

Welcome to FNB23!

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Australian
National
University



ENERGY
CONSUMERS
AUSTRALIA



Image credit: Western Power



Acknowledgement of Country

I acknowledge and celebrate the First Nations custodians of the land on which we meet, and pay my respect to Elders past and present.

In Canberra, this is the Ngunnawal and Ngambri People.





Session 1



Image credit: Western Power

01 Recap from last year

02 A year on, where are we at?

03 Keynote address – Kerry Schott AO

04 Q & A



Housekeeping

- Parents room
- Emergency exits
- Please see the conference program for bios
- Please make time to visit the posters



This project was funded by Energy Consumers Australia (www.energyconsumersaustralia.com.au) as part of its grants process for consumer advocacy projects and research projects for the benefit of energy consumers.

The context



- More than half of future battery storage expected to be in our houses and suburbs
- Most will need to be coordinated and dispatchable

Themes from last year's conference

The importance of:

- Trialing different models of ownership/operation
- Transparency & community benefits for taxpayer funded batteries



A year on ...





THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY BATTERY IS ONE COMI TO YOU?

NEWS

Regional towns look to community battery renewable energy solution

ABC Ballarat / By Rochelle Kirkham
Posted Thu 4 Aug 2022 at 6:44am



Central Coast receives first community battery

Kody Cook, November 8, 2023, Batteries &
Storage, Electricity, News, Projects,
Renewable Energy, Spotlight, 0

Ausgrid has installed a new community
battery in Narara on the Central Coast,
the second battery under the Federal...



In a Eurobodalla first, community battery to reduce energy bills for Maloneys Beach households

2 June 2023 | Katrina Candler

Join the conversation

7



NEWS
COMMUNITY
BATTERIES



Community battery plan for Noosville welcomed

Zero Emissions Noosa Inc has welcomed
last Thursday's announcement by Climate
Change and Energy Shadow Minister Chris
Bowen that Noosville would be the site of
a community battery under a Labor govern-
ment.
According to Mr Bowen: "In Noosville 60
per cent of people have solar panels on the
roof. That's higher than the national average
because of beautiful temperature, beautiful
and sunny. People are harnessing that solar
energy for their own needs, but of all those
1700 people or so who have solar panels on
the roof, only 30 have a battery, and that
means they're missing out on savings and
missing out on emissions reduction."
"Under an Albanese Labor Government,
we will install a community battery here in
Noosville. This will reduce emissions, re-
duce power bills. It'll give people the option
of signing up for a battery without the ex-

pense of installing one in their own home. It's
a win-win, win. It's good for household bills,
good for emissions reduction, good for en-
ergy grid stabilisation."
Zero Emissions Noosa Inc chair Arne Ken-
nedy said, "Zero Emissions Noosa Inc has
been working for some time on having a com-
munity battery or batteries in the Noosa Shire
power for use when the sun doesn't shine."
"A community battery will reduce their
power bills, reduce emissions and enable the
solar power generated in the local area to be
used in the local area."
Mr Bowen said the batteries being an-
nounced would, in the future, be joined by
other community batteries that were commu-
nity-led.



Left to right: Geoff Acton, Meghan Halverson, Arne Kennedy, Chris Bowen and Geoff Williams.

APPLIANCES COMMUNITIES INDUSTRY

Why we need to fight for the "community" in community batteries

Author
Sally Hunter
Managing Director, GeniEnergy
November 27, 2023



Why the ‘community’ battery is a Ponzi scheme

Tristan Edis *Researcher*



Community batteries are popular – but we have to make sure they actually help share power






Published: May 17, 2023 6:10am AEST

 **Tom Geiser** · 2nd Country Manager A...
2d ·  [+ Follow](#)

Despite the catchy name "community" batteries are more expensive and less valuable in each use case. No, you can't avoid controlling your roofc ...see more



Why community batteries are a bad idea
switchedon.reneweconomy.com.au · 3 min read

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COMMUNITIES APPLIANCES HOUSES

Why community batteries are a bad idea

With a surge in public interest in community batteries, we look at why they are unlikely to realise the promise of true community empowerment.

