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HERALD NEWS

## Project reflects positive energy

By LISA BARRITT-EYLES

THIS week's soaring temperatures provided the perfect setting for the roll out of Australia's biggest community bulk solar installation project.

Climate Action Newcastle organised the project, which has facilitated the installation of 290 solar systems in the region.

Bulk solar project coordinator Ian Wilcox said other community-based solar projects stopped at 250 systems, but Climate Action Newcastle plans to continue the program until the Federal Government's rebate offer expires at the end of June.

Up to \$8000 for a 1kW system is available where the household taxable family income is less than \$100,000.

Mr Wilcox was one of the first to have a solar system installed this week. He said the project aimed to help people change to a renewable energy resource and let the community know something can be done about climate change.

"We're trying to encourage people to change to solar now. It's only going to get more expensive to install solar systems, he said.



**H** Shining example  
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INSTALLED: Ian Wilcox is encouraging people to change to solar. — Picture by Dean Osland