

There has never been a better time to go solar

The Nature Conservation Council of NSW in partnership with Australian solar company Ingenero, is challenging Sydney's North Shore to install solar panels on 1,000 homes.

The North Sydney Solar Challenge invites North Shore residents to play their part in reducing greenhouse gas emissions by installing solar panels on their roof and generating clean, green energy. Powering homes with clean energy from the sun will reduce the need for energy from polluting sources like coal and helps tackle climate change. Solar energy can lower a household's carbon footprint by up to three tonnes every year.

Last year the Nature Conservation Council played a significant part in the campaign for a gross feed-in tariff for clean renewable energy. We're happy to say that we won! The NSW government has now implemented a gross feed-in tariff of 60 cents per kilowatt hour which means that going solar now isn't only a great way to help the environment, it makes financial sense too.

Households can now buy a solar power system for no up-front cost. The Federal government's solar credits (RECs) subsidise the overall cost of the system, while the NSW gross feed-in tariff helps pay it off. The current gross feed-in tariff of 60 cents per kilowatt hour means households can sell all their power production into the grid, offsetting their electricity bill or even making money.

Solar Challenge participants will receive a discount of \$300 on a high quality solar power system with a 10 year plain English warranty. Most households can have a solar system installed today for \$0 up front and let their solar income pay off the system with monthly credits that are higher than their solar repayments.

For more information see www.solarchallenge.org.au or contact Su Fei Tan on (02) 9516 1488.