

Developed in partnership

AusNet

mondo



Omeo Community Microgrids and Sustainable Energy Program

Reliable, renewable, and
resilient energy for you
and your community

Systems savings
at more than
**50%
off**



Delivered by

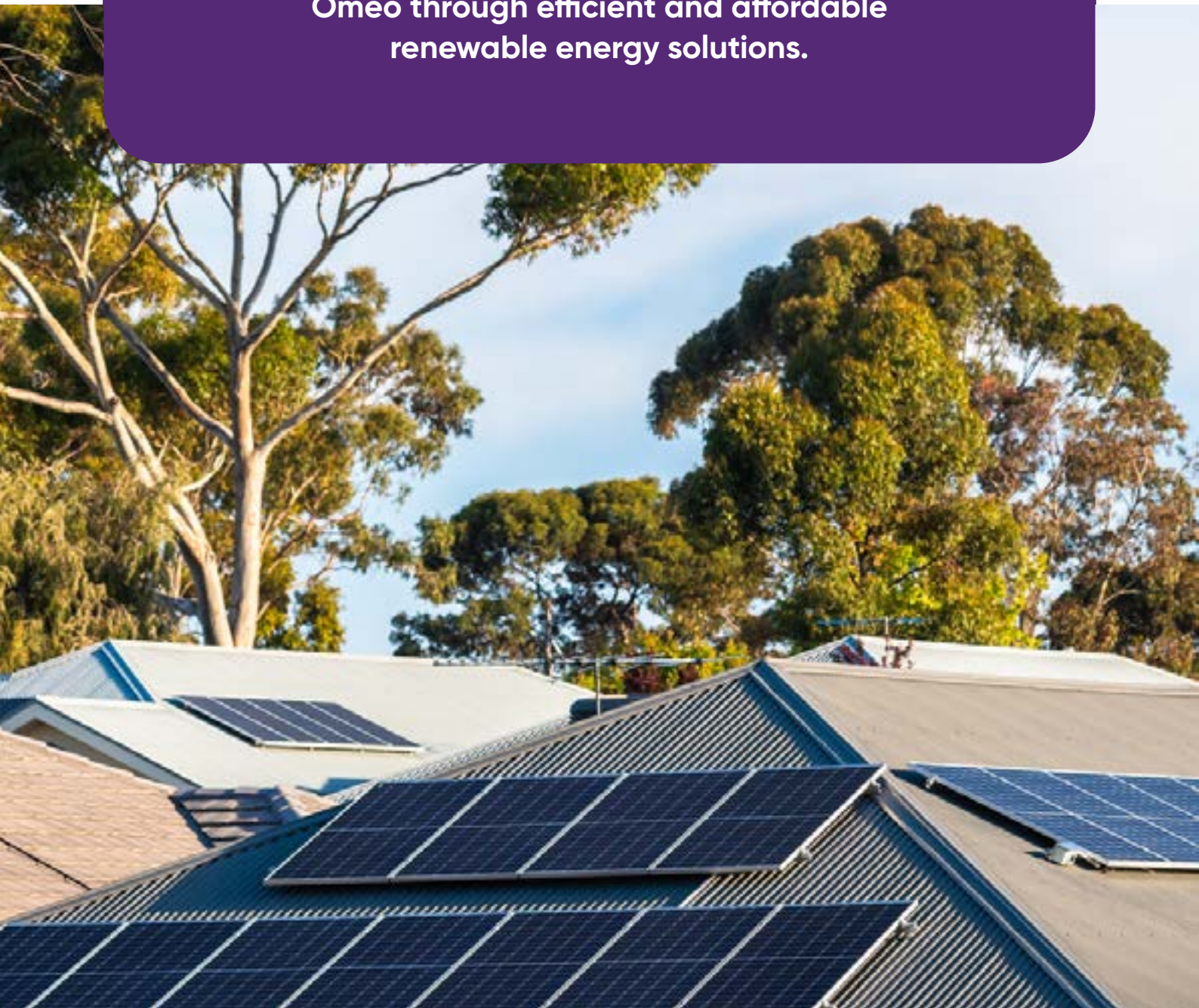
RACV SOLAR



Interested in saving over \$1,000 every year on energy bills?*

*Statistics provided by Solar Victoria website

Supporting community resilience across
Omeo through efficient and affordable
renewable energy solutions.



