



Education and Training

Amaroo School

Katherine Avenue

Amaroo ACT 2914

Phone: (02) 61421266 Fax: (02) 61421295



AMAROO SCHOOL – 600kw solar photovoltaic installation

I am pleased to announce some exciting news to the school community.

Amaroo School will be leasing its roof space to a solar company, contributing to the supply of renewable energy in the ACT.

The school received a proposal in October 2014 from a solar energy company, Solar Choice, for the installation of a 600kW roof mounted solar panel system. The school has since worked with the Education and Training Directorate to ensure that the proposal is a good fit for the school.

The school roof space will now be leased to Solar Choice to allow for the installation of a world-class solar panel system. The was finalised on Tuesday, 18 August 2015 between the Directorate and a new energy supply company named Amaroo Solar Pty Ltd.

The Agreement is for an initial period of 20 years with an option to extend for a further 5 years. The school will receive income from Amaroo Solar Pty Ltd over the life of the Agreement. These funds will be used for the benefit of our students into the future.

When installed, the new roof mounted solar panel system will place Amaroo School at the forefront in its environmental sustainability credentials, with the largest roof mounted system in the ACT and the largest system at an Australian school. This will be a proud achievement for the school.

This 600kW solar panel system will also contribute to the ACT Government's target of 90% renewable energy in the ACT by 2060.

Please find attached further information on the solar panel system to be installed at Amaroo School. We will be providing regular updates in school newsletters.

Julie Cooper

Julie Cooper

A/g Principal

21 August 2015



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q1. Why was Amaroo School selected as the site for the installation?

A1. The proposal was initiated by the private sector and is unique to Canberra. The characteristics of the Amaroo School site (age, orientation, roof area) were identified by Solar Choice as ideal for a large roof-mounted solar panel system.

Q2. How large is the system?

A2. The system is 600kW. This will be largest roof mounted solar panel system in the ACT and the largest solar panel system on an Australian school site.

Q3. What will the solar panel system look like?

A3. A 3D flyover of the system is available through this link <https://goo.gl/nbGZAG>

Q4. How long is the Licence Agreement for?

A4. The Agreement is for an initial period of 20 years with an option to extend the Agreement for a further 5 years.

Q5. What income will Amaroo School receive through the Licence Agreement?

A5. The school will receive \$25,000 each year for 20 years for the use of the roof space at Amaroo School. After this period, the school will have the option to purchase the solar energy at a significantly reduced cost.

Q6. What will the funding be used for?

A6. As the income is being generated by the school building, it will be used to undertake further environmental sustainability initiatives and general building maintenance works.

Q7. What happens to the system at the end of the Agreement period?

A7. The Agreement ensures that the school will be returned to its original state when the solar panels are removed. The school infrastructure will not be impaired.

Q8. Will the school be solar powered?

A8. No. The electricity generated will be fed into the ACT electricity grid. The agreement is for the use of roof space and not the purchase of solar generated energy. After the initial 20 year period, the school will however have the opportunity to buy solar power at a significantly discounted rate.

Q9. When will the installation work commence?

A9. Work to install the solar panels is expected to commence at the end of Term 3 and be completed by the end of Term 4.



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Q10. Will the school's operations be affected by the installation work?

A10. The school's operations are the priority. Works involving noise will be limited to outside of school hours. Minor noise at an acceptable level may occur during the school day.

Q11. Will the school grounds be safe during the installation works?

A11. As is the case with all works on school sites, the installation company is required to prepare a Safe Work Method Statement. The school and Directorate will monitor the contactor's compliance with this.

To avoid any risk of injury to students, staff and visitors, some areas of the school where works are occurring will be fenced off. This is not expected to affect students' learning areas.

Q12. How will the school community be kept informed?

A15. Regular updates on the progress of the installation work will be included in the school newsletter.

Q13. Who can I ask for more information?

A16. You can contact the school on (02) 61421266 or Dr. Kendra Wasiluk, Senior Project Officer Environmental Sustainability on (02) 6207 8364 or kendra.wasiluk@act.gov.au