



Solar PV Connection Process

Solar PV systems, along with wind and hydro systems for example, are collectively referred to as Inverter Energy Systems (IES). When connected to the network, these systems can supply your power needs, and feed electricity back onto the grid.

Follow these simple steps to purchasing and connecting your solar PV system:

1. Choose the right system for your needs

If you're looking to install a solar PV system at your home, you'll need to contact a supplier to find a system that suits your needs.

2. Lodge an application to connect your system

Before having your solar PV system installed, you will need to secure approval from Solomon Power for your system to be installed and connected to the grid.

To begin, you'll need to submit an *Application for Network Connection of an Inverter Energy System* to Solomon Power.

This application process only applies to systems under 10kW in size. Applications for systems larger than 30kW must be made through Solomon Power directly

While the application is usually made by your system retailer or installer, as the electricity account holder you must provide your consent. Forms must be completed in full as relevant. Incomplete forms may be rejected.

3. Assess application

Solomon Power will conduct a preliminary evaluation of your application based on the size of inverter and the nature of the local network serving the premises. A technical assessment may be required to check for any potential adverse impacts to the network, your premises, or your neighbours' premises.

Solomon Power may require up to five weeks to technically assessing applications for systems that require connection to a Solomon Power isolated generation system in Honiara or in a remote area or community.

Find out more about Solomon Power's assessment on *Outline of Solar Assessment Criteria*.

4. Approve, downsize or decline application

Solomon Power will downsize or decline an application if it presents risks to the network or to individual premises. In some areas, even a small number of solar PV systems in the same area or a single large system could impact on the local electricity network.

Find out more about your options if your system application is downsized or declined.

If no adverse impacts are identified Solomon Power will approve the connection of your solar PV system and issue two copies of an *IES Network Agreement*. For details on the terms and conditions of connecting to the Solomon Power network under this agreement, view a sample IES Network Agreement.

This agreement outlines the terms and conditions for the connection of the solar PV system to the Solomon Power distribution network. It is a legally binding agreement between Solomon Power and the electricity account holder/s. Please read the terms and conditions carefully and seek legal advice where necessary.

You will need to sign both copies of the IES Agreement front page and return one to Solomon Power. You will then be free to arrange installation.

5. Install and connect the solar PV system

Once you have returned your IES Agreement, your system can be installed, and connected to the grid by an electrical contractor. Most installers are also electrical contractors.

Solomon Power strongly encourages the use of an installer accredited with the Australian Clean Energy Council or equivalent.

6. Request to connect electricity meter

Your installer or electrical contractor will notify Solomon Power of the new solar PV system connection and lodge a request for an appropriate electricity meter to be installed at your premises.

Solomon Power will endeavour to install new meters as quickly as possible. However, there may be delays in installing new meters in some areas.

7. Install electricity meter

To complete the process, Solomon Power will inspect your new solar PV system connection and install the appropriate electricity meter.

This meter allows Solomon Power to measure how much electricity you draw in from the grid and how much your solar PV system exports into the grid. **NOTE:** Solomon Power does not purchase any exported energy.

Your electricity meter will not measure the total amount of electricity generated by your solar PV system.

Solomon Power will then alter your Electricity Account as per the Network Agreement.