Project background

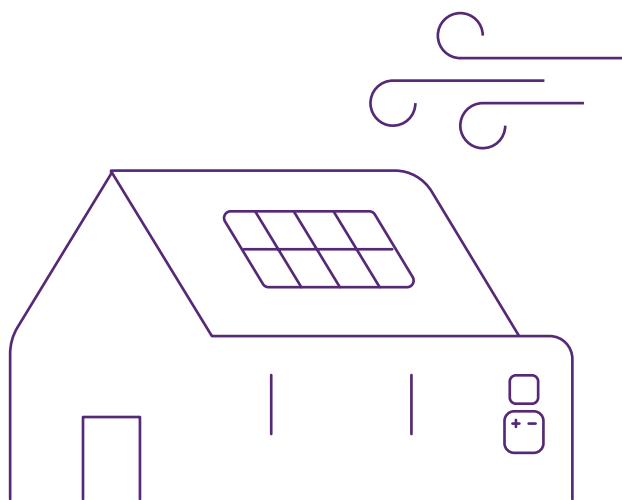
After the devastating 2019-20 fire season, the Victorian Government's Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action (DEECA) and AusNet undertook a feasibility study to investigate how new energy infrastructure can provide support for communities and households affected by extreme weather events.

The feasibility study resulted in the creation of the Victorian Government-funded Community Microgrids and Sustainable Energy Program, which offers subsidies to Omeo to help build greater energy resilience.

The subsidies include solar systems, batteries and generators on key community buildings, and solar and battery systems on participating residential homes. All installations will include an innovative smart energy controller, Mondo Ubi, which will optimise and coordinate energy use during an outage.

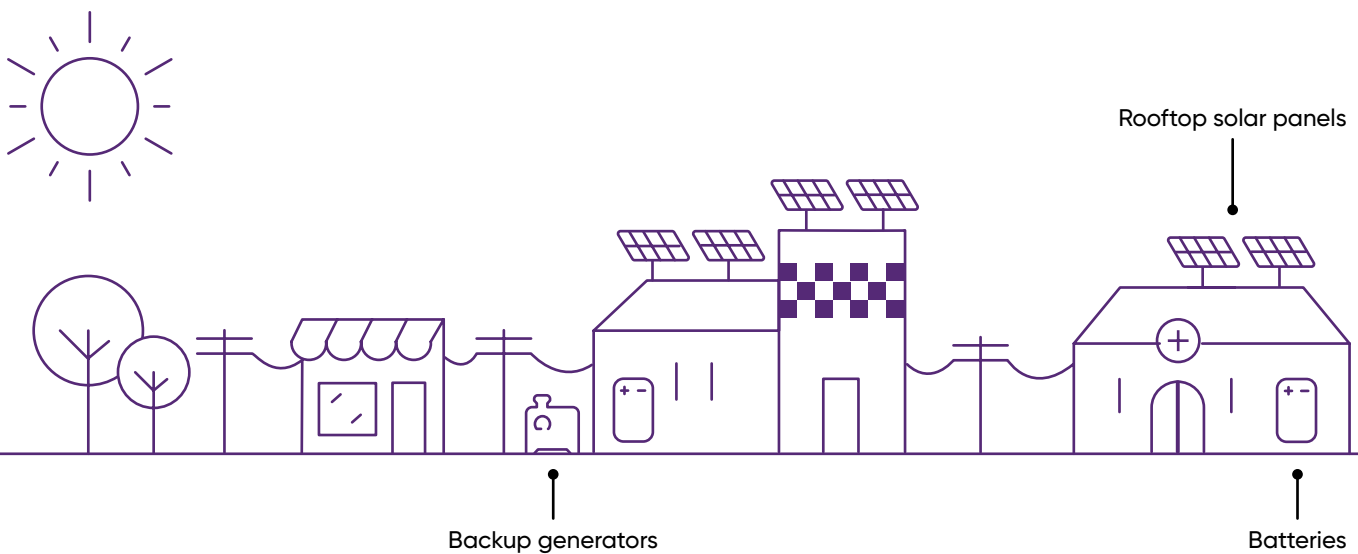
The program supports the increase of distributed energy supplies that can keep participating Omeo businesses and residents connected during electricity disruptions. This helps to maintain functionality of essential properties and services when power interruptions occur, ensuring that relief hubs remain active when people need them most.

