

# Renewable Energy and Environmentally Sustainable Design Case Studies

## Don Bosco - PV

**Site:** Sydney Road, Brunswick

**Dates:**

- Stage A: 4.8 kWp System: November 2000
- Stage B: 2.25 kWp System: November 2001

**Client:**

Don Bosco Youth Centre

**Project Goals:**

Installation a large grid-connected PV system.

**Project Features:**

The Don Bosco PV system was one of the first large-scale PV installations in Victoria, forming part of the CitiPower '100 Roof Programs'. Whilst Going Solar had been involved with Remote Area Power Systems (RAPS) in rural areas for the previous twenty years, to tackle the then emerging demand for grid-connected systems a consortium, Allied Solar, was established.

Grid-connected systems are substantially different to RAPS systems and new rules had to be instituted in conjunction with the power utilities for the safe integration with the reticulated power grid.

Allied Solar's role was to help establish the new ground rules, particularly with emerging technologies such as grid-interactive inverters and mounting systems for PV laminates. At that time also, the occupational health and safety (OH&S) requirements were being strengthened and Allied Solar established safe working procedures to suit the requirements of our industry. The roof at Don Bosco was approximately three storeys above the ground so safety harnesses were used, ladders were secured and the ground below cleared.

Initially 60 PV panels were installed with the assistance of a community grants scheme, and shortly after an additional 30 were installed. Excess power is fed into grid. A display monitor and information screen was installed at ground level to inform residents and visitors on the system operation.

**Project Team:**

- Alan Barlee, Director, Solar Rays
- Stephen Ingrouille, General Manager, Going Solar

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Don Bosco



Roof Mounted PV Panels



Detail of PV Mounting Frame

Grid-connected inverters with safety switches and labels



Ground floor monitor and information booth

