

# Resilience, Equity & Justice



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Scott McDinny  
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Tommy Hicks  
Indigenous Energy Australia



Colin Lambie  
Bendigo Sustainability



Nigel Hancock  
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Venus Bay



Karina Donkers  
Geelong



Juliette Milbank  
TRY

# Bending the energy system back to do good.

- How might the energy transition be just, equitable, and strengthen resilience?

Panel session

Chair - Moragh Mackay

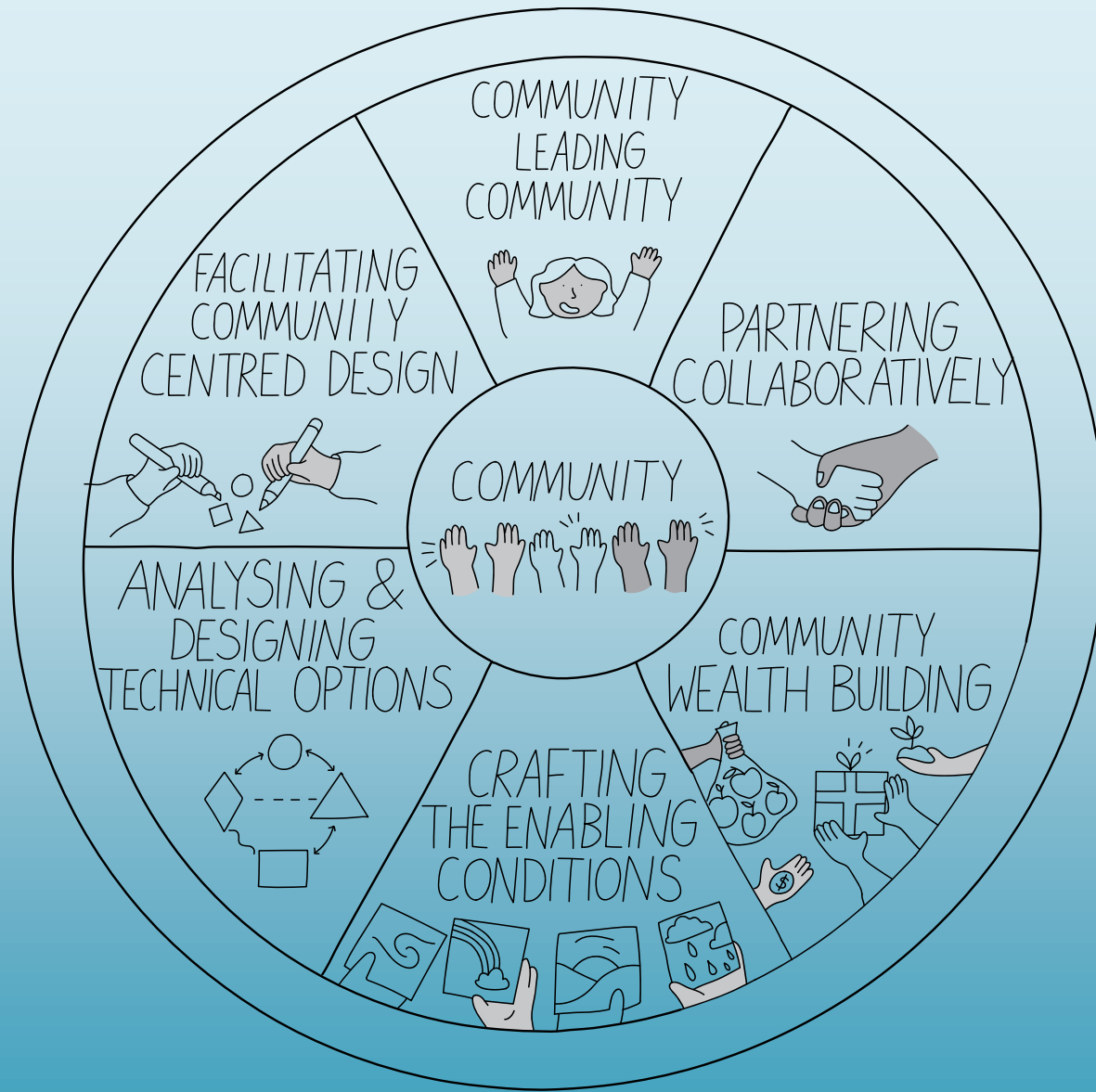




# Context

1. We have known for a long time that renewable, sustainable energy sources are needed.
2. Climate change is now banging down the door.
3. We need to rapidly transition to renewables, given decades of inaction and corporate self-interest.
4. In our haste we are leaving people and communities behind.
5. Humans and our systems are complex and messy, much more so than they ought to be.

