MAY JUNE 2025

THE SPARK







In this issue:

Good news on batteries, apartments, Tilba Halls project, Moruya Heads SLSC, Electrification, power costs, buying, leasing and fixing EVs and local events.

Learn more about native forest logging, EV batteries and Rare Earths, and how to save money by switching to electric power.

MORUYA MAIL

Local news for Moruya & Eurobodalla FREE weekly digital editions Subscribe free at www.moruyamail.com.au Moruya Mail

66666666666





COME ALONG AND VISIT SHASA'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE MINI EXPO

SUNDAY 22 JUNE 2025 Narooma Rotary Markets Nata Oval Behind the Information Visitor Centre 8.30am- 1pm

Learn about EV models available in Australia today Discuss savings, costs and advantages of an EV Meet local owners with a selection of models on display Chat about EV charging Chat about use of home solar plus battery power



EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL DRAFT BATEMANS BAY MASTER PLAN

GOT QUESTIONS ?

Have your say on the future of the Bay!

BATEMANS BAY VILLAGE CENTRE 1 Perry St (old Rivers Store) Monday- Friday 9.30am -3.30pm until 30 May

SHASA encourages all residents of the Eurobodalla Shire to pop in see the display and learn about the ideas being presented. We hope you will find the information you need to write your submission to council. FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE ESC WEBSITE. SUBMISSION CLOSING DATE 30 JUNE 2025



The federal government wants a million household batteries by 2030. If you have solar, but no battery, this incentive is for you

The Federal government's \$2.3b battery program applies to

people with existing solar or for those wanting to invest in a new solar-plus-battery set up.

It offers a 30% discount (not means tested) on batteries up to 50kWh for households,



businesses and community facilities such as sports centres and town halls. Households with existing solar could save up to \$1,100 extra off their power bills every year and up to \$2,300 a year for those with new solar.

The rebate will be available from 1 July 2025. The aim is to have 1m batteries installed by 2030. This will ensure up to 1m households benefit from the transition to an electricity system run on renewable energy. For more information—

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-04-06/the-battery-subsidy-and-all -you-need-to-know-for-your-household/105138430

The NSW Government also has a battery incentive of up to \$2,400.

(https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/households/rebates-grants-andschemes/household-energy-saving-upgrades/install-battery)

Australia has reached the 'electrification tipping point'

March 28, 2025

The new modelling shows that households who switch to an electric car, solar and electric appliances could save more than \$4,000 a year, even when including upfront costs.

Our new report '<u>The Electrification Tipping Point</u>' shows the economics in Australia have passed a crucial milestone: buying an electric appliance or vehicle is cheaper than the fossil-

fuel powered alternative, even when you consider the upfront costs.



That means buying an efficient, electric appliance is always going to be cheaper than its

fossil fuel alternative. It's a climate solution that's good for the hip pocket. The report comes as political parties race to provide cost-of-living relief through energy rebates and fuel excises ahead of the election, but this latest research shows there is a longer -term solution which will provide more value for money, and that's by fully electrifying

The new modelling shows that households who switch to an electric car, solar and electric appliances could save more than \$4,000 a year, even when including upfront costs.



households, including vehicles.

Sources: Rewining Australia analysis. Residential baseline study 2021 average nome energy needs. Abs moor venicle survey 2018 average driving per vehicle. 18. vehicles per home. 2025 energy prices adjusted for future years based on historic real inflation of each energy type from the Consumer Price Index. \$2025. Capital costs financed at 5.5% interest. 9KW solar install and 10kWh battery on electrified home. The Electrification Tipping Point report has found households using gas appliances and petrol vehicles could save \$61,500 over 15 years, or more than \$4,000 a year on average, if they upgrade their appliances and vehicles to

efficient, electric ones and get their power from a combination of rooftop solar, a home battery, and the existing electricity grid.

This calculation includes the cost of buying and installing the cars and appliances, financed with repayment interest at 5.5 per cent over a 15-year appliance lifetime.

The report shows taking even small steps towards electrifying Australian homes, such as switching from a gas heater to reverse cycle air conditioning could save households hundreds of dollars in just 12 months.

- Driving an electric vehicle saves around \$1500 per year in driving costs, or \$2500 per year if that car is charged with solar.
- Upgrading from a gas hot water system to a heat pump hot water heater will save \$250 per year on energy bills.
- Installing rooftop solar to power those electric appliances and vehicles can save an additional \$2200 per year.