Residents in Omeo can participate and support energy resilience by installing a solar and battery system at their homes. As part of the program, all systems will be connected through Mondo's Ubi, an Energy Management Platform that optimises and coordinates energy use.



The Community Microgrids and Sustainable Energy Program is offering subsidies to the Omeo community, including solar and battery systems for participating homes.

Omeo's Community Energy Vision



Stages 1 and 2

Essential services and critical businesses



Stage 1 and 2 of the program includes subsidised solar panels, battery systems, backup generators, and a Mondo Ubi controller for essential services and critical businesses, and integrate them into the microgrid.

The systems feature an automatic transition between network supply and site supply, enabling sites to provide or obtain electricity to and from the microgrid during an outage.

Essential services received:

- Solar panels
- Battery systems
- Diesel generator systems
- Mondo Ubi energy management platform

Critical businesses received:

- Solar panels
- Battery systems
- Mondo Ubi energy management platform

Top 3 community priorities:

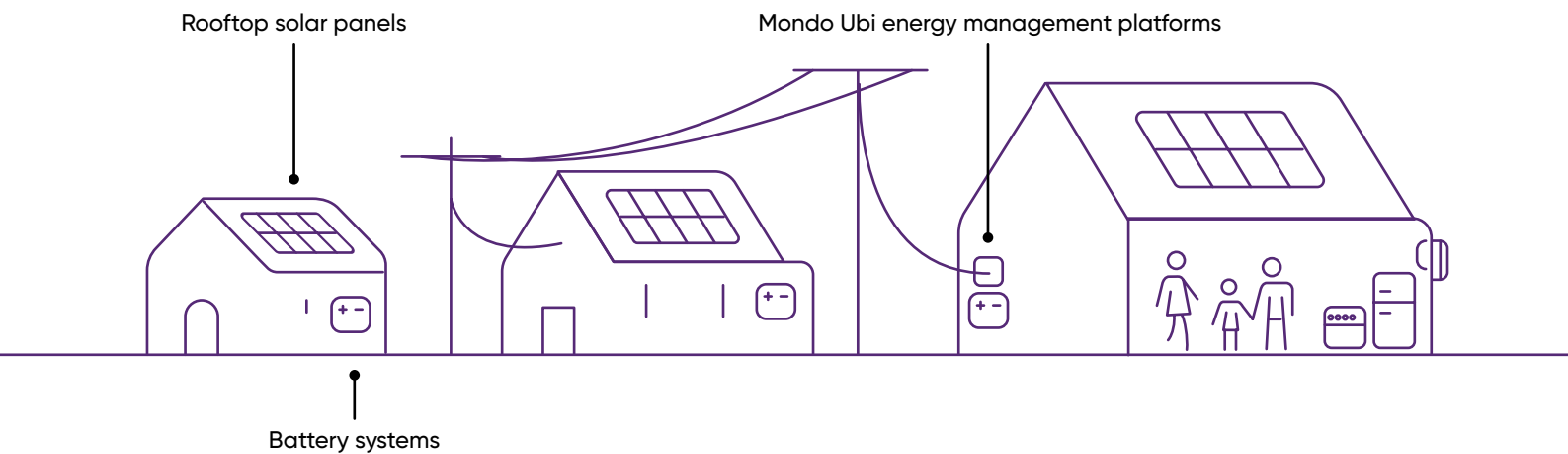
- 1 Ensure that a back-up energy supply is available for essential services and key buildings during emergencies
- 2 Reduce the amount of power outages
- 3 Keep Omeo residents well informed about options for electricity

“

The back up generator at the co-located Ambulance & Fire Station has proved invaluable. Solar power would enhance the location even more so.

