

Home for the Aged Gets Cosy with Solar

CHALLENGE

Capitalise on solar-saving advantages with a system designed to monitor energy production

SOLUTION

Distribute Enphase systems across seven facility buildings, 6kW each per roof

RESULT

Monthly performance reports driven by Enlighten data
Offset large amount of weekly energy consumption



“When it came to safety and monitoring, Enphase offered a stronger all-around solution.”

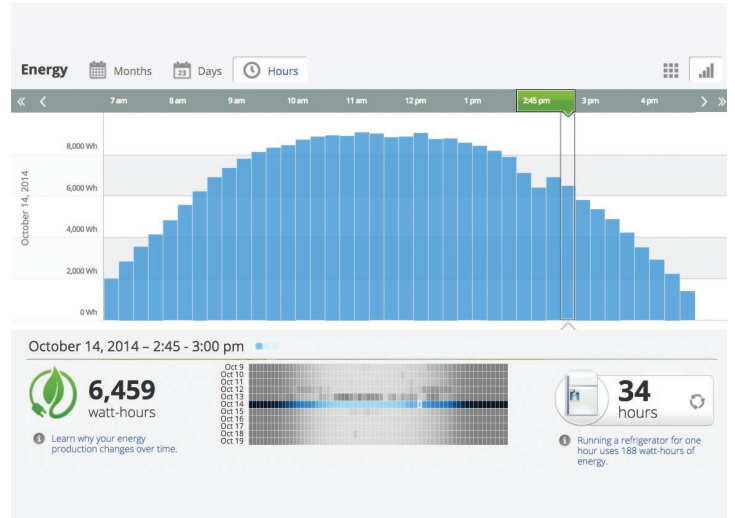
— Jeff Cairns,
Managing Director and Owner
Laser Electrical Goondiwindi

Kaloma Home for the Aged provides live-in medical care for the ailing elderly—now, it’s taking care of itself and its finances. Tuning into the saving offered by solar, Kaloma chose Enphase for its proven safety and user-friendly monitoring platform.

Taking Control of Energy Costs

Maintaining a comfortable living environment for a 50 person residential community requires 24/7 heating, cooling, plumbing, and lighting. And for any business, these expenses add up. Kaloma Home for the Aged is a nonprofit organization looking for any way to shave off dollars here and there, and with the help of local installer Laser Electrical Goondiwindi, Kaloma found a solution that would save them money for years to come.

After conducting an energy appraisal, Kaloma learned its biggest expense was water heating, followed by all around high consumption loads throughout the week. Knowing solar could offset the facility’s large demand for energy, Laser Electrical Goondiwindi designed a multi-roof Enphase System.



Safety was also of major concern for Kaloma for both its patients and staff. Enphase offered a fast, safe install with AC wiring that is as safe as the building's regular wiring.

Enphase technology enabled Laser Electrical Goondiwindi to maximise roof space and work around obstructions such as vents that take roof space and cause shading.

“With Enphase, we were able to do something we never could have done with string inverters,” said Jeff Cairns, Managing Director and Owner of Laser Electrical Goondiwindi. “We’ve created a system that spreads across seven buildings, 6kW each.”

New rulings requiring DC wiring to run through buildings with conduits meant installation costs for a string system would have been much higher. With Enphase, Laser Electrical Goondiwindi was able to run normal AC cable to the system, resulting in a safer, lower cost, and faster install.

Real Data, Real Results

Kaloma’s Board mandated that any solar PV system that was installed at Kaloma could be monitored on a day-to-day basis. Enphase Enlighten met this criteria, providing an easy-to-use monitoring platform that gives access to the system’s performance whenever and wherever it is wanted.

“As a nonprofit, Kaloma had to prove to its Board that the return on investment from solar is worth the price of the system,” said Cairns.

Through Enlighten, Kaloma’s maintenance crew can give stakeholders a monthly performance report.

A snapshot of Kaloma’s solar energy generation from 2.45 - 3.00pm on October 14, 2014 in Enlighten.

INSTALLATION SUMMARY

Client **Kaloma Home for the Aged**

Location **Goondiwindi, Queensland**

Installer **Laser Electrical Goondiwindi**

Completion Date **June 2014**

System Size **42kW**

Microinverters **Enphase M215**

Modules **250W Yingli YL250P-29b polycrystalline**

Solar for the Long Haul

For Kaloma’s case to add up to the Board, it also needed a system that could last long-term. The warranty on Enphase technology provided peace of mind.

“Although the system costs a bit more, its lifetime value works out better,” said Cairns. “With better quality components, the system is capable of producing more energy and is built to last longer.”

About Enphase Energy

The Enphase System revolutionises solar power generation with industry-leading technology innovation. Enphase’s proven microinverter technology maximises production of each module, which works together with advanced communications hardware and an intelligent software platform to deliver a reliable, high-performance solar array.

Learn more about the benefits of the Enphase System.
Visit Enphase.com/au