# Community-centred design

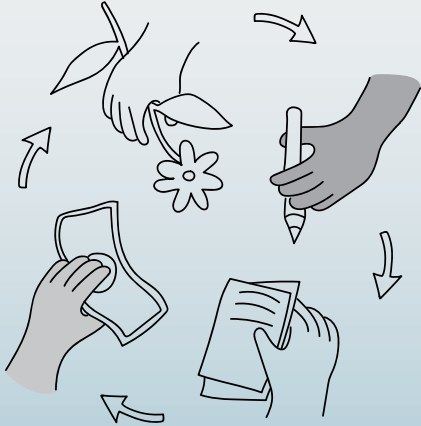


CO-DESIGNING WITH COMMUNITY

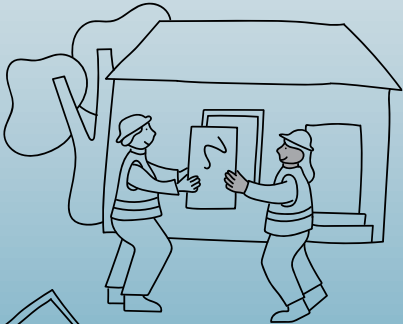
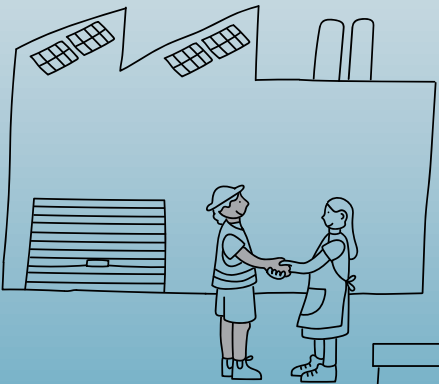
# Mycelia Energy Collective

## Community-centred Benefit-sharing Fund

Affordable,  
matched energy



Energy Efficiency  
upgrades, soon to be  
electrification transition  
planning



More renewables  
in the best places



Energy literacy  
for informed  
choices

# Energy Justice

- Our way of being in the world has come to be more transactional and less relational. People express feelings of disempowerment and being left behind when speaking about energy.
- At Mycelia we are:
  - Offering a model of care that does energy differently – but this is challenging for people to imagine
  - Partnering with community centres and health centres that hold relationships with people vulnerable to being left behind, so we can offer support in non-stigmatised ways

## Introducing

- Original Power - Scott McDinny
- Indigenous Energy Australia - Tommy Hicks
  - What key points relating to energy justice would you like to share with us?
  - How are relationships important to the work you do?





# First Nations Energy Justice







**INDIGENOUS ENERGY AUSTRALIA**



# Energy Equity

- The energy market is not cherished for the wider community benefits it delivers. Leveraging benefits and enabling equity are challenging, and not many people are acting in this space.
- At Mycelia our members:
  - Make weekly contributions to our Community-centred Benefit-sharing Fund and, based on member feedback, we are soon to offer a pay-it-forward feed-in tariff option

## Introducing

- Bendigo Sustainability Group - Colin Lambie
- Pingala - Nigel Hancock
  - How are you/your organisation supporting equity in the energy space?
  - What benefits have you been able to share with your communities?



# BENDIGO SUSTAINABILITY GROUP



Donations to pay for  
Solar PV on Social  
Housing Homes & Low  
Income Homes

Solar for people who  
would not normally  
benefit.

Provides some equity.

**GIVING POWER**

An opportunity for EVERYONE  
to be part of OUR clean energy future!

Supporting eligible local homeowners to  
access fully-funded, fully-installed solar for  
their own homes

**To be eligible for a FREE solar PV  
system up to 3kW, you must:**

- Reside in the Eastern Mallee region
- Own your own home (with or without a mortgage)
- Comply with Solar Victoria rebate requirements (see our website)
- Fit into the low income or very low income household category

[www.bsg.org.au/giving-power/homeowners](https://www.bsg.org.au/giving-power/homeowners)

**APPLY NOW!**

**FIND OUT MORE:**  
<https://www.bsg.org.au/giving-power>  
mailto:info@bsg.org.au

Created & supported by  
**Bendigo Sustainability Group**

Partnering with  
**Bendigo Community Health Services**





## Solar for Businesses

- SMEs and NFPs
- Community groups



## Solar for Everyone

- Social/community housing
  - Renters
- Apartment owners
- “Locked-out Users”





