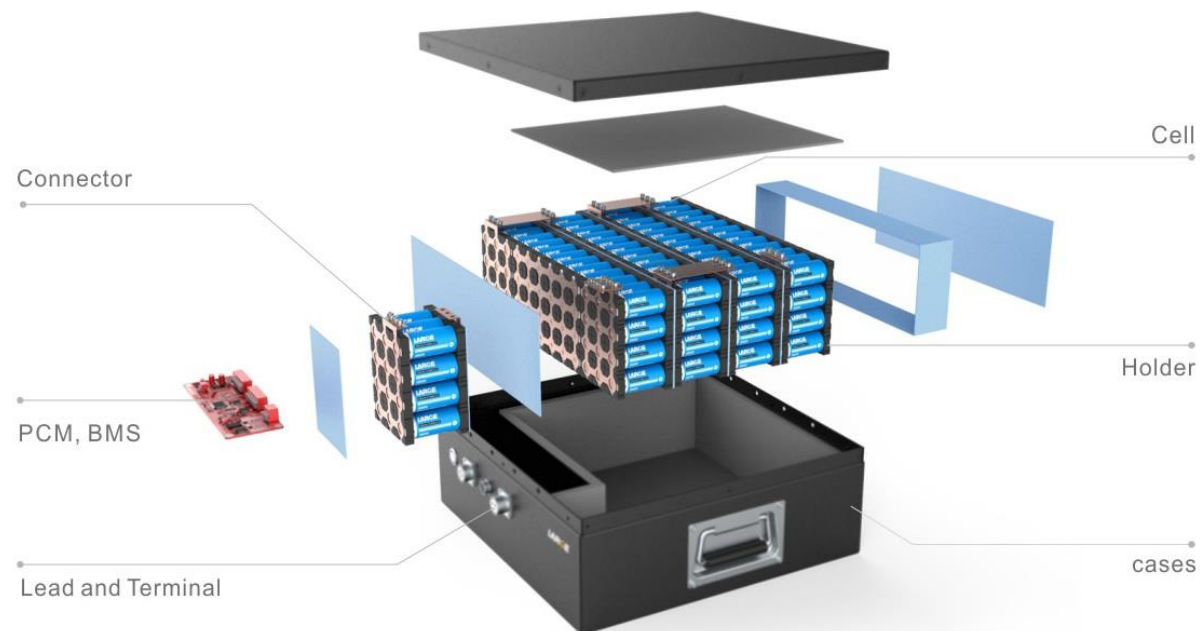
- Should we think about getting a battery?
- What do we need to know?
- Is it worth doing?

> Ian - WattsGoingDown

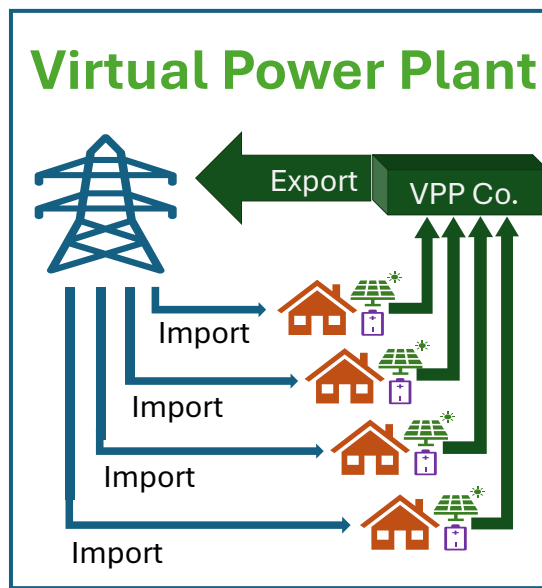


SOLAR BATTERIES

- Increases your solar use
- Cheaper power bills
- Less grid reliance
- Blackout protection
- Good for the environment
- Adds value to your property
- Virtual Power Plant (VPP) ready



www.large.net



© Watts Going Down !

