DCEP Annual Report 2020 -2021 Snapshot

Be the future.

Plico brings people together to build a better world one rooftop at a time. We're enabling everyone to generate, access and control their own sustainable energy and be the future.



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We Acknowledge.

DCEP and Plico Energy acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land and the continuing culture and contribution they make to the life of this region.

We are a community of like-minded people building the sustainable energy grid of the future. We control how we generate and store our own energy.



From the Chair

Plico Members

The last year has been an interesting one for the DCEP Committee as I'm sure it has been for all of you. The Committee focussed on defining its role and establishing the processes, guidelines and assessments for the two funds it manages on behalf of Plico Members: the Community Fund and the Utility Support Fund.

Your one-off membership fee is split 75% / 25% into these two funds. The larger portion goes to the Community Fund to support projects that meet the DCEP objectives of benefiting Members and the community. The other portion is set aside specifically to assist Members who have, due to unforeseen circumstances, been unable to meet the contractual commitments on their systems.

In 2020/21, we proudly supported the Dunsborough and Districts Progress Association with the construction of a community gathering place in Dunsborough. We also assisted with interim payments for one Member's system which was unfortunately destroyed in a house fire.

With the processes now established for each of the funds, the Committee looks forward to supporting more worthy projects in 2021/22 and supporting you, the Members, when you need it most.

I also personally look forward to continuing on as a Committee Member during the forthcoming year, should I be re-elected, or as a Member assisting our organisation in whatever capacity I can.

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In 2020/21, we proudly supported the Dunsborough and Districts Progress Association with the construction of a community gathering place in Dunsborough.

Neil Shipley, Chair

03

From the Founder of Plico

Dear Plico Members

These are exciting times. Plico Energy has transformed from a south west start-up to being the largest community-owned energy project in the state. Cooperatives are the invisible giants of the economy and I am proud to be part of one that is not only empowering the community but helping us move away from a fossil fuel driven energy system to a cleaner, greener future.

And our plan is to keep growing!

Last financial year we more than doubled our membership to 311 households. Our aggregated network of Solar Battery Systems produced an incredible 1512 MWh, exported 630 MWh back to the grid and our battery storage increased by 1.4 MWh to 2.4 MWh. Importantly, we also reduced carbon emissions by over 3000 tonnes.

The latest IPCC Report revealed the harsh reality of human impacts on our climate. While it's easy to feel helpless in the face of such a challenge, you should be proud of the action you are taking to combat climate change. Investing in both small and large-scale renewables is critical if we are to achieve net zero emissions by 2030. I believe we can do it.

Plico's success means that we are now a major player in the energy sector. We are well positioned to provide solutions to the challenges facing the state's energy providers. I am excited to see our Virtual Power Plant be incorporated into the energy market and the benefits this will provide to our Members.

We couldn't have done this without your support. Thank you for believing in us and wanting to make a positive impact on the planet.

Brian Innes, Founder of DCEP and Plico Energy

DCEP Incorporated

Plico community supporting a greener future.

A bit about DCEP Inc

As a Plico Member you are a co-owner of the company. DCEP Inc. was established as the not-for-profit association that provides representation for Plico Members under the community ownership model. This model means that all Plico Members are also members of DCEP.

The purpose of DCEP is to represent and support Members, as well as support projects that build healthier, more resilient and greener futures for the wider community. DCEP makes decisions about where the Community Fund is invested. All Plico Members contribute to the Community Fund through their membership fee.

WHY IS IT CALLED DCEP?

Plico Energy was born from the Dunsborough Community Energy Project (DCEP). Since Plico expanded beyond the Dunsborough Region, the Committee is now simply known as DCEP - a broader group not defined by a location.

DCEP Committee Members 2020-2021



Neil Shipley, Chair

It has been a privilege to hold the role of Chairperson of your Committee. It is a role I did not have an initial intention of filling, however Nola beat me to the position of Treasurer and somehow I found myself agreeing to fill the Chairperson's role! I have enjoyed representing Plico and it's Members and look forward to making a positive impact on the community and the environment.

