

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Friday, 18 January 2019

THOUSANDS OF VICTORIAN HOMES SAVE MILLIONS ON SOLAR

Nearly 7,000 Victorian households have installed solar panels since the Andrews Labor Government's Solar Homes package was launched in late August last year, amounting to more than \$3.4 million in rebates.

Minister for Solar Homes Lily D'Ambrosio said around 1,600 households had already received a rebate, with many more solar installation projects underway, generating thousands of jobs across the state.

Melbourne's growth suburbs are the busiest areas for new solar installations with Tarneit (212) topping the list followed by Clyde North (161), Craigieburn (131), Truganina (123) and Cranbourne East (98).

The Solar Homes Package is boosting supply, creating jobs and fighting climate change, while helping Victorian households cut their energy costs.

The Solar Homes package provides up to \$2,225 to support the installation of solar panels – helping to ensure Victoria's energy system is as affordable, resilient and secure as possible.

The Labor Government's Solar Homes Package includes:

- \$1.24B for solar panels on 650,000 homes
- \$60M for solar hot water for 60,000 homes
- \$40M to support the purchase of batteries for 10,000 homes
- \$82M for solar panels on 50,000 rental homes.

From 1 July 2019, Victorians will be able to install a solar panel system for half price and pay the rest of the cost back over four years with an interest-free loan. Those who purchase solar panels prior to July are eligible to apply for a rebate on their upfront costs.

More information about the Solar Homes package can be found at solar.vic.gov.au.

Quotes attributable to the Minister for Solar Homes Lily D'Ambrosio

"We promised to put power back in the hands of Victorians and that's exactly what we're doing – helping people take control of their energy costs and make a real difference to the state's long-term energy future."

"Our Solar Homes program has already proved to be tremendously popular and is helping Victorians to save hundreds of dollars a year on their energy bills."

"We're also expanding the Solar Homes to include rental properties, hot water systems and battery installations – giving Victorians a fair go and helping the environment."