Simplifying Solar: Question 5

- Will getting a battery help stabilise the grid?
- Tell us about VPPs, community batteries and your recently announced solar tariff

> Bryn - Ausgrid



Electrification of Homes & Businesses



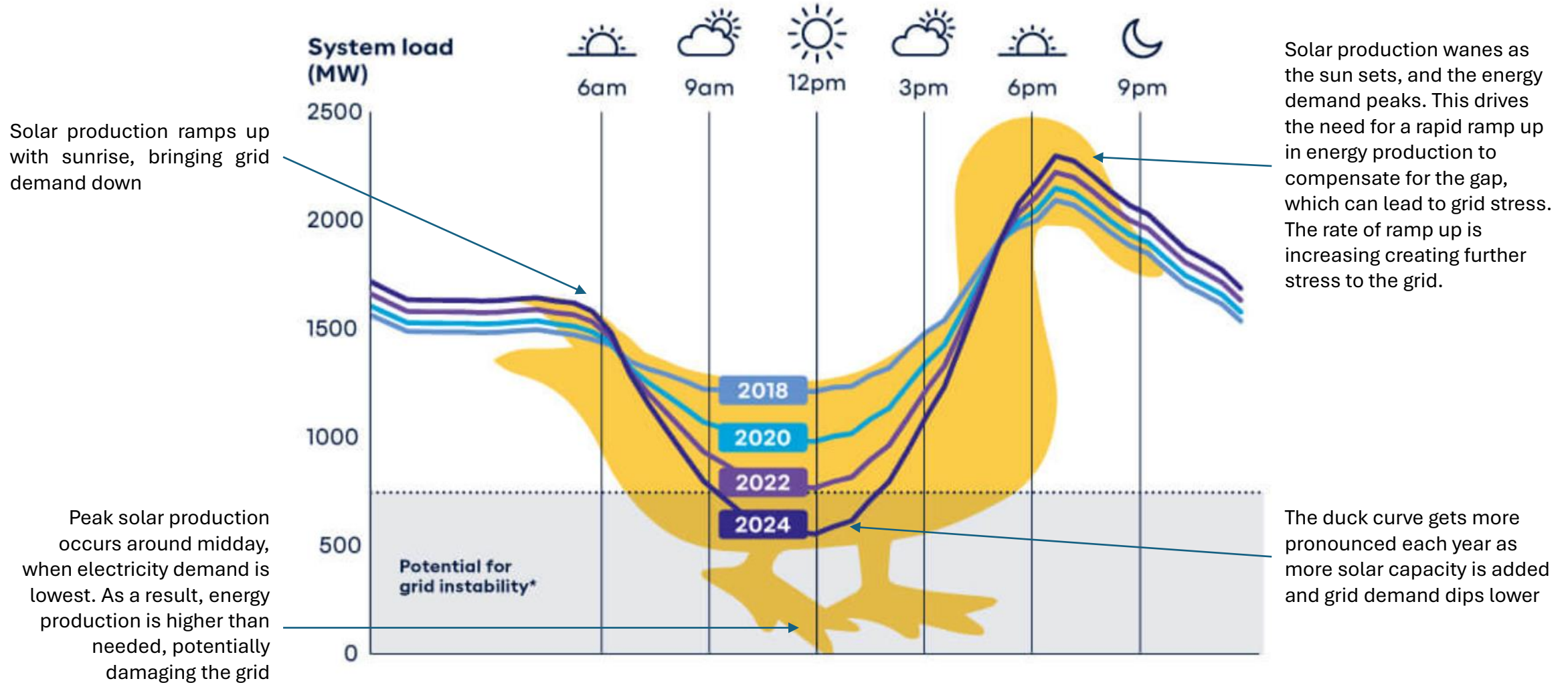
Our Vision is for communities to have the power in a resilient, affordable, net-zero future

Who is Ausgrid and what do we do?

Ausgrid is the largest distributor of electricity on Australia's east coast. Our grid powers the economic engine room of NSW. We bring power to 1.8 million households and businesses across 22,300 square kilometres covering Sydney, the Central Coast and the Hunter Valley.