Nola Wright, Treasurer

A close friend referred me to Plico and I haven't looked back since. Our household doesn't use a lot of power however we were tired of power outages and the community ownership model really appealed to us. I put my hand up to be the DCEP Treasurer because I enjoy accounting and was missing it from a previous life. I have enjoyed being part of something that gives back to the community.



Carissa Cooper, Secretary

Our family goal has always been to continue to reduce our footprint and our reliance on nonrenewable energy, so Plico was the perfect choice for us. I became involved with DCEP just over 12 months ago as an opportunity to support more transparent action tracking and enable the Committee to gain greater momentum. The added bonus being able to further support the growth of Plico and community engagement through the grants program.



Alie Smith, Member

I am the lucky mother of four beautiful children and have lived in Dunsborough for over 20 years. I'm passionate about living a Chemical Free Lifestyle which includes reducing my footsteps on Mother Earth. I jumped at the opportunity to eliminate my power bill and absolutely loved the concept of Plico. I became a DCEP Member to continue to support Plico and help educate people about green energy and how we can give back to our growing community.





JP Engelbrecht, Member

The very first Plico system was installed at JP's home in Dunsborough, and he came on board as a team member soon after. He is passionate about the environment and the collective action that Plico Members are taking to address climate change. JP joined DCEP to further support local sustainability initiatives and has been a dedicated Committee Member and passionate advocate for Plico Energy.

COMMUNITY FUND

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Every Plico Member who joins contributes a \$250 membership fee that goes directly to the DCEP Community Fund; the source of funding for the Community Funding Bids program. The Community Funding Bids grant financial assistance to organisations that provide services or activities that align with DCEP objectives and deliver sustainable social, environmental and /or economic benefit to the wider community.

Community groups can apply for funding under three

- Community Wellbeing
- Sport and Recreation Development
- Environment

During 2020-21, the DCEP Committee worked on developing the Guidelines and Application process for the Community Funding Bids. These are now available on the **Plico website**. A number of groups expressed their interest in the funding, however most had ineligible projects or were not at the right stage of their project to access this funding. One worthy community project was supported in 2020-21 through the Community Fund. **Djiljit Mia Community Gathering Place.** This incredible project brought together culture, nature and imagination in the heart of Dunsborough.

DCEP awarded \$12,000 to the Dunsborough Districts and Progress Association to increase the carbon sequestration capacity of the landscaping and to incorporate educational resources that highlight the role of native plants in culture and ecology.

This included:

- supply and delivery of landscaping materials for the alfresco area
- purchase of Aboriginal 6 season artwork and text from Cultural Custodian
- sign fabrication
- maintenance



Trish Flower, told us how important it was to have community ownership of the project."The process of getting everyone on board was as important to me as the outcome," she said.

"This project couldn't have happened without the huge community input and support it received."

If you haven't been to the Djiljit Mia Community Gathering Place it's well worth the visit. Located opposite Yallingup Coffee Roasting Company in Hannay Lane, Dunsborough. Keep an eye out for the Plico plaque!

TREASURER'S REPORT



PLICO PERFORMANCE

KPI's _____

Inverter

UNIT % Uptime the percentage of time the inverter is operating to invert solar panel generated direct current (DC) to alternating current (AC) in the form of electricity

Battery

UNIT % Uptime the percentage of time

the battery is operational to store energy generated or feed into household or grid.

Comms

UNIT % Online

the percentage of time that systems are online and communicating back to Plico Energy, usually due to strength of internet connection.



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PLICO PERFORMANCE

PV's

Target for Plico Fleet of systems is 20 kWh/day





PERFORMANCE **PLICO**

TOTAL EXPORTS TO THE GRID

630,240 kWh



PERTH : 28 Bay View Tce Claremont WA

SOUTH WEST : 18 Burler Dr Vasse WA



dcep.committee@plicoenergy.com.au 1300 175 426 | plicoenergy.com.au

