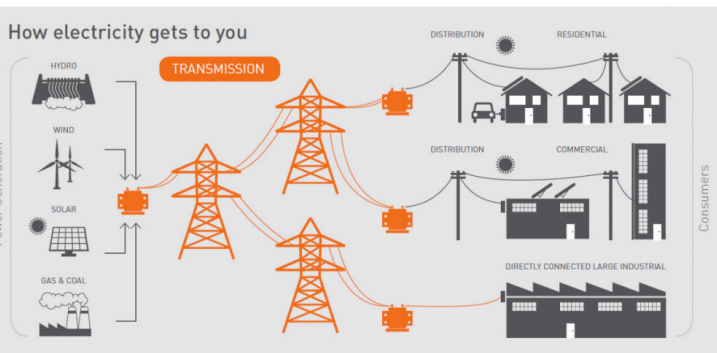


New England Solar and the electricity grid

We had a few questions this month from community members who were interested in how the solar farm works with the local electricity grid that supplies homes and businesses with power.

In NSW it is extremely rare for blackouts to be caused by problems on large scale generating units. However, across the country there has recently been more discussion about the need to replace ageing coal fired stations with new forms of generation, like wind or solar backed up with large batteries, to reduce the likelihood of interruptions caused by breakdowns to old generation units.



This infographic from Energy Networks Australia, shows how the whole system works together to provide homes with a reliable supply of power.

The solar farm is just like any other large scale generator of electricity. To supply power to homes it first needs to connect to the electricity transmission network.

The transmission network then connects with the local distribution network which eventually finds its way into the suburbs and streets in towns and cities across most of Australia.

When there's a power outage that impacts homes and businesses, on the vast majority of occasions it is caused by a fault on the customer premises, or the local distribution network.

Last chance to apply for latest Uralla Grants

Community groups, businesses and individuals have until the end of the week to apply for funding from Uralla Grants for their local project or event.

A total of \$50,000 in funding is available under this latest round of grants, with application for funding of up to \$5,000 being considered.

The Uralla Grants program is part of the Community Benefit Sharing Initiative, which was set up during the planning process for the New England Solar project.

Twenty-six local projects have already been supported under earlier rounds of the grants program.

To apply go to www.newenglandsolarfarm.com.au/urallagrants.

Applications must be submitted by 5pm this Friday October 21.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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