

**Even if power has been cut to your property, your solar power system still has the potential for a safety risk if affected by a flood.**

Small scale solar systems have been the most popular embedded generation installations for Essential Energy. In recent years Essential Energy has seen exponential growth in roof top solar power systems installations.

## Preparing for a flood

The shutdown procedure should be marked on your inverter or meter box. A general shutdown procedure is as follows

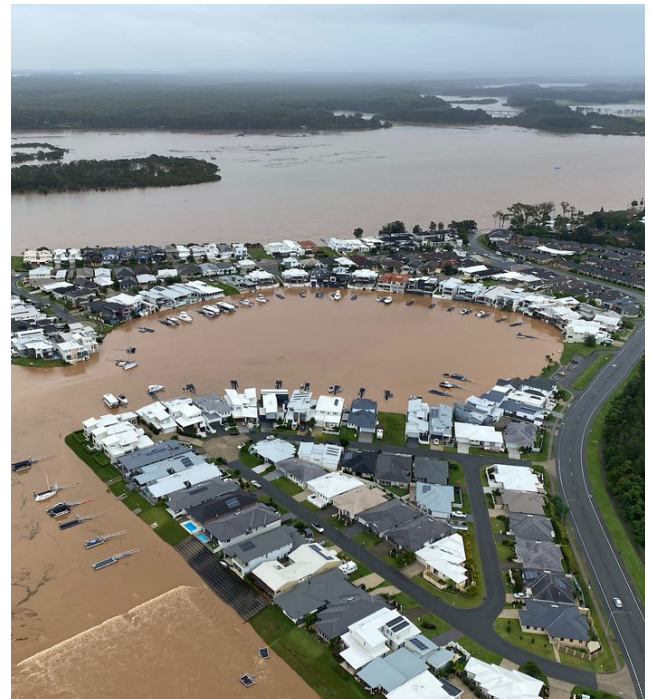
1. Turn off the inverter AC mains isolator. This is usually found in the meter box.
2. Turn off the PV array isolator. This is usually found next to the inverter.
3. If there is a risk that the water level could reach the inverters and cables, arrange to turn off the roof top array isolator, if fitted.

## During a flood

Do not attempt to turn your solar system off if any of the components are covered in water or if parts of the system are still wet. This could result in a serious safety risk.

## After a flood

- > Do not attempt to operate any switches. Residual moisture from the floodwaters may have caused your solar power system to become live. You could potentially suffer a serious or lethal electric shock, even if the power is still out in your area.
- > Contact a Clean Energy Council accredited installer and ask them to recommission the system for you.
- > If an installer is not available, contact a licensed electrical contractor who can test your system to ensure that it is safe.
- > Your inverter should be replaced if it has been submerged or partly submerged.



## Supporting Solar energy

Essential Energy is committed to supporting renewable energy, in particular solar. Essential Energy has seen large amounts of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) connect to our network. In 2020 Essential Energy has approved over 23,000 applications which involved the connection of solar and 24% of premises on our network have solar PV panels.



# Small Scale Solar Connections

## Flood Safety



### Reconnection process

1. Contact Essential Energy for advice regarding next steps to be reconnected to the network.
2. Customers will be provided with a Premise Restoration Verification Certificate when disconnected. This should be completed by the electrical contractor in the following step.
3. Customers to engage an Accredited Service Provider (ASP)/ electrical contractor. The ASP/electrical contractor conducts a safety inspection of the installation.
4. The ASP/electrical contractor will provide a Certificate of Compliance - Electrical Work (CCEW) and the completed Premise Restoration Verification Certificate to indicate it is safe for the ASP to reconnect.
5. The Level 2 ASP reconnects to the network and submits a Notification of Service Work (NOSW) to Essential Energy.

For more information [www.essentialenergy.com.au/our-network/floods/flood-reconnecting](http://www.essentialenergy.com.au/our-network/floods/flood-reconnecting)



### Important contacts

SES - 13 25 00

Clean Energy Council - 03 9929 4100

List of ASP's

[www.energysaver.nsw.gov.au/households/you-and-energy-providers/installing-or-altering-your-electricity-service](http://www.energysaver.nsw.gov.au/households/you-and-energy-providers/installing-or-altering-your-electricity-service)

Electrical contractors can be found in local directories