The average fossil fuel-powered home that goes fully electric with solar and a battery can save \$4,100 per year.

According to Rewiring Australia Co-Founder and Chief Scientist Dr Saul Griffith, "This tipping point shows Australians can save money on energy bills and cut emissions as soon as they electrify. This is a far better deal than what an energy bill rebate or fuel excise can offer."



Read the full report at https://www.rewiringaustralia.org/

Sustainable House Day

On Sunday 4 May SHASA President Kathryn Maxwell and her partner Thomas Schild participated in the RENEW Sustainable House Day. Thomas ran four tours



with 25 guests. They learnt about how to build a home that is comfortable,

cheap to run and with a lower building cost.

Key features of the house include:

- steel floor frame and particle board floor with expanded polystyrene underfloor insulation
- structural Insulated panels for walls and ceiling
- double glazing on all windows and glass doors
- the building is 95% recyclable and has much lower embodied energy than conventional homes
- north facing with large floor to ceiling glass doors opening onto a large sunny deck



- awning on eastern window to keep out the summer heat and let in the morning winter sun
- curtains and blinds on all windows to keep out the winter cold
- 9kW of rooftop solar and12kWh house battery
- 7kW EV home charger
- energy efficient appliances
- active heating and cooling with energy efficient reverse cycle air conditioners
- 15,000 litres of rainwater tanks plumbed into the toilet and laundry



- native garden
- home composting and growing of veggies and herbs

A big thank you to Kirsten Pilot from Eurobodalla Shire Council who had a table with water efficiency information and giveaways, and to SHASA members Andrew Everard, Andrea Charlton, Valerie Faber, David Morris and Michael Brown who ran the welcome desk, the SHASA raffle and gave people an opportunity to learn more about the 4 EVs that were parked on the verge.

Congratulations to Rob of Tuross Head who won a SHASA home energy assessment to the value of \$250.



Working together for a **cleaner**, **smarter future** for the Eurobodalla





shasa.com.au

For more info scan here QR code or email contact.shasa@gmail.com



Tilba Halls project progress

Good day all

The construction work is now well underway. The extensions at the rear of the big hall see the concrete slab laid, with blockwork and framing around the amenities and lift on the lower ground floor. The floor for the ground floor level is completed enabling the framing for the kitchen and store room to start this week.

Meanwhile in the little hall progress has been slowed due to the necessity for considerable remedial work. Deteriorating foundations particularly at the front led to subsidence of the walls and a consequent leaning to





one

side. The builder, Steph (architect) and our structural engineer are all working together on solutions to ensure the halls are good for another 100 years. It's all quite a balancing act with the addition of steelwork whilst trying to maintain the originality and heritage values.

All but one of the subcontracts are now in place and we're now on track to complete by the end of this year.

Regards, Tony Lowe (Project Manager, SHASA)



What's a Haven? Havens are places where people can take refuge in the event of fire, flood, bushfire smoke or heatwave scenarios. The Eurobodalla havens are usually volunteer run, and welcome people whose homes are not adapted for extreme heat or who need respite from heat or bushfire smoke.

SHASA successfully applied for funding to install a solar battery, backup generator, ducted air conditioning and LED lights so that the Moruya Heads Surf Life Saving Club can keep working if there is a power blackout. The club has also replaced all gas appliances in its commercial kitchen so that it is now fully electric.

The upstairs area of the club is used for events and functions, so has chairs and tables for 120 people. It also has a commercial kitchen and bar, and separate male and female toilets. With ducted air conditioning, this space can also accommodate people overnight (as it does for competitors in the George Bass Marathon) but bring your own

bedding.



Accessibility—There is a wheelchair accessible lift and a beach wheelchair for guest use.

The accessible toilet and shower is on the ground floor. There are also sepa-

rate male and female showers (3 cubicles in each) and toilets, a fully equipped first aid room, and a gym room with kitchenette.

Outside, there is an undercover BBQ area with sink and fridge, and an outdoor toilet block (with an accessible toilet, baby change facility, and outdoor showers).

