

Green Power Misconceptions

Q. Do I have to install Power Generating Equipment at my home or office?

A. No. There is no need to install anything. You do not need solar panels on the roof, a wind turbine in the front garden or a hydro scheme in the back garden. Your energy supplier will source the power you use directly from these renewable energy suppliers.

Q. Do I need a new electricity meter or changes to my existing electricity meter. A. No.

Q. What do I have to do and how long will this take me to organize.

A. One or two phone calls. Maybe, 5 minutes.

Q. Do I have to change Energy Suppliers?

A. No. You can probably stay with your current supplier. Most major energy suppliers also offer a “green” or “renewable” energy option. You can switch to one of these green options by a simple phone call. There are however several different mixes of renewable energy, from solar, wind and hydro, and at different prices, available so you may wish to take this opportunity to shop around. If you do wish to change supplier, your new supplier will attend to any necessary administration to complete this change over.

Q. How does this “green” electricity get to my house.

A. It doesn't, and it doesn't have to. When you switch to green power, your supplier will purchase the power you use from a renewable energy supply and feed that into the national power grid. Every-time you pay your electricity bill, that money will go to these renewable energy suppliers, supporting them, enabling further development of these energy sources and more importantly, it will not go to one of the traditional coal fired power producers.

Q. How do I know my money will actually reach the renewable energy supplier.

A. There are very strict State and Federal laws to ensure energy producers comply with these obligations and duties. eg. In NSW the pricing and distribution of electricity gas and water is regulated monitored by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) to ensure they fully comply. Failure to do so will incur substantial penalties.

Q. Doesn't “green power” cost a lot more?

A. Not all. Most suppliers offer a range of different products at different prices. eg. A simple option for a combination of Wind and Hydro Power will cost an additional fee of \$2 per week (including GST), less than a cup of coffee. This is a small price to pay to avoid pumping in excess of 10 tons of carbon dioxide per annum into the atmosphere from the average Australian home.

Q. Do I have to enter a long term contract?

A. No. Some Energy companies offer slightly better prices if you enter a contract, both for traditional power or for green energy. This is optional.

Q. Is “green “ power as powerful or as effective as coal fired power?

A. Yes. The strength, quality and reliability of power coming into your home will not change at all.

Major Electricity Suppliers in Australia (toll-free numbers):

Company	Telephone Number
Energy Australia	13 1535
Ergon Energy	13 1046
Integral Energy	13 1002
Jackgreen	1300 465225
Origin Energy	13 2463
Tru Energy	13 3466
AGL	13 1245
Country Energy	13 2356
Energex	1300 304972