

Aim

The purpose of the association is to reduce the generation of greenhouse gases in the Mitchell Shire community and foster greater awareness of climate change issues. To help meet these aims the following broad strategies are being followed:

1. Secure funding from within the community and from elsewhere for renewable energy and energy conservation projects.
2. Build community participation, empowerment and pride by working together on those projects.
3. Strengthen the local economy by using local enterprises and labour and capital.
4. Keep the funds generated in the community through savings in power costs.
5. Promote the acquisition of suitable skills and training for people living in the shire.
6. Ensure that benefits arising from projects are accessible by members of the communities in which they are undertaken.

Who can join?

Anyone with an interest in the promotion and development of renewable energy within the Mitchell Shire community.



Fees

Individual membership \$20
Family Membership \$30

Contact us

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mitchell
community
energy inc

Empowering the Mitchell Community



Seymour

Example Projects

Trawool PHES

This project would provide a Pumped Hydro Energy Storage solution by adapting a disused water reservoir and pumping facilities to store energy for use in the electrical supply system.

A study by Melbourne Energy Institute of Melbourne University, funded by a grant from the Victorian Government, showed that the scheme could supply 6MW for 6 hours and provide a reasonable return of 7% on the investment. However, the advent of batteries superseded the scheme. [Melbourne Energy Institute, Melbourne University August 2017]



Trawool reservoir

Karingal Elderly Citizen's Hostel

A 99kWh solar system on Karingal is providing savings of more than \$25,000 per annum. MCE conducted the feasibility work, developed the specifications, evaluated tenders, and had its recommendations accepted.



Karingal hostel

Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre.

In 2016, Mitchell Shire Council was convinced by Sustainability Seymour, the forerunner of MCE, to have a study done that led to the installation of 99 kW of PV panels on the Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre. It paid for itself in 3 1/2 years.



Seymour Sports and Aquatic Centre

Projects in Progress

Some other projects in various stages of progress are:

- Solar panels over the SSAC carpark to supply the SSAC electrical demand and shade cars. Opportunities at other car parks are also being explored.
- Replace the gas water heaters at SSAC by heat pumps.
- A solar farm on the old tip site in Hume and Hovell Road.
- An electric vehicle charger in Seymour.

Services offered

Group members can assist with:

- Energy assessments and recommendations for homes
- Energy assessment and recommendations for commercial enterprises
- Garnering support for Community Energy projects within the Mitchell Shire
- Advice at our Energy Hub on ways of reducing energy costs and related matters