

## Case Study – Why Go Solar.

In the sunny suburbs of Umina, Debbie and Gary decided to install solar panels on their house. The decision to go solar was driven by a combination of environmental concerns, financial savings, and the desire to stay ahead of the game with rising energy prices and the inevitable move towards renewable energy.

Recognising the community need to reduce their carbon footprint, solar power promised a cleaner and more sustainable energy source for the household which also contributes to a healthier community environment.

Gary said, 'The financial aspect played an important role in our decision-making process. By harnessing the power of the sun through 6.6kw's of panels with a 5kw inverter solar system, we aimed to not only power our house but also contribute excess energy back to the grid. We were able to power our household and contribute 82% of what we generated back to the grid. Over a quarterly billing period we have been able to achieve a financial benefit of between \$250 to \$300 from both savings in energy costs and the surplus energy earning us a rebate.'

While not an over-riding issue, the financial investment of \$7400 should see a return within 6 to 7 years.

Gary said, 'We are very happy with this return on investment. Despite a 21% increase in the price of electricity, our electricity bill has been halved. The air-conditioning, once a significant contributor to our bills, now runs for free when the sun is shining, further enhancing the cost-effectiveness of our solar investment.'

Gary and Debbie recognised the long-term benefits of leveraging solar power which allowed them to take maximum advantage of the abundant sunlight. Their solar experience taught them the importance of optimising energy usage.

'Simple adjustments, such as running the washing machine and dishwasher during the day instead of at night, significantly contributed to maximising the benefits of our solar system.'

While enjoying substantial financial savings, and staying ahead of the game, solar has not only significantly improved Debbie and Gary's household financial situation but also reduced their carbon footprint which will contribute to a healthier and more sustainable community.