Located at 2 Charles Moffitt Dr, Moruya Heads, the heat haven is open to members of the surf club and the public. Check to see if it is open by calling (02) 4474 2674, emailing

info@moruyasurf.org.au, or on their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/moruya.slsc



Upstairs space with kitchen and bar, and sea front view too.



Commercial kitchen upstairs



Downstairs first aid room

MORUYA TO ADELAIDE & BACK IN OUR EV

By Natalie Barnett

March 2025 we travelled from Moruya to Adelaide to visit family & to see the *Chihuly Glass Art Exhibition at the Adelaide Botanic Garden. The exhibition was AMAZING! So glad we went.*



Chihuly installation at the Adelaide Botanic Gardens, 2025

We usually drive our ICE car to Adelaide, taking two days & overnighting in Hay. With our ICE car at the mechanics for an unspecified time, we had no option than to take our BYD Atto3 EV . Our concerns were mostly about getting across the Hay Plain with limited chargers (only one charger available in Narrandera, Hay & Balranald) & the extra time required for charging. So we decided to take three days & overnight in Wagga (with family) & Mildura (in a pet friendly

AirBnB as we had our two fur-babies with us) and do the reverse coming home. A benefit of the 60 Kw Atto3 is being able to charge to 100% on a DC (fast) charger with no damage to the battery.

I took photos of the driver's display when we left home, when we arrived at a charging station, when we left a charging station & when we arrived in Adelaide & same again coming home. This gave the data for odometer, battery %, time & temperature.

The trip to Adelaide went as smoothly as it possibly could... all chargers working, no wait times & no issues. Charging was done at loo-stops & meal times. We left home with 100% battery (from house solar), we charged at Braidwood (69% to 94%) & Gundagai (30% to 96%) then on to Wagga.

The second day we charged at Wagga whilst eating breakfast then walking the fur-girls (65% to 98%),

on to Narrandera (69% to 94%), Hay (38% to 72%), Balranald (29% to 86%) & finally Mildura. The third day we charged at Mildura whilst eating breakfast then walking the fur-girls (31% To 97%), then at Barmera (44% to 78%), Waikerie (62% to 98%) & on to Adelaide (arrive 40% & we travelled 1385km).

It was hot whilst traveling beyond Braidwood & the car A/C didn't work quite as well as in cooler temps as the car was obviously spending more energy cooling the battery. There was a stretch later on between Truro & Mildura where it was hot, really windy & we could smell smoke (with smoke plume visible in the distance). We seemed to chew through the battery at this time too.





The difference when we went from Vic/NSW to SA was INCREDIBLE! So many towns had 2+ chargers, (often four!) & 120kW/200kW – so good fast chargers. All RAA (Chargefox) – we were very impressed... so much better than here in NSW! The four bay chargers often had an accessible bay... it says '*Priority bay, use last'*, for wheelchairs, elderly, injured & prams & they had extra space around the bay to accommodate this (see pic).

Whilst in Adelaide ... we charged to 95% & did some driving around town. But on the return journey, we were not quite so lucky.

We left Adelaide with 73% battery & charged at Truro (42% to 87%), Renmark (38% to 91%), then on to Mildura to stay overnight & we charged there from 46%

to 100%. Next day, we charged at Balranald (43% to 93%), then on to Hay... but the NRMA charger in Hay was down.

A look on the PlugShare app showed an issue 2 days earlier. I rang the NRMA EV Hotline & unfortunately the unit was not able to be 'reset' remotely (NRMA had managed to do this for me once before in Sydney but it really depends on the issue). There are Tesla chargers in Hay but our 2022 Atto3 is not compatible with them. When we purchased the car, only Teslas could use Tesla chargers so it wasn't an issue but Tesla has since opened up their network to other vehicles... We hope a 'fix' is coming from BYD soon.



Luckily... Hay local council had recently installed four 7kW AC (slow) chargers in the same carpark as the NRMA charger (similar to what many people have installed at home) and the Tourist Information Centre across the road lent us a cable. We arrived at Hay about 1.30pm, but we didn't start charging until about

2pm. We charged for 2 hours (44% to 68%), then set off to Narrandera, although we knocked down our top speed to reduce kWh usage on this leg. We were able to charge at Narrandera (12% to 54%) then drove to Wagga arriving with 14% charge just before 8pm. The 12% & 14% arrival rates are about as fine as I like to cut it... really didn't want to call & wait for Roadside Assist to tow us the final few kms!

If those council slow chargers hadn't been available, we would have had to stay overnight in Hay, and hope that the motel would allow us to 'plug in' to an ordinary power point to trickle charge overnight (we had our AC trickle charger & a 10m extension lead with us). We would have given some money for that, of course.

On the third day we charged in Wagga, whilst eating breakfast then walking the fur-girls (14% to 99%), Gundagai (70% to 96%), Braidwood (28% to 55%) & then home (arrived with 35%) & a total of 2839km.

Total charging costs \$311.04.Comparison approx. total petrol cost \$426 (approx. 213L average premium fuel @ \$2/L that our ICE car uses).



Take home message? We need more & better charging options in rural NSW!

\$\$\$\$Are EVs good for business? Certainly!\$\$\$\$

While most EVs so far have been purchased by individual owners, there are many businesses that can, and should, benefit from EVs lower running costs, minimal maintenance costs, advanced driver and car safety options, and ease of operation.

Some larger businesses, like AGL, have undertaken to electrify their business fleet by 2025 - under their policy, your work car should be electric unless there's a good reason - the lack of EV utes for example. But for smaller businesses and organisations in NSW, the current fleet incentives (<u>https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/business-and-industry/programs-grants-and-schemes/electric-vehicles/electric-vehicle-fleets/faqs</u>) apply only to fleets of ten cars or more. This disadvantages smaller organisations, and workers who are individual contractors. There are many such organisations in the Eurobodalla, and contractors and employees of small businesses often rack up a lot of mileage to deliver services equitably to our spread out population.

Novated leasing is an option that could deliver the benefits of EV driving to those organisations that have been disadvantaged until now. If an employer is able to accept salary packaging, a car lease can be included as part of the employee or contractor's remuneration. The employee won't have to pay as much tax, including GST, and the business benefits because FBT (up to 47% of the vehicle use that isn't strictly business) is not payable on an EV, the maintenance costs are far lower, and no petrol will be needed. A similar option is an EV subscription, which is similar to the novated lease, but employees can try different kinds of EV without having to commit to a long period like a lease.

Both options involve the employer, the employee and a specialist lease provider. The payment for the car comes out of the employee's pay, and the employer remits it to the lease provider. The provider may require a credit check, and perhaps a deposit.

A self-employed person with an ABN (Australian Business Number) may also be able to lease a car for themselves as an employee of their business. **Ask an accountant** about what might work for your situation.

It's sensible to look through the contract carefully and be sure that you understand what will happen if you leave your employment for any reason, and what your choices will be at the end of the lease period. **Always seek your own independent legal and financial advice.**

To be eligible, the EV must be:

- held and used for the first time on or after July 1, 2022
- used by a current employee or their associates, such as family members
- not the subject of luxury car tax

Julian Wood, Head of Channel Sales with leasing specialist Novated Lease Australia says "We've found the FBT exemption has increased tax savings for our customers significantly," he says. "We've worked out that buying a \$64,000 Tesla Model 3 has the same weekly net cost as a \$35,000 Toyota Corolla when doing both through a novated lease, due to these tax benefits."

	Price MSRP	Federal ECD
Limit		\$89,332
BYD Dolphin Dynamic	\$38,890	
MG 4 51 kWh	\$38,990	
GWM Ora Standard Range	\$39,990	V
MG ZS EV Standard Range	\$43,990	
BYD Dolphin Premium	\$44,890	
MG ZS EV Standard Range	\$43,990	V
MG 4 64 kWh	\$44,990	
GWM Ora Extended Range	\$45,990	
Renault Kangoo Maxi ZE	\$46,990	

Table from zecar.com. This article is not official financial advice. Always consult a professional to make sure you understand how this works for your individual situation.

Electric Vehicles to the rescue in Queensland

'Electric cars saved the day for drivers affected by Cyclone Alfred blackouts on the weekend.

An increasing number of electric and plug-in hybrid cars have a "vehicle to load" function that allows you to send power from the car's main battery to external appliances. It means EV owners can keep their fridge cold during power outages, or use their car to top up smartphones and other devices.

Facebook groups for BYD and MG owners had several stories of owners who used cars to power home appliances.

One BYD owner said they "used our Atto to power our fridge, lights and home office for three days after storms took out power". Another said "I have a power cable running to my neighbours – it's powering their fridge as well as our two fridges! Love my BYD even more right now".

An MG owner said "we relied on our MG4 51 Excite for power over the last 36 hours. We ran a beast of a fridge, devices, kettle, and my coffee machine (vital). With our consumption we lost about 10 per cent a day, and probably could have lasted a full week. Really thankful for this technology, so much better than a generator".'

https://www.adelaidenow.com.au/.../fca48ee1c790ffd094fed8...

Source: 1,000% Renewables for South Australia



The Chargers are EV volunteers who donate power following a disaster. Picture: Supplied

Known as The Chargers, the program has been established by Mycar Tyre and Auto, a servicing network formerly known as Kmart Tyre and Auto.

Owners of EVs including BYD's Atto 3, Dolphin or Seal, the Genesis GV60, GV70 and GV80, Hyundai Ioniq 5 and 6, Kia EV6, EV9 and Niro, MG4 and MG ZS EV can register to become a charger.

Those who participate will be notified of a natural disaster by SMS, then asked to prepare and confirm their availability by email. Volunteers then drive to established meeting point and complete charging assignments, helping the affected community. They then check out, leave the area and let their charging team know when they've safely arrived home.

The service will be trialled initially in QLD, NSW, ACT and Victoria.

A Lead Charger employed by Mycar will work with authorities such as the SES to determine where volunteers can safely help, then co-ordinate their response.

More info: Mycar.com.au



Q-When's the next EuroBEV get together?

A—1 June, Noon, Grumpy & Sweetheart's MOGO SEE YOU THERE!



Q—In discussion I had a geologist raised the rare earth issue and was concerned that some minerals are in short supply so EV are not really suitable for the future.

The demand for some rare earths and other resources needed to make EVs, batteries, solar panels and wind turbines is predicted to increase by 400% to 600% over the next decade as renewables come to dominate the power market and EVs replace internal

combustion engines for most applications. While there are, on paper, sufficient resources to meet the demand, extracting them also presents technical,

social and economic challenges - https://

news.climate.columbia.edu/2023/04/05/the-energytransition-will-need-more-rare-earth-elements-can-wesecure-them-sustainably/

1.Effectively **recycling** rare and expensive elements will be necessary, and is already possible.

2.**Substituting** common elements (like sodium for example) for rare ones (like lithium) is also a strategy that is being tested in laboratories.

3.Vehicle batteries will **last much longer** than expected - now that we have data on how fast their performance degrades over time, the news is good. They should be performing well into their second decade. When they aren't useful in cars any longer, EV batteries can power houses, businesses, buildings for another life cycle. And when they're too old, reclamation and recycling are the preferred options.



EMPOWERING AUSTRALIA THROUGH DIGITAL STRATEGY & TRANSFORMATION

At THE TEC EXEC, we specialise in digital strategy and transformation education for community groups across regional Australia, including the southeast coast. Our mission is to help communities grow by harnessing online opportunities.



TRICIA PYE Digital Strategist/Trainer

Phone: <u>1300 366 802</u> Email: <u>admin@thetecexec.com.au</u> Website: <u>www.thetecexec.com.au</u>

Address: PO Box 985, Batemans Bay NSW 2536

What EVs are sold in the Eurobodalla? And can they be serviced locally?



Olivia

If you purchase an electric vehicle (EV) from us at AMH - Coastal Auto Group, you can get it serviced at any of our dealerships that are equipped to handle EVs. We provide sales, service, and parts for MG, Subaru, Hyundai, and Toyota vehicles, including electric models. Our service departments are staffed with highly trained technicians who are well-versed in the latest EV technology and use genuine parts to ensure the highest quality of workmanship.

To book your service, you can do so online, give us a call, or visit us in person at the dealership. We'll find a time that suits you and ensure that your EV receives the best possible care. Our commitment to quality service and customer satisfaction means that you can trust us to maintain your vehicle to the highest standards.

Get in Touch for Service Inquiry

Regrowth - Healing Land and Community

SHASA in new exhibition:

The 2019-2020 bushfire season was one of the most intense and destructive bushfire seasons in recorded Australian history, and has become known as the Black Summer. In the years since,



16th March to

16th June

empty shops to sheds to

places

to identify

for accommodation

the Eurobodalla community has risen to meet these challenges, and worked hard to make sure we are in a better place now than we were five years ago. This exhibition documents some of the work that the community has done to heal and empower its members for future extreme events. Featuring artefacts, artworks and stories of regeneration, recovery and readiness, this exhibition highlights and celebrates the many ways our community has come together to address the challenges faced during the Black Summer bushfires, while providing a space to reflect on the Batemans Bay areas where we still have work to do. Heritage Museum,

SHASA's work is highlighted in the exhibition through its network of heatwave and bushfire smoke havens and its hosting of the Nestwell platform, which was borne from the need to take the pressure off evacuation centres during the Black Summer bushfires by providing alternative to shelter. This is done by encouraging the community any unused or under-utilised resource that can be used or shelter during a disaster, anything from garages to caravans to community halls to land. Nestwell allows peo-

ple to list any accommodation they can offer, control its availability and offer it to who they feel it is most suited to (such as families with children, vulnerable community members with pets, or people with



Nestwell emergency shelter and heat haven platform

Nestwell helps people find or provide help to those fleeing natural disasters in rural and regional communities. It is a platform to assist with emergency and temporary accommodation during and in the recovery phase of a disaster

I need shelter

I can offer shelter

disability without family support etc). And then Nestwell allows this accommodation to be found by those who need it, when they need it most.

The heat havens are listed on the Nestwell platform, so that people can at least find community facilities where they can shelter from heatwaves and bushfires, as well as any private property that community members may offer in response to a disaster.

Check out Nestwell as part of this exhibition. Find your nearest heat haven. What accommodation or shelter could you offer in the event of a disaster?



A Beyond Zero Future for South East NSW

fact sheet

Climate Action in Eurobodalla Cutting energy use emissions

About Eurobodalla

Yuin country

Industries — construction, government services, real estate, retail, retirement, aged care, tourism, dairy farming, forestry, oyster farming

 Total emissions
 329,000 tonnes (t) CO₂ per year

 Population:
 40,833 (8 tCO₂ per person each year)

 Households:
 15,032 (22 tCO₂ per household each year)

Small solar in Eurobodalla

Installs to 2023 = 6858 New installs in 2023 = 740 (5% of households) Each 5kW solar costs around \$5000 Each solar install saves around 3.4 tCO2 per year

Electric vehicles in Eurobodalla

Registrations in 2023 = 65 (0.23% of all vehicles) New registrations in 2023 = 37 Each EV saves around 3t CO2 per year Running costs are up to 85% lower than a conventional car

Towards 2030: What can YOU do?

23% emissions reduction by 2030 (cf. 2022) if 10% of people add rooftop solar and switch to electric vehicles each year"



2022/2023 Emissions by Sector



What else can you do?

Retrofit your home with low-flow showers, reverse cycle heating/cooling, heat pumps for hot water, insulation and draught sealing.

Join a community energy organisation such as Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance (SHASA) to promote resilient networks, local ownership and cost saving.

Consult the Clean Energy Council consumer guides to choosing approved retailers and accredited installers.

Get behind the #RePowerOurCommunities campaign.

Support business and job opportunities in local clean energy technologies.



Government Rooftop Solar funding for apartment residents \$25 million rooftop solar boost

The Australian and New South Wales Governments have launched a new \$25 million program to boost rooftop solar energy adoption **in apartment buildings**, aiming to make **clean energy** more accessible for residents.

The <u>program</u>, the **Solar for Apartment Residents** incentive, will provide co-funding for owners' corporations and strata managers to install shared rooftop solar systems, potentially saving residents up to \$600 per year on energy bills.

Currently, one in five homes in NSW is an apartment, yet only around 3.5 per cent of them have access to solar.

The initiative seeks to address this gap by covering up to 50 per cent of installation costs, with a cap of \$150,000 per project.

The funding is part of the Federal Government's Solar Banks Scheme, a program designed to make renewable energy more accessible to households across Australia.

The NSW Government will oversee the program, assess applications and distribute funds to successful applicants.

Eligible properties include apartment buildings with three to 55 units that have not installed a solar PV system in the past 10 years.

Applications are open until **1 December 2025**, or until funds are fully allocated.

