

Good News Friday Edition 2 – Happy Earth Day 2022



EARTH DAY 2022 – 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY IN CANBERRA

A little known fact from our own backyard is that Canberra (ACT) is powered by 100% renewable energy– just before we went into Covid Lockdown. (Really, I hear you say?) Yes, since March 2020 all houses (dwellings 115,000 approx), all businesses and even Parliament House is powered by clean energy. In 2012, the ACT Government set out a target to be 100% renewable by 2020. By 2016, they had secured contracts for the construction of all the wind and solar resources necessary to achieve their 2020 vision using an interesting mechanism of “reverse auctions” ([Canberra 100% Renewable - leading innovation \(act.gov.au\)](https://www.act.gov.au/canberra-100-renewable-leading-innovation))

A big part of this great achievement was the rise of community owned solar farm projects like Solar Share, where around 600 Canberrans invested in the project. (see 3 minute video link below)

[Renewables roadshow – Canberra: '100% renewable by 2020. It will happen' – video - Bing video](#)

But wait there is more! ... They are taking leadership and becoming a world leader in climate action with the adoption of:

- hydrogen technology with a fleet of 20 hydrogen vehicles and the first hydrogen refuelling station in Australia (March 2021)
- the testing of the natural gas pipeline & gas appliances with mixtures of hydrogen (since 2020)
- Renewable suburbs trial will be supplied with rooftop solar and community batteries with smart technologies so these can easily interact with the electricity network and supply (share) energy in the local area between residences and businesses. (commencing a pilot in “Ginninderry”)
- the testing of integrating electric vehicle batteries to support the renewable electricity network

- installation of the Canberra Big Battery (under construction) to support the renewable electricity network

Who would have thought all this was possible from the administration of the nation's capital? Congratulations to all involved in making it happen!