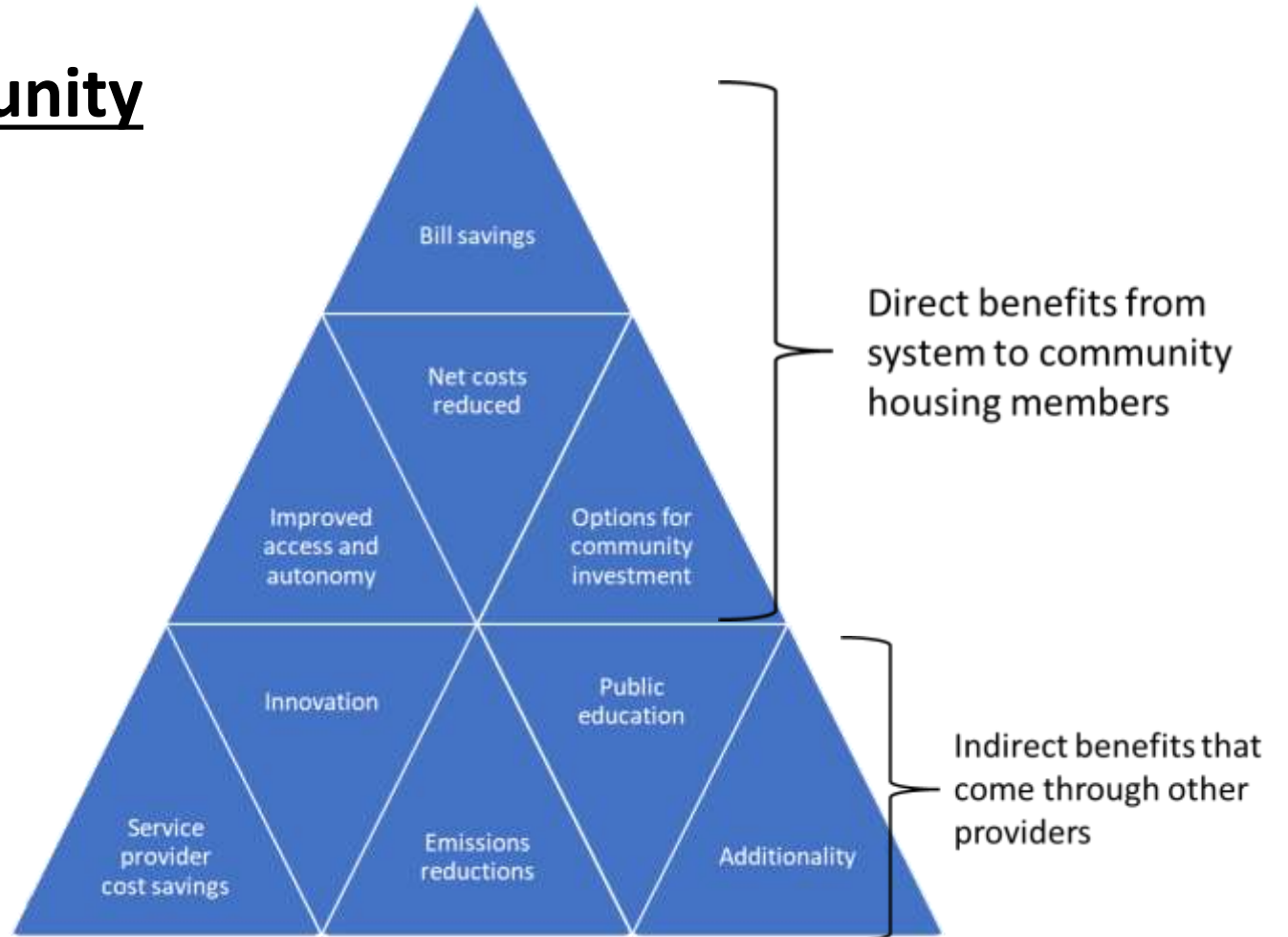
## Solar for Social and Community Housing

### Background

In NSW, 274,766 people (3.4% of the population) live in 160,628 dwellings owned by social and community housing providers.

As of July 2023, 6,700 of these households had access to rooftop solar, largely through the NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC)'s solar programme which has installed solar on 7% of LAHC's dwellings.

- Solar Citizens





# Resilience

- If we're fortunate, we live in communities where leaders have stepped up to fill the void of years of inaction, to show us what's possible, to facilitate change, to strengthen resilience.
- At Mycelia we:
  - Co-design with communities, enabling self-determined energy transitions, strengthening resilience
  - We are partnering with Regen Labs to develop a readiness tool to enable bespoke support processes

## Introducing

- Venus Bay - Alyson Skinner
- Climate Safe Homes - Karina Donkers, Geelong Sustainability
- Totally Renewable Yackandandah – Juliette Milbank
- What does resilience look like in your community?
- How does resilience relate to energy?









# Climate Safe Rooms



- Pilot research project where we aimed to support vulnerable people who are at risk during heatwaves and extreme cold
- Upgrading a single room in the home to protect it from uncomfortable heat and cold
- We provided home energy efficiency and thermal comfort upgrades - at no cost to participants
- The room is made more energy efficient through:
  - Insulation & draught proofing
  - Reverse cycle air conditioner
  - Small solar system
- Helps reduce adverse health outcomes by maintaining a stable temperature & reduces emissions
- Funding from the Victorian Government's Centre for Climate Change Innovation, partners included City of Greater Geelong, CSIRO, Uniting & Ecomaster





# Open-up for discussion

- Questions to the panel?
- One last idea, inspiration or challenge from each panel member
- Thank you – Everyone
  - For your participation
  - For everything you do for community energy
  - For organising this Congress
  - See you next time!

Thank you to all of our **sponsors and supporters**

