

## Owners Corporation West Melbourne

### Sky high energy savings

In December 2016, Ecotech Energy was selected to design and install a grid connect solar power system on behalf of the Owners Corporation of a block of 40 apartments in West Melbourne. The main goal was to supply a system that would help reduce the ever-increasing costs associated with the supply of energy to the common areas in the building.

Logistically, the installation was challenging as all equipment needed to be lifted to the roof area being five levels above the street. This posed significant risk factors for the installers; therefore, comprehensive safety and planning were integral to the completion of the job.

A challenge of the job was the connection of the solar panels to the inverters and main metering board, which is located on the ground level adjacent to the pool and separate from the main building. In order to overcome this issue the design team were able to mount the inverter in a secure area at the top of the building and utilize the service void behind the lift shaft to run the AC cables from the roof to the basement car park and then through existing cable tray across the car park space to the MSWB using existing penetrations. It had become known through Ecotech’s design phase that this issue was a major barrier to other Solar Companies.

Dr. Peter Gerrand, the Owners Corporation Chairman concluded, “The Committee had reviewed other proposals and chose Ecotech Energy based on their detailed attention to our needs plus their problem solving ability. The clincher was their financial model, enabling us to pay off the system with monthly payments less than our estimated monthly power savings. The installed system works even better than expected, generating 100kWh on sunny days.”

To find out more about a solar power system to suit your needs call Ecotech Energy any time on 1300 944 354.

### Project Overview

<b>Location</b>	18-30 Dudley St West Melbourne, Vic 3002
<b>Completed</b>	February 2017
<b>Installation Type</b>	Commercial roof mount
<b>System Size</b>	15.08 kWp
<b>Number of Panels</b>	58 x JA Solar 260w poly-crystalline panels
<b>Inverters</b>	1 x Fronius SYMO 12.5-3M Three Phase Inverter
<b>Monitoring</b>	1 x Fronius 3 Phase SMART METER
<b>Mounting System</b>	Clenergy Racking System and Tilt Frames
<b>Estimated Power Produced</b>	59kWh per day 21,500kWh per annum
<b>Estimated Power Reduction</b>	50-60% of base load
<b>Estimated Carbon Offset</b>	23 tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> - per annum