Omeo community survey response

”



Stage 3

Omeo residents

! UPCOMING

Stage 3 of the program includes installing solar and battery systems for participating homes by using less energy from the grid and taking pressure off the local energy supply. They also help to reduce carbon emissions and extend the power available in the community during an outage.

Omeo residents will be invited to sign up for the program from November 2023. With a limited number of systems available, residents are advised to join at their earliest convenience.

Omeo township residents will be invited to purchase subsidised:

- Solar and battery systems
- Mondo Ubi energy management platform

Who is eligible?

Subsidised residential solar and battery systems are only available for properties in the area shown

With only a limited number of systems available in Omeo, now is the perfect time to join!



A map of the Omeo region in Victoria, Australia. A large purple circle highlights the area eligible for subsidised residential solar and battery systems. The word "Omeo" is written in the center of the map. A purple airplane icon is located to the east of the town. The map shows roads, rivers, and property boundaries in shades of grey.

Omeo

How much does it cost?

Eligible Omeo residents can secure a subsidised solar and battery system at more than 50% off system value



Regular usage outage protection solar and battery system

Solar panels:

6.8 kW PV Panels (16 x Trina Vertex DE09R.08 425W)

Inverter:

6 kW Fronius Primo Gen24 Plus 6.0 Hybrid Inverter

Battery:

11 kWh BYD B-Box HVM 11.0 Battery

Energy management system:

Mondo Ubi 3.0

Valued at: \$26,000*

Project system prices starting from:

\$10,000*

Larger usage outage protection solar and battery system

Solar panels:

6.8 kW PV Panels (16 x Trina Vertex DE09R.08 425W)

Inverter:

6 kW Fronius Primo Gen24 Plus 6.0 Hybrid Inverter

Battery:

19.3 kWh BYD B-Box HVM 19.3 Battery

Energy management system:

Mondo Ubi 3.0

Valued at: \$30,000*

Project system prices starting from:

\$11,600*

Interested in receiving further savings on your system?

Solar Victoria is assisting households save up to \$1,400 on a solar system purchase price, and additionally, providing \$8,000 on interest free loans for the system.

Check if your property is eligible at:

solar.vic.gov.au/apply



* Subject to site conditions

Mondo Ubi™ energy management platform

Coordinating energy resilience in Omeo

The Mondo Ubi platform is the smart technology used to optimise and coordinate local energy use across the Omeo township. While the Ubi provides great value for people purchasing batteries now, it also provides a foundation for any future work that may occur on microgrids in Omeo, which may power the whole town despite a network outage.

To increase energy resilience in Omeo, the Mondo Ubi platform uses information about the weather to predict when there might be a power outage. If an outage is likely, the platform can remotely charge a property's battery from the grid, helping to maximise local energy storage.

Other Ubi features include:

- Send alerts to inform customers when their batteries are charging.
- Monitor the battery's capacity to ensure enough energy is always available in case of an outage.
- Set and share renewable energy goals.





Frequently Asked Questions

How do solar and batteries work in comparison to using grid energy?

Solar panels generate power from the sun each day, and this powers energy use on the property, what is unused will charge the battery, and any excess is exported to the local electricity grid.

The battery can then power the property when the solar generation fades (thick cloud or overnight) or can power dedicated emergency loads on the site – fridges, lighting for example.

How long will this offer be available for?

The solar and battery offer will only be available until all systems are purchased – we expect that to be within 6 weeks. The solar system should provide useful power for 20+ years and the battery life will typically be between 10 and 15 years)

What are the financing options if I was interested in joining the project?

The systems have financing options available for those interested. Options are shared on request.

How does solar and a battery impact my annual energy bills?

Adding solar and a battery to your property allows greater energy independence from the traditional energy grid. By storing and discharging energy, it means the household will rely less on traditional grid energy, minimizing costs on your bill.

Do I need to contact my energy retailer to tell them I am installing solar if I join the project?

