



# Climate Action case study

## Irene and Anne's electrification journey



MORNINGTON  
PENINSULA  
Shire

*“Going electric is just amazing.*

*Environmentally, it's better for the atmosphere. It's also good for our health.*

*We have saved hundreds per year because we don't pay any gas bills.” – Anne*

### Background

Local Mornington Peninsula residents Irene and Anne\* talk with us about the changes they've made to reduce their energy bills and make their home more comfortable and sustainable. (\*Names have been changed).

They share their experiences of upgrading a number of appliances including switching to an induction stove, replacing their old gas heater with a reverse cycle air conditioner and installing a heat pump hot water system and how this has saved them an average of \$800 per year on their bills.

Because they have solar and are all-electric, they no longer have any gas bills. What a win!

#### Why did you go all electric?

**Anne:** “We made a conscious decision for the environment to electrify our home.

We more recently found out about the health benefits of not having gas in the home. Gas cooktops are associated with asthma and other health issues, so we thought: ‘Oh, that's a good thing not to have it!’.”

### The Story

**What were the steps you took to becoming all-electric?**

**Irene:** “We got a 5KW solar system before 2010, when there was no rebate. But we still get the feed-in tariff, so we don't pay any power bills at all. We try to use power during the day, like the dishwasher and washing machine, when the sun is out. We also got the Power Pal mobile app which I use to monitor our power daily”.

**Irene:** Our house is an old beach house. It was very leaky in terms of draughts. So, one of the first steps was to insulate under the floors.

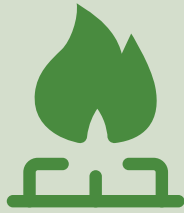
**Anne:** “Then we got an induction cooktop. Irene does most of the cooking and she loves it. It's quick and easy to clean. Much easier than the gas. Very happy.”

**Irene:** “We used to have a gas heater, which wasn't very good. We replaced it with a reverse-cycle air conditioner that we use for heating and cooling the main living room.

We recently got rid of our gas hot water system, which was more than 20 years old. We got a rebate from the State Government's Victorian Energy Upgrades to put in a heat pump and it's really good. And it is much cheaper to run, because of the solar. We've never had any problems having no hot water, even when we have guests. We've disconnected from gas now. We've still got the meter here, but we don't have to pay the gas charge.”



## Fast facts

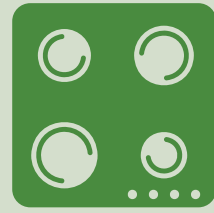


**Gas stovetops** can harm human health.

See: [bit.ly/abc-news-gas-risks](https://bit.ly/abc-news-gas-risks)



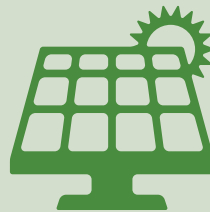
Well-sealed, insulated homes heat and cool well, which saves money.



**Induction cooking** is fast, safe, efficient and precisely heated.



**Reverse-cycle air conditioners:** efficient and cost-effective.



Going all-electric with solar saves around **\$1,250 a year.**



Single-paned windows lose **10x more heat** than an insulated wall.

## Next steps

Now that Irene and Anne have an all-electric home, they want to upgrade their windows to double glazed ones. Irene notes: "You can put your hand on our windows and feel the cold air coming in".

**Irene:** "When we lose the solar tariff, we want to upgrade our solar system and put in a battery, using the State Government's solar rebate. We think our next car will be an electric vehicle.

### What are the benefits of electrification?

**Anne:** "Going electric is just amazing. Environmentally, it's better for the atmosphere and for future generations. It's also good for our health.

We have saved hundreds per year because we don't pay any gas bills."

## For more information

View the Shire's 'Go electric action plan' and learn more:  
[mornpen.vic.gov.au/electrify](https://mornpen.vic.gov.au/electrify)

'Energy Support' grants are available for eligible residents:  
[mornpen.vic.gov.au/climategrant](https://mornpen.vic.gov.au/climategrant)

Enjoy household rebates via Victorian Energy Upgrades:  
[bit.ly/vic-energy-upgrades](https://bit.ly/vic-energy-upgrades)

Solar rebate:  
[solar.vic.gov.au/solar-panel-rebate](https://solar.vic.gov.au/solar-panel-rebate)

Got a rental?  
[bit.ly/solar-rebate-rental](https://bit.ly/solar-rebate-rental)

Battery rebate:  
[solar.vic.gov.au/solar-battery-loan](https://solar.vic.gov.au/solar-battery-loan)

Get advice from Repower, a local community organisation helping residents with decarbonisation:  
[repowermornpen.org.au](https://repowermornpen.org.au)

Apply for a free energy consultation at your local library or via video link:  
[mornpen.vic.gov.au/energyconsultation](https://mornpen.vic.gov.au/energyconsultation)

Borrow a home energy kit and other tools from Shire libraries:  
[mornpen.vic.gov.au/homeenergykits](https://mornpen.vic.gov.au/homeenergykits)

Visit the Eco Living Display Centre:  
[mornpen.vic.gov.au/ecocentre](https://mornpen.vic.gov.au/ecocentre)

Check out the Powerpal app:  
[powerpal.net/app/](https://powerpal.net/app/)

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