

Media Release

The Hon James Merlino MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Education

Minister for Mental Health



Tuesday, 21 June 2022

CLEANER POWER FOR GREENER GOVERNMENT SCHOOLS

The Andrews Labor Government will install solar panels at dozens more schools across the state – supporting Victoria’s education sector to be more sustainable, slashing emissions while reducing power costs.

Minister for Education James Merlino today announced 36 schools will receive solar panels worth \$2.4 million as part of round two of the Labor Government’s Greener Government School Buildings program.

The Greener Government School Buildings program is contributing to Victoria’s greenhouse gas reduction targets under the Climate Change Act 2017.

Once fully implemented, a total estimated installed capacity of 9,300 kilowatts across all schools involved in the Greener Government School Buildings program is expected to reduce up to 14,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions every year and save more than \$2.5 million on electricity bills for schools per year.

A solar power system is a strategic investment that can pay for itself over several years. This investment program removes the upfront costs of installing a system that may otherwise discourage schools from pursuing this option.

Schools can find out more on the Greener Government School Buildings program at schoolbuildings.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Education James Merlino:

“We’re taking action to make our schools are more sustainable so we can all do our bit for the environment.”

“Not only will the environment benefit from this program – installing solar panel systems will help reduce power bills for our schools at a time when the cost of living is high.”