The Solar Duck Curve and “Squashing the Duck”



Community Batteries – Connected to the Network



Northern Beaches – Warriewood Community Battery designed and installed by Ausgrid

Community batteries are connected to the local distribution network and provide energy services to nearby residents and businesses

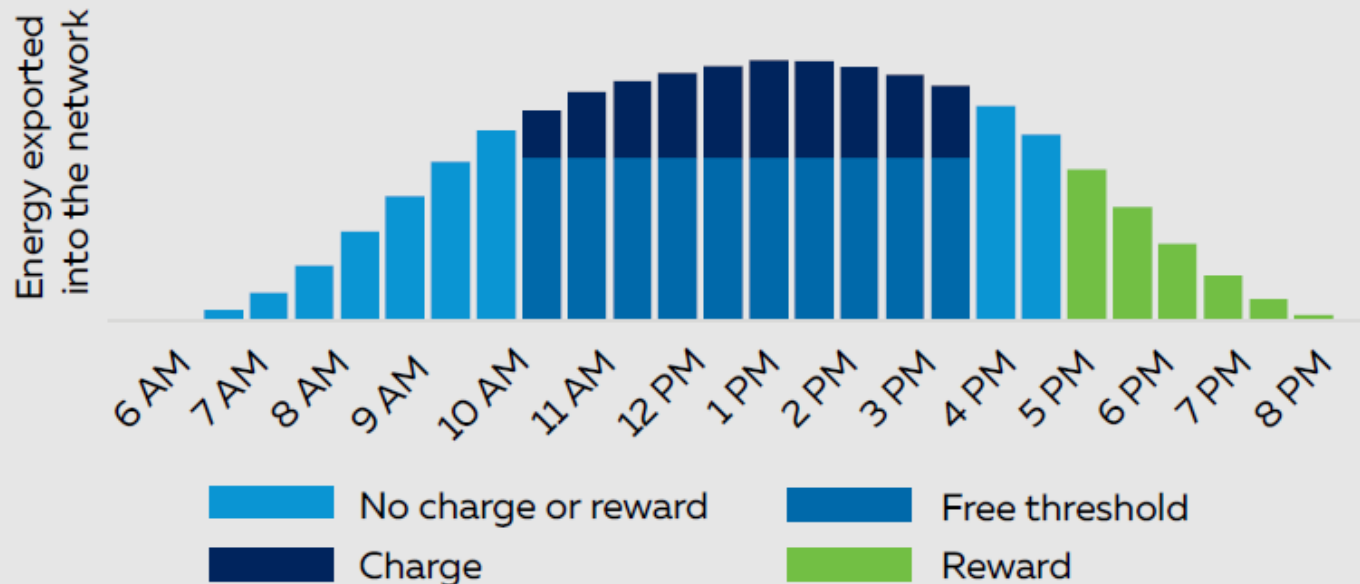
Benefits of community batteries

- Storing surplus solar energy and sharing with local customers whether they have solar or not
- Improving the stability of the grid which benefits all customers
- Allows more customers to install rooftop solar in the part of the network the battery supports
- Delays or prevents other network investments as more customer energy resources appear

Small customer export tariff

- Customers are charged to export electricity in the middle of the day, when solar generation can stress the network's ability to accept more electricity.
- The first 6.85 kWh of exports each day is free.
- Customers are paid to export electricity when other customers typically have high demand for electricity.
- Available as opt in from 1 July and in FY26 small customers who are export capable will be assigned to the tariff.

Typical Customer - Energy Exports in November



Indicative rates from 1 July

Charge	Export energy c/kWh
Peak reward 4pm-9pm	2.4
Solar soak 10am-3pm	No charge for first 6.85 kWh then 1.2 c/kWh thereafter

Simplifying Solar: Question 6

The Resident's perspective:

- Why did you install solar?
- What was your solar journey?
- Any tips you have for people thinking about it?

> Fred (resident)

