



Central Coast SolarShare is a 'community energy trading network' on the NSW Central Coast, run by local non-profit community groups. Households with solar panels sell their surplus solar electricity to households without solar at 12c per kWh.

Lower electricity bills

That 12c trading rate is cheaper than normal electricity rates (for homes without solar) but more than normal solar feed-in tariffs (for solar panel owners) so both sides benefit.

Help the energy transition

Joining our pilot study is a simple, low-risk action you can take that should reduce your electricity bills but, maybe more importantly, may help speed up Australia's energy transition. Here's why...

During the day, most of Australia's energy now comes from solar. At night most electricity still comes from coal. Community energy trading incentivises people without solar panels to use solar-generated electricity in the day. That means less demand for coal at night, so coal-fired power stations will close sooner. Even if we can shift just, say, 20% of our electricity use to the day, if widely adopted, would make a significant difference to how fast we can exit coal from the grid.

Sharing the benefits of solar: "solar equity"

Community energy trading allows households who can't have solar panels (such as renters, people in units or with shaded roofs) to buy cheap solar electricity.

Be part of our pilot study

Central Coast SolarShare is a **pilot study** to see if community energy trading can be a valuable tool for the energy transition. The study will be run with a well-known academic institution and the results shared with policy-makers and other communities. In this way we can be part of the "bigger picture" and have more impact than just a few local households saving a few kW.

Simple and automatic

Community energy trading is simple! The trading price is pre-set and trades happens automatically. If there is no trade available, the app defaults to the energy retailer's standard rates. Once signed up, households with solar literally do nothing. Households without solar simply need to use some (maybe 20%; but the more the better) of their electricity when the sun is shining.

(Trading is virtual: if someone using the Powertracer app is exporting power to the grid at the same time another Powertracer user is using power, the app simply matches the two.)

Energy Locals

To use Powertracer, you need to become a customer of electricity retailer Energy Locals. Energy Locals' standard rates are much the same as any other retailer. (See [FAQs](#) for more information and some commentary about switching to Energy Locals.)

No fees, lock-in contract

There are no fees, and no lock-in contract, so you can go back to your current energy retailer at any time if you wish. (See [FAQs](#) for more information.) JOIN NOW at centralcostsolarshare.org