



TENENERGY AUSTRALIA

TAKING THE PLUNGE TO PV SOLAR

There is a lot to consider and be aware of when installing PV SOLAR. These are the steps;

DESIGN and APPROVAL

- a) Your electricity demand needs to be reviewed and a PV Solar system sized to meet your demand. Systems are usually sized to meet approx. 125% to 150% of your total summer demand and consequently they may only meet 40% to 60% of your winter demand—the difficult part of the year.
- b) The system needs to be configured to meet the available roof space. Your roof needs to be in good condition and suitable for the supports required for the modules/panels.
- c) An economic analysis is done to confirm the benefits of the system. A quote is prepared on this basis and you need to approve the quote before materials and contractors are engaged for the installation.

YOUR ELECTRICITY SUPPLIER AND DISTRIBUTION NETWORK

- a) Some distribution networks require a pre-approval form. This may take 10 days or more to obtain.
- b) Your meter may need changing, upgrading or re-configuring. This is carried out by the distribution company and the cost will vary from \$20 to more than \$300. Generally the worst case is about \$325 if you already have a smart meter installed. This cost is not included in the system cost, that is the quote. It is a separate cost and paid for by the owner to the electrical supplier, who is charged by the distribution company.
- c) Documents need to be signed by the owner as part of the installation works. These documents are presented to your supplier by the electrical contractor. This will enable the supplier to instruct the distribution company to change/modify your meter to allow export, and will complete the agreement for the supplier to pay the customer for the exported power.

INSTALLATION and COMMISSIONING (using ENPHASE micro-inverters)

- a) The system will generally take one day to install, using a number of electrical contractors.
- b) There will be moments when power supply will be cut to the house, but these should be of short duration, 10s of minutes typically.
- c) There may be significant alteration to your roofing material to install the supports for the system. But the roofing will be returned to a weatherproof state on completion.
- d) When the system is complete it is turned on for commissioning purposes. At this stage the Enphase Envoy system will be activated. It will sense the micro-inverters via communications over the power line from the system.
- e) The commissioning will take an hour or more to complete. Documentation is produced for these activities and this forms part of the Project Data Book for the system.

PROJECT COMPLETION

- a) Your Enphase monitoring system will be fully functioning after 24 hours. At this stage you will receive an email from Enphase inviting you to sign up to a website link. This will give you output data about your system. As the designer TENENERGY AUSTRALIA will have a link as well to your system, with more detailed diagnostic capabilities.
- b) The final invoice will be prepared and forwarded to you.
- c) Your electricity supplier will organise for the meter to allow export. This may take a week or more.
- d) While you are waiting for the meter to allow export, the system will generate power for you, and export as well—but you will not be compensated for this exported power.
- e) A comprehensive Project Data Book will be prepared and forwarded to you. This includes the Operating Manual and equipment data etc.