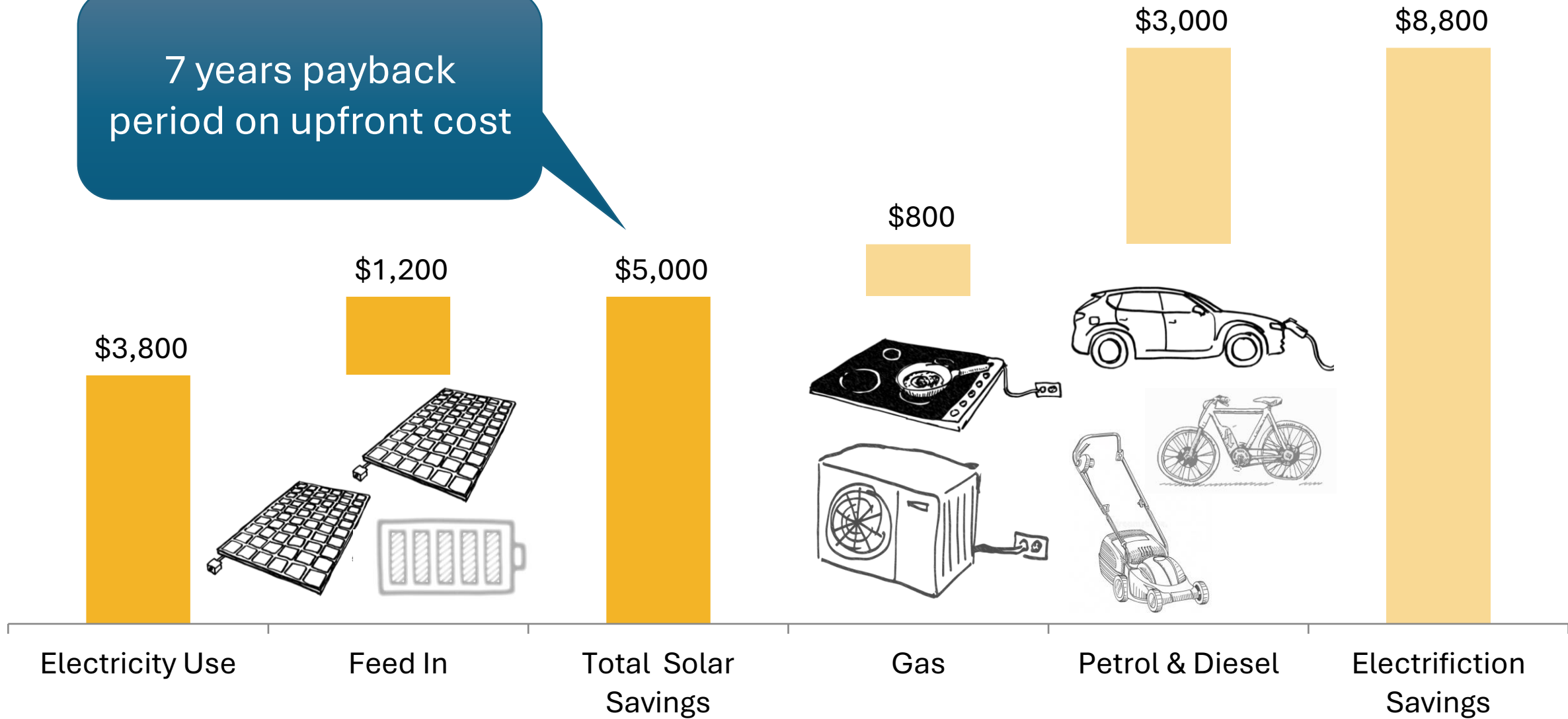


An aerial photograph of a two-story house with a red-tiled roof. The house features a white balcony on the upper floor and a small dormer window. A large array of solar panels is installed on the roof, consisting of two main sections: a 15 kW array on the left and a 13 kWh battery storage system on the right. The house is surrounded by lush greenery, including palm trees and flowering plants. In the background, other houses and a parking area with several cars are visible.

Installed April 2021
15 kW Array
13 kWh Battery
\$34,000

Current Annual Savings (\$ inc GST)

7 years payback period on upfront cost



Fred's Solar Tips

Don't Struggle, Get Help

- Zero Emission Solutions
- Go Solar Mackellar
- Northern Beaches Council

Fill your roof

- All east, west and north facing roof space
- Usage will increase as you Electrify Everything
- Much cheaper to install initially

Get at least 3 quotes

- Get installer recommendations from trusted sources, ignore door knockers & tv adverts
- Compare them, ask questions, get requotes
- Learnings and confidence will save you time

Install
Solar

Electrify
Everything

Simplifying Solar: Question 7

Quick survey!

- Who here has solar?
- Who has a battery?
- Who will be getting a battery now we know there is a battery rebate starting in November?

> audience



Simplifying Solar: Thank You

- Many thanks to the moderator and panellists for supporting Council's first Net Zero event – it's much appreciated.
- Thank you also to the audience for joining us. We hope this panel discussion has helped you decide to install solar (if you haven't already done so).
- Please visit Council's Simplifying Solar webpage for more information.

