

ITEM 14

NOTICE OF MOTION - COUNCILLOR JANICE KERSHAW - INVESTIGATION INTO THE INSTALLATION OF COMMUNITY BATTERIES

Councillor Janice Kershaw has submitted the following Notice of Motion –

“I formally move that Council –

- 1 Liaise with Endeavour Energy to investigate how we can participate in the demonstration of Community Batteries which is planned to commence in early 2022.
- 2 Discuss with Endeavour Energy how we can assist the local community to be a part of the demonstration program.
- 3 Consider the use of Council land as locations for the Community Batteries if required if the program continues and expands.
- 4 Contact Bankstown Council to obtain feedback on their involvement and outcomes thus far in the trial being conducted by Ausgrid.”

Background provided by Councillor Janice Kershaw:

Batteries that store solar power range in size from large-scale like the one in South Australia, to the smaller in-house ones. In between these two are Community Batteries.

Community Batteries are large sized battery units that allow for shared storage. It allows multiple households in a certain area to ‘share’ a storage system for the excess energy generated by their solar panels for use later in the evening, when demand on the electricity network is high.

The initiative allows residents to store their excess solar power without having to spend thousands of dollars on the upfront cost of an individual battery.

Community Batteries work out cheaper for our residents, better for the community and the environment.

Ausgrid has already began a trial on the use of Community Batteries, with one installed in the Bankstown Council area in April.

Endeavour Energy is starting a demonstration of Community Batteries in 2022.