**Submission to request funding for Solar Our Schools in the next federal budget.**

The Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group is a group of over 650 citizens who are concerned about climate change and the need for urgent action to reduce our emissions and move to 100% renewables by 2030.

At present the roof space in schools is wasted and could instead be used to install PV to power school electricity requirements and provide considerable savings to the running costs of the school. In addition, reducing reliance on fossil fuels would contribute to the reduction of Australia’s carbon emissions.

Beyond Zero Emissions has completed research that shows 6870 jobs could be created, particularly in regional areas, if such funding was to go ahead.

It is also worth noting that power stored in the schools’ batteries could be drawn on to meet peak electricity demand periods at weekends, summer holidays and hot evenings. By using this stored energy, the grid could be stabilised, negating the need for more gas-fired peaking power stations.

We therefore believe the May budget provides a chance for funding of all schools through grants to produce and store a clean, renewable energy source.

Thank you
Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group