

MEDIA RELEASE

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Solar boost for WA charities enters third year

Solar power will provide a welcome boost for Western Australian not-for-profit groups through the latest round of Synergy's Community Solar Fund.

Ten WA charities have already been gifted a total 200kW of free renewable energy through the donation and installation of roof-top solar PV systems since 2018.

Established to make renewable energy more accessible for not-for-profit organisations, the fund gifts individually-tailored solar systems to the successful groups, enabling them to reinvest energy savings into their valuable community programs.

Announcing the opening of applications for the latest round of grants, Synergy's CEO Jason Waters said continuing to support vital community organisations through the investment in solar energy was an important part of Synergy's commitment to its customers.

"It's exciting to see the significant savings made by previous recipients of the Synergy Community Solar Fund and to know that these organisations will receive ongoing, long-term benefits from renewable energy," Mr Waters said.

"This is a win for the whole community, as more funds can then be directed into programs where they are needed the most."

Not-for-profit and community groups can apply for a rooftop solar grant via the Synergy website, before 1 April 2020.

All eligible applicants will receive a free energy audit, which will provide energy saving tips and help them further assess their overall energy use.

The 2020 recipients of the Synergy Community Solar Fund will be notified in July, with the SolarReturn systems to be installed by December.

The recipients of the Synergy Community Solar Fund for 2019 were:

- Orana House
- Wheatbelt National Resource Management
- PCYC Gosnells
- Native Animal Rescue

These organisations can collectively save up to \$45,000 a year off their energy bills from the solar PV donation.

To apply or for more information, visit www.synergy.net.au/solarfund.

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Media contact: Carolyn Herbert 0447 195 714 media@synergy.net.au

About Synergy

As Western Australia's leading energy generator and retailer, Synergy is an essential and trusted provider of electricity and gas. Utilising our diverse energy generation portfolio, Synergy supplies reliable and affordable energy to more than one million residential and business customers.

Synergy owns and operates electricity generating assets, including thermal power stations, spanning from Kalbarri in the north, out to Kalgoorlie in the east and down to Albany in the south – an electricity network known as the South West Interconnected System (SWIS).

Owned by the Government of Western Australia, Synergy proudly supports the people of Western Australia and plays an active role in the communities in which we operate. Synergy's purpose is clear – to lead Western Australians to their intelligent energy future. For more information visit <u>www.synergy.net.au</u>.