



**THE HON GREG HUNT MP**  
**MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

**MR JASON WOOD MP**  
**FEDERAL MEMBER FOR LA TROBE**

13 June 2016

**\$15,000 FOR SOLAR AND BATTERY STORAGE BOOST FOR  
COONARA COMMUNITY HOUSE**

A re-elected Turnbull Government will help community groups in La Trobe to lower their power bills and play their part in reducing Australia's emissions by providing \$100,000 towards the cost of installing solar.

The Solar Communities programme will provide funding for groups across Australia to install rooftop solar PV, solar hot water and battery storage systems for community owned buildings," Mr Wood said.

Coonara Community House will receive \$15,000 to assist with the cost of installing solar and battery storage.

"Coonara Community House is a safe, supportive and friendly place for all community members to use. It's committed to providing and ensuring all members of the community has access to relevant and important opportunities to empower and inspire self-confidence," Mr Wood said.

The Coalition recognises the important role community and household solar plays in Australia's transition to a low emissions economy with an increase in renewable energy.

"Around 350 community groups are expected to benefit from the expanded programme, with \$5 million available."

"Unlike Labor, the Coalition is committed to tackling climate change without hiking up power bills for community groups, families and businesses and putting Australian jobs at risk," Mr Wood said.

"Bill Shorten's carbon tax is a tax on electricity and will hurt community groups across Australia."

By contrast, the Coalition is committed to supporting community groups with our expanded Solar Communities programme.

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“Under the Turnbull Government, half a million households and businesses have already made the switch to solar,” Minister Hunt said.

Australia has the highest proportion of households with solar panels in the world – about 15 per cent.

The Australian Government’s Renewable Energy Target provides for an average rebate for a solar system of \$3,000, or about 30 per cent of the installation cost.

We have also established a \$250 million Community Housing Programme to help lower costs for low income families and residents through the construction of up to 1,000 new energy efficiency homes.

We have established a \$1 billion Clean Energy Innovation Fund to support the latest technology which will transform our renewable energy use over the coming decade.

Only the Coalition is committed to tackling climate change without a job-destroying carbon tax.

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