You will need to work with RACV Solar to notify your retailer on your behalf. Once the system is installed, your electricity smart meter will need to be adjusted to record your solar export to the grid and this will be coordinated through the retailer.

Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

What is energy resilience?

A resilient local electricity supply can provide electricity services even when the grid experiences an outage.

What will energy resilience do for Omeo?

This project is building the foundation for a future microgrid in Omeo. This will allow key sites in the township to keep operating even if there is a power outage. Buildings that have solar systems, batteries, and generators will increase the amount of local power.

This means that during an outage, people can still get important services like charging phones/laptops, air conditioning, and shelter. It is important to remember that sites participating in the program are not provided increased fire protection or fire refuge. The purpose is to provide an energy a more resilient power to essential services and critical businesses.

What kinds of energy systems will be installed?

Eligible essential services, critical businesses and residential properties will receive a solar system and battery designed to support their individual energy needs during an outage. In addition, eligible essential services providers can receive a backup generator.

What is a microgrid?

A microgrid is a small 'subset' of the electricity grid that provides energy generation and storage at a local level.

The homes and businesses in a microgrid can have solar panels and batteries. To enable the microgrid, a device called a Mondo Ubi is installed.

This microgrid platform is used to optimise and coordinate energy use.

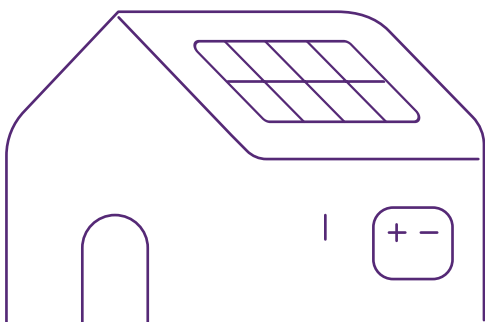
What are the benefits to a microgrid?

- Improve the reliability and resilience of the electricity supply.
- Support energy security in the event of an emergency for the community.
- Reduce reliance on the broader energy system by generating power locally.
- Reduce carbon emissions and improve sustainability.
- Maximise the amount of locally generated solar energy while reducing annual energy bills.

Is the improvement of energy resilience the same thing as going 'off-grid'?

The systems can run specific loads or possibly all loads during network outages but are not designed to disconnect the property from the electricity grid entirely.

Participating properties will have an ongoing supply for key circuits until the batteries run out of power, and generators can then take over. This capability does not prepare the properties to permanently disconnect from the electricity.



Who is behind this program?

The project is funded by the Victorian Government and AusNet Services, delivery in partnership with Mondo, and systems installed by RACV Solar's local teams with the promise to greater Omeo's energy resilience.

Why is joining this program more beneficial than installing a solar system through other solar installers in the market?

The systems will cost substantially below market price due to project subsidies on offer.

What are distributed energy resources?

Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) are local energy generation and storage technologies. These resources include solar panels, batteries, energy storage systems, generators, and heat pumps.

What is a Mondo Ubi?

The Mondo Ubi allows you to stay up to date on how much electricity you are consuming, generating, and storing, so you can understand and control your usage. Mondo Ubi is also the communications device and foundation for community microgrids.

Why do I need an Ubi?

When multiple homes or businesses in an area have a Mondo Ubi, these systems communicate with one another and enable a range of benefits, including the ability to:

- Establish and track locally generated energy
- Compare your energy use and renewable energy generation to your community

What if I already have solar installed on my property? Am I still able to take part?

Where existing solar or solar and batteries systems are installed, it may be possible to integrate these with the Mondo platform. Specific guidance will require a detailed site visit and discussion with our solar installers.

How are the systems sized?

System sizes will vary according to property requirements and the intended function of the microgrid. Each system is designed specifically for your needs and the needs of your community.

Often, systems will be sized larger than needed for your residence to provide additional energy resilience.

The Victorian Government has provided substantial subsidies so that individuals are not disadvantaged.

Can I integrate my current generator with the solar and battery system?

Existing generators cannot be used to charge the planned battery.

Still have questions?

For more project FAQ's, please visit mondo.com.au/omeo



Find out more:

