

Welcome to this month's update on the Mildura Region Solar Hubs project. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at Mildura Development Corporation on 03 5022 0722 or email [tim@milduraregion.com.au](mailto:tim@milduraregion.com.au)

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## What is involved in my Solar Installation

- **Quote:** A visit to discuss with you your needs and have a look at your home and electricity bill.
- **Installation:** Qualified Local Solar installers coming to your home to put up the panels and connect them to a solar inverter.
- **Electrical Inspection:** Energy Safe Victoria inspects your installation and authorises its connection to the electricity grid.
- **Powercor:** Installs a new smartmeter.
- **Your electricity retailer:** Changes your contract so you can create electricity as well as use it. This is a new tariff.
- **Home energy reviews:** A comprehensive look at how you can use your new tariff, how you can save electricity and maximise the credits on your next electricity bills.

For further information please refer to the Clean Energy Council's Consumer guide to solar PV [www.cleanenergycouncil.org.au](http://www.cleanenergycouncil.org.au)

## Thought for the Future

Households in Scone and Elmore Vale (Newcastle, NSW) are being disconnected from the electricity grid for a 2 year trial period.

This is part of a new way of thinking about the electricity network called microgrids where all or most of your electricity comes from your neighbourhood. To do this you need four things: solar power (or wind), smart meters, batteries (in this case one massive industrial battery for each house) and community desire.

Other uses for this technology are to "smooth out" electricity. Either cheap electricity is stored in the battery and used when the cost is more expensive (to reduce the cost of electricity), or stored at time of low usage and used at times of high usage (to help stop black outs).

The project is part of the federal government's three-year \$100 million Smart Grid, Smart City project.

To read the article about this project visit <http://bit.ly/kirhgY>

This gives us all the hope for the future to choose where, how and when our electricity is produced.