

Noosa's green aspirations

Aspire Property Management have installed 125 kW of solar across three commercial properties they own in Noosa Junction.

Zero Emissions Noosa met with director Dave Langdon to find out more. Dave told us that the buildings are home to Aspire and eleven other tenants. He says Aspire was created to not only manage their own property portfolio, but also other properties in the same way that they expect as owners.

The solar installations are 55kW at 24 Lan-yana Way, 35kW at 10 Sunshine Beach Road and another 35kW just connected down the road at number 32.

Each site has embedded networks which means Aspire is the provider of power to the 12 tenants at a low 15 cents per kWh.

Dave says: "I like the idea of being self-sufficient and creating a differentiation for us as a landlord to our tenants. We've got some that are saving \$3-4,000 a year, which just seems a ridiculous opportunity. I still reckon we're making 12-13%."

"And we're carbon neutral. There's ebbs and flows, but on an annual basis, the 125kW is effectively supplying the three buildings. We're roughly producing what everyone's using. All three sites export during the day and whatever we export is more than what we use at night."

Dave also says by the end of next year he thinks every site will have batteries. "It's really to do with continuity of use because the batteries will shape out the fluctuations in energy generated and used."

He also sees a future where much of the electricity for the Junction can be generated locally.

"We've got big roof spaces with Coles and IGA - enough roof space to run the area, because most of the Junction is day use. As an investment company we'll definitely have every property running off its own grid. It's just a no brainer. Why wouldn't you do it, you'd be crazy not to."

CATCHING THE SUNSHINE - POSTCODE 4567

Noosa Heads and the beach suburbs of Sunshine, Sunrise and Castaways Beach make up postcode 4567, and is the feature in Zero



Aspire's Dave Langdon.

Emission Noosa's tracking of how different postcode localities are moving towards the goal of zero community emissions for Noosa by 2026.

Local resident and ZEN Board Member Geoff Acton says: "Although the postcode has lower uptake of solar than other areas, it's really pleasing to see that the amount of solar has increased by almost 70% over the last 2 years, and it's great to see growing installations in the commercial and tourism sectors."

Postcode 4567 is home to just over 20% of people in the Noosa Council area, with total solar installed at 10.2 MW - more than 35,000 panels.

Almost one in three residential dwellings have solar, and almost a quarter of businesses have made the solar investment. Only about 8% of potential roof space is being used, so there's plenty of space for more solar.



Aspire from the street.

Picture: SUPPLIED

Noosa Councillor Amelia Lorentson also lives in the postcode area and says: "My husband is the commercial manager of Page Furnishers at Pomona that houses 850 solar panels. The benefits of solar do not need to be sold to us! We are currently investigating installing solar panels for home."

The solar on roofs and other renewable generation saves about 18,000 tonnes of CO2 per year, but clean electricity at 20% is lower compared to other areas.

Details can be found at zeroemissionsnoosa.com.au/4567

Next time we'll look at postcode 4568 which takes in Federal, Pinbarren and Pomona.



Aspire's solar installation.