

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP
Minister for Climate Action
Minister for Energy and Resources
Minister for the State Electricity Commission



Wednesday, 24 February 2024

LATROBE VALLEY INNOVATIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY FUTURE

Communities in the Latrobe Valley are receiving valuable cost-of-living support as they embrace new localised renewable energy projects with support from the Allan Labor Government.

Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio today showcased three Latrobe Valley Energy and Growth Program (LVEGP) projects that are helping Latrobe Valley communities lower their bills, decrease their emissions and become more energy resilient.

As part of the program, Gippsland Climate Change Network received \$317,368 towards the 276kW solar system on the roof of the Yallambee Traralgon Village for the Aged. The panels have generated more than 352,000 kW of renewable electricity, saved residents \$88,165 off their bills in its first year and prevented more than 350 tonnes of emissions.

The Yarram Recreation Reserve was awarded \$180,000 to install the Secure Back-Up Power Supply Project solar and battery system comprising of a 126 KW battery storage system and 36KW rooftop solar PV on the SES building at the Yarram Rec Reserve, doubling the existing 30 kw of solar already installed.

The system is suitable for supplying back-up power during outages and providing emergency services with power, as well as providing cost savings to the Recreation Reserve Committee.

As part of the program, Gippsland entertainment and culture jewel Lardner Park has been hosting the Floating Solar Project, the 50kW floating solar system is a powerful demonstration product that is saving more than \$1000 a month as an innovative source of renewable energy.

Funded with \$209,149, the project will help conserve water through reduced evaporation and algae growth. The evaporative cooling from the lake also increases the panels output by 10 per cent.

The program supports community and industry projects that increase the uptake of renewable energy generation, create and support renewable energy jobs and drive social, community and economic benefits in the Latrobe Valley.

Quote attributable to Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio

"We're supporting the Valley's renewable energy future with projects that reduce energy bills for locals and help create skilled jobs for the next generation."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Tom McIntosh

"Eastern Victoria has extensive renewable energy resource potential, deep energy and engineering expertise, and a reputation as the centre of Victoria's energy sector."

Quote attributable to Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing

"Residents are embracing renewable energy throughout the Valley and are receiving the benefits of cheaper renewable energy thanks to the program."

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