

## Shared Solar for Apartments – 18 April 2024 webinar Q&A

Further to our webinar, the Panelists have attempted to answer your questions. Please note this document is for information only, and should not be relied upon.

You can also view the [Allume Energy & OCN Webinar Q&A](#)

#	Question	Answer
1	Will the recording be distributed to everyone who has registered for the webinar?	It's only available to OCN members
2	Most strata apartments have limited roof space relative to the number of apartments thereby limiting the benefits of installing solar. Furthermore installing solar panels creates issues for the maintenance repair and renewal of waterproofing membranes. Please comment!	Call Allume or download their Q&A from our web site
3	Didn't power bills go up precisely because solar has gone up and denied corporations their usual profit margins?	No
4	My body corporate signed up to dodgy solar scheme (before my time) about 5 years ago for solar power (through NETSTRATA) in our building for the common areas - we are going to end up paying more than we would if we were using electricity for 'solar' energy....how do we prevent this happening to body corporates in the future....	Call Allume
5	Could we get the stats mentioned in writing and the sources?	Yes. All stats are verified and available through the various submissions on the OCN website under the advocacy and policy tab
6	The federal scheme has been announced but there is still a lack of detail. When can we expect the mechanisms to be operational?	In the hands of the various State Governments
7	I'm not on the Owners Corp. What's the most compelling template email I can use to suggest to our Owners Corp to (1) build a roadmap to install solar/heat pump/EV chargers (2) suggest them to join OCN?	Reference the Allume website and Send out OCN brochure.
8	Could we get a specific link to the government subsidy scheme for solar in apartments?	The below are the Solar banks links for Vic and ACT. In NSW they are specific to councils. <a href="https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/apartments">https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/apartments</a> <a href="https://brighte.com.au/act-sustainable-household-scheme/solar-for-apartments">https://brighte.com.au/act-sustainable-household-scheme/solar-for-apartments</a>
9	Why are there huge increases in Supply	Because of the huge increases in demand for energy
10	Is it possible for shared solar on villas/townhouses be achieved?	Yes

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11	These are great 'ideas' but how will strata owners be protected by dodgy solar contractors and long term contracts. By the sounds of it this may be rushed though really fast so what is being done to protect the owners....how much profit margin does Allume make from this?	Call Allume
12	Can the Allume box be fed from 2 Inverters?	Call Allume
13	Does the solar share system enable the sale of energy to another building with an Allume system?	No. Not allowed by regulators
14	Does the system include storage or is this to be added in the future?	Call Allume
15	Are there any complexes incorporating battery storage, either individually per apartment or centrally (building) so that residents who aren't using most of their energy during the day can gain some benefits?	See Allume Q&A
16	What is the cost for Solshare system, i.e. in addition to the solar itself?	See Allume Q&A
17	Do you support individual panels with inverters	Yes
18	Is the Allume solution viable in a large complex where meters are not conveniently co-located in the basement, but are instead located on the various levels with no cabled access?	Call Allume
19	Can batteries be put in a garage if there's room there to store excess power and use it overnight?	Yes
20	Does the feed in tariff for excess solar energy go to the individual lots (or to the owners corporation)?	Call Allume
21	Are there provisions/plans for future V2G / V2L capabilities via EV charging infrastructure?	Emerging technology but no immediate plans
22	would be nice to know typical life cycle of the panels	Call Allume
23	If a unit owner has excessive power usage to others do they get more of a share of solar input, or is it evenly shared regardless of power usage.	Call Allume
24	My building has all lot electricity meters on each floor, not together in a basement. Can the system be used for lot power in this case?	Call Allume
25	Do all owners have to participate? If you already have common area solar can you install solar share to units	Call Allume
26	What's the total cost to get back \$2,800?	See Allume Q&A
27	Is the Victorian and possibly the NSW solar bank scheme primarily for social housing?	No
28	Can Allume provide the feasibility report info for NSW apartments where Solar Banks has not launched yet?	Yes we'd be glad to
29	Realistically how do you stop 'embedded networks'...when most of them are handshake deals not in writing	Out of scope for this webinar. See OCN submissions

30	Apart from VIC, NSW has introduced solar bank subsidies of \$206 mil for social apartments but not private - is it expected that private subsidies are on the way for private apartment owners in NSW? (notwithstanding that councils do provide some subsidies but they are very low)	Call Allume
31	Can Allume Box be used in conjunction with batteries?	Call Allume
32	How do non Sol Share systems work?	Outlined in the webinar
33	Is this relevant to Qld?	Call Allume
34	Do you need all owners to agree or can a portion agree to proceed?	See Allume Q&A
35	There's been no mention of batteries - how will solar in apartments help night time usage	See Allume Q&A
36	Allume? it is still possible to have not all apartments involved	Call Allume
37	Any special strategy for getting so called "laggards" on-side?	Education on the benefits
38	NSW Strata - what is the percentage of Yes votes required to pass a motion for implementation of solar for all Lots?	Is part of sustainability infrastructure so 50%
39	Does every owner need to be with same energy provider if solshare is doing the splitting?	Call Allume
40	What does embedded networks mean	Out of scope for this webinar. See OCN submissions
41	Your comments on embedded networks are false. The issues are isolated to certain projects and providers. Embedded networks present the best way to provide Virtual Power Plants and Distributed Energy Resources.	Out of scope for this webinar. See OCN submissions
42	Can you comment on tax issues regarding how it is handled	The owners corporation consists of all the owners. If the OC make a profit, from a tax perspective, all owners are required to declare their share of that profit.
43	Does the Victorian scheme allow for both sol share for apartments in conjunction with solar to heat a common pool or do the OC need to separate the projects?	See Allume Q&A
44	Does Allume do reviews of already installed solar panel systems?	Call Allume
45	We have energy storage called hot water systems. Is there a way inn these can be best used by a Sol Share system.	Call Allume
46	Is Allume the only solar share option?	Call Allume
47	Without battery storage, how do you find adoption where a majority of residents aren't home during solar hours? (therefore not maximising benefits)	See Allume Q&A
48	We have old meters which we're looking at upgrading from fuses to circuit breakers. What sort of metering do you need for solar?	See Allume Q&A

49	<p>In NSW a sustainability infrastructure is a special resolution and calculated by unit entitlement.</p> <p>STRATA SCHEMES MANAGEMENT ACT 2015 - SECT 5 Resolutions of owners corporations 5 RESOLUTIONS OF OWNERS CORPORATIONS (1) In this Act, a resolution of an owners corporation is a "special resolution" if-- (a) it is passed at a properly convened general meeting, and (b) of the value of votes cast-- (i) not more than 25% are against the resolution, or (ii) if the resolution is a sustainability infrastructure resolution --less than 50% are against the resolution. (2) For the purposes of determining a special resolution, the value of a vote in respect of a lot is equal to the unit entitlement of the lot. However, if the total unit entitlement of lots of the original owner is not less than half of the aggregate unit entitlement, the value of the vote in respect of those lots is taken to be reduced by two-thirds (ignoring any fraction).</p>	<p>NSW Sustainability projects requires an ordinary resolution or 50% vote from the member attending any general meeting</p>
50	<p>For shared solar in the residential building, is the type of electric meters in the apartments a factor?</p>	<p>See Allume Q&amp;A</p>