NSW Minister for Climate Change and Energy Penny Sharpe said the initiative would remove key barriers for apartment residents looking to access renewable energy.

"Solar should be available to everyone. This program removes the barriers to renewable energy for units and apartments, making it easier and more affordable to adopt solar," she said.

For more renewable and solar news, subscribe to *ecogeneration*.

Native forest logging emissions — your taxes at work

The ongoing native forest logging operation in Mogo State Forest critically impacts the ESC's Eurobodalla <u>Climate Action Plan 2022 – 2032</u>.



Machine and Logs NW Moruya Nov 24 Logging (Supplied)

Logging is a significant source of emissions, and it makes no sense for state governments to spend taxpayers' money destroying valuable carbon sinks and releasing stored carbon into the atmosphere while also paying for less effective emissions reduction projects.

The Eurobodalla Council's <u>Climate Action Plan</u> shows that the total carbon emissions for

Half year net loss from Native Forest logging in NSW \$15 M AUD ⁽⁴⁾ the Eurobodalla shire (page 11) from Electricity, Transport, Waste, Agriculture and Gas in 2019/20 (the same year as the Black Summer fires) was 396,000 tonnes. However, these figures do not include emissions from land use change and forestry. ¹

The Frontier Economic Report "Comparing the

value of alternative uses of native forests in Southern NSW" calculated the annual emis-

sions from logging in southern NSW was 950,000 tonnes. Eurobodalla Shire's share of South East NSW logging emissions is 26% of total emissions. The amount that would be saved by ending logging in SE NSW would be 245,691 tonnes p.a.

Emissions estimates for Eurobodalla vary from year to year, altering the ratio of avoided emissions from saving native forests versus emissions from electricity, transport, waste, agriculture and gas. But the bottom line is that stopping logging saves emissions equivalent to around 80% to 105% of electricity, transport, waste, agriculture and gas carbon emissions in the Eurobodalla.



Greater Glider Maulbrooks Road light morph Aug 2024 Pic David Gallan

Our South Coast Forest stores more carbon logging it creates up to 105% of Eurobodalla's Total Emissions

As the more productive coastal forests are 'wet', they store more carbon than the 'dry' eucalypt forests such as in the Snowy-Monaro. As the South Coast forest stores more carbon, if we stop logging, we save even more carbon emissions. Emissions estimates for Eurobodalla vary from year to year, altering the ratio of avoided emissions due to saving native forests versus emissions from electricity, transport, waste, agriculture and gas. But the bottom line is that stopping logging saves emissions equivalent to around 80% to 105% of these.

The one million hectares of NSW public native forests that are being logged, are worth more standing as nature's carbon sink.

Joslyn Van der Moolen, Mogo Friends of the Forest

WHERE DOES THE CARBON GO WHEN A FOREST IS LOGGED?*



(1) The Eurobodalla Council's Climate Action Plan p11

(2) Zero SE fact sheets use the same Snapshot emission figures as the Eurobodalla Council Climate Action Plan. See the following:

Forests: Worth more standing <u>https://zerose.space/by-solution/</u> Council Emissions Fact Sheets <u>https://zerose.space/by-lga-2/</u>

- (3) Frontier Economics Comparing the value of alternative use of native forest in Southern NSW
- (4) <u>https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2025/may/16/nsw-native-forest-logging-division-half-year-report-2024-2025-losses</u>

Thank you so much for all you do for SHASA and for our community.

I thought you might like to know that SHASA spends 100% of your tax deductible donations on projects that support our mission of Climate Leadership and Adaptation for the Eurobodalla and beyond. We continue to seek funding for practical projects that cut energy costs and support local communities to transition to clean energy.

For the 2024/25 Financial Year SHASA used your generous donations to:

•Employ a Project Coordinator to Develop a Community Facility Resilience Strategy so that we can secure grant funds for solar, batteries, EV chargers, LED lighting etc to cut energy costs and make community spaces more comfortable year round.

•Purchase two 3m high gazebos to use at EV Expos for much needed shading over cars and volunteers

•Install air quality monitoring stations at 3 sites in the Eurobodalla.

•Support the Repurposing for Resilience "Computers 4 Community" project which gives new life to old computers, monitors and laptops. These are then gifted to people in need and not for profits.

It's Tax Time! Its a great time to donate to the SHASA Public Fund

