

Case Study – New England Building Consultants



A business energy initiative of Z-NET Uralla - a project funded by the Murray-Darling Basin Regional Economic Diversification programme.



New England *Building Consultants*

Business Story

New England Building Consultants (NEBC) is a family business operated by Warren and Kerry Sellings in Uralla since 2012. Warren has extensive experience in the building industry and worked in Local Government for 25 years before establishing NEBC.

NEBC provide the following services:

- Complying Development Certificates
- Construction Certificates
- Compliance and Occupation Certificates
- Pre-Purchase Building Inspections and reports
- Fire Safety Audits

NEBC can also arrange for a pre-purchase or pre-sale pest inspection to be completed at the same time as the pre-purchase building inspection by a local reputable pest inspector.

The business operates from a Home Office in Uralla.

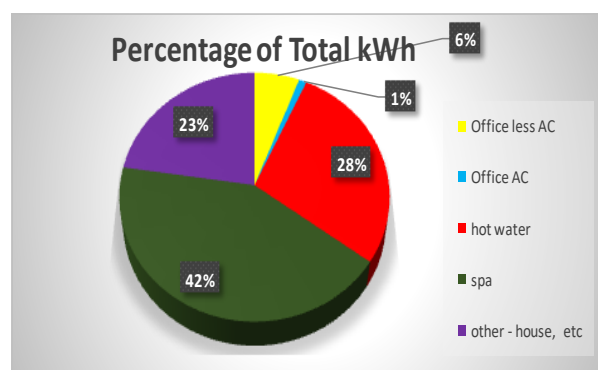
Key Energy Concerns / Issues:

- Concerned that with the Solar rebate scheme finishing and proposed 5 –6 c rebate that energy costs will be greater for the business, so keen to identify potential energy savings.
- Keen to know what equipment is using the most power.
- Looking to replace wood heating system with Reverse Cycle A/C.

Agreed Plan:

- Look at the pattern & size of the power bill and review to ensure the business is obtaining the most competitive rate.
- Undertake Energy Monitoring and make suggestions to support energy savings.

Significant Users of Power— NEBC	% of Total kWh
Office less AC	6%
Office AC	1%
Hot water	28%
spa	42%
other - house, etc	23%
Total	100%



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Solutions:	Done	Underway	Considering
Turn off computers, monitors, printers, copiers and lights at the end of each working day.	✓		
Consider upgrading existing Solar PV system capacity.			✓
Install a remote switch to turn off plasma TV and associated electrical equipment to reduce standby consumption.			✓
Review energy supplier and shop around for best deals			✓
Consider thermal honeycomb blinds for office windows.			✓
When practical turn off the office A/C unit 1 hour before business closure.	✓		
Adjust the times the spa is heated to maximise efficiency using power from the Solar PV system rather than mains	✓		
Install a Reverse Cycle A/C Unit and operate it during the day from the power generated from your Solar system		✓	

Power consumption can be managed. Whenever you save energy within your business you are also saving money. Energy costs contribute to your business's financial bottom line so the more energy you save in your business the more profitable your business can be.

RESOURCES:

Websites for Benchmarking and Assistance to reduce power bills.

** www.ato.gov.au/Business/Small-business-benchmarks

www.energycut.com.au/business

www.energymadeeasy.gov.au

zneturalla.org.au

<https://www.facebook.com/ZNetUralla/>

Pictured: Warren and Kerry Sellings at their home office in Uralla