Author

Richard Keech
Consultant in building energy efficiency and renewable energy

November 27, 2023

Found this useful?
[Share it!](#)

And some (hopefully helpful) critical analysis ...



Neighbourhood battery trials

- Federal government trial -- \$200M, 400 neighbourhood batteries
- Victorian state government trial – \$50M, 100 neighbourhood batteries promised
- [ANU neighbourhood-battery knowledge hub](#) and evaluation framework

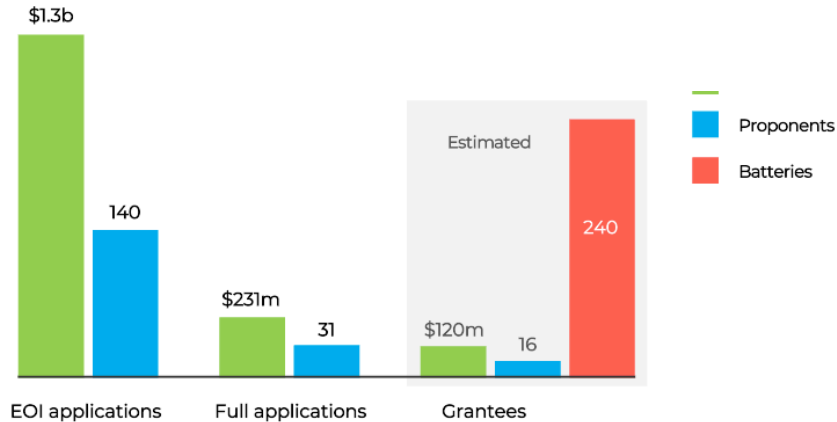


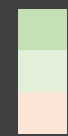
Figure credit Jon Sibley

ARENA's community battery funding rounds:

- Round 1 \$120M “scale and speed”, funding for DNSPs and non-DNSPs
- Round 2 \$51M, slower and informed by Round 1

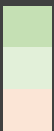


Challenge/barrier	Solution
Tariffs – postage stamp pricing	Trial community battery tariffs, DNSPs looking to move from trial to set tariffs in next EDPR
DNSPs can't own battery that's used for 'contestable services'	Ringfencing waiver allows distributors to lease battery capacity to third parties
Who will own them? concern about monopoly participation (DNSPs) non-competitive	ARENA & Vic Gov set aside two streams of funding. For DNSPs and non-DNSPs and for network outcomes and community outcomes
Political interference, hasty implementation, inappropriate funding	Transparency & accountability – ARENA reporting requirements
Limited network data – information asymmetry between network businesses and others	Require networks to publish constraint maps indicating where they are likely to pay for network support. Some DNSPs are doing this already


 largely solved
 partially solved
 unsolved



Challenge/barrier	Solution
Losing the 'community' in community batteries	Co-design – embed values and energy future visions Community support & benefits Targeted training for councils and community groups to help them get projects up
Costs -- projects don't stack up	Scaling-up, aggregation, new revenue streams, reducing battery costs. Supporting different models to help a variety of projects develop business cases (Vic Gov are doing this)
Additional revenue streams needed	New mechanisms for providing capacity & network services
Complex, potentially unfair and unsustainable billing arrangements with customers	Focus on how to pass benefits to households in simple ways e.g. reduced energy & network costs, increased solar exports, flexible export limits, community grants, EV charging, increased reliability
Land access - limited land and councils unaccustomed to land leasing arrangements	Working with Councils
Insurance costs	Aggregation, education, experience


 largely solved
 partially solved
 unsolved



Our goals for today:

- Challenge ourselves and challenge each other – what problem do neighbourhood batteries uniquely solve and where are other solutions better?
- Update the table – what other challenges/barriers are there, what has been solved?
- Keeping the community in community batteries -- how to ensure the roll-out is consistent with what the community wants and expects?



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Algorithms for all

Thank you

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