

### Will my electrical switchboard need to be modified to allow for the installation of solar power to my premises?

If your switch board is made from asbestos we are required to work in a safe manner on it for the safety of our workers or for your family. In order to do this we will need to either remove or modify your switchboard to allow for this. If your switchboard is not fitted with two RCD switches, then by law it must be fitted before a house is sold or leased. So therefore the wisest option and one that we promote is to upgrade your entire switchboard to bring it in line with current regulations.

### Does my switchboard meet current electrical safety standards?

If your switchboard was fitted prior to the 1980's it is most likely that it does not meet current electrical safety standards because it fails to include the fitment of 2 RCD switches, which is now mandatory where a house is sold or leased. Older switchboards are usually fitted with ceramic fuses and not two RCD safety switches.

### What changes are recommended before the installation of my new solar system?

For your safety and protection and now legal requirements, it is important to identify if your electrical switch board meets current safety standards before the installation of your solar power system. Although upgrading is at an additional cost to modification, it does make for a safer home and can easily be installed by one of our electricians in time for the installation of your solar power system.

### What are my options?

#### Modify existing switch board:

1. **Install a separate enclosure near switch board:** This includes: Enclosure, labour and parts. The enclosure is simply installed next to the switchboard. It is not the most attractive option, however this saves having to drill the asbestos.
2. **Drill & fit to asbestos switch board :** This includes: Respirators, and respirator cartridges, protective suits and asbestos kits; extra labour; training costs; safe removal and disposal of asbestos waste material; maintenance and capital costs associated with the asbestos vac.

#### OR Upgrade to new switch board:

3. **Upgrade to a single phase switchboard:** This includes an RCD equipped unit with as many circuit breakers as required and also includes vacuuming of and disposal of asbestos dust that may be already present in the switchboard enclosure.
4. **Upgrade to a three phase switchboard:** This includes an RCD equipped unit with as many circuit breakers as required and also includes vacuuming of and disposal of asbestos dust that may be already present in the switchboard enclosure.

\*Please be aware that all switchboard replacement options may require an additional fee in cases where the switchboard is not a metric size i.e. not a derivative of 450mm by 450mm, or 225mm wide.

### What should I consider in making my decision?

#### The advantages of upgrading a switchboard include:

- Old ceramic rewirable fuses are very poor performers in the case of an electrical fault. Replacing them with circuit breakers provides far greater protection from electrical fire or fault conditions.
- A switchboard without an RCD, or safety switch do not provide any personal protection from electrical faults or accidents within the home.
- The fitment of 2 RCDs is now mandatory where a house is sold or leased; (opposite page for continued information)
- Replacement of your old switchboard will also include our tradesman vacuuming away all of the deadly asbestos dust from the enclosure.
- A mains switch board upgrade adds value to an owner's home and provides increased property protection as well as personal protection from electrical faults or accidents.

### Once I choose an option what happens next?

#### The process to installation:

1. **Evaluation of your switchboard:** this will take place during your initial assessment by your solar power assessor.
2. **Recommendation & quote:** during your initial assessment we can provide advice and make a recommendation for your individual circumstances, outlining the applicable costs.
3. **Appointment scheduled:** we will contact you to schedule a convenient time to carry out the upgrade and/or modify of your switch board.
4. **Installation appointment:** one of our qualified electricians will complete the changes to your switchboard.
5. **Solar installation:** once the upgrade or changes to your meter box has been completed we will then carry out the installation of your new solar power system.

For more information please call Renewablelogic on  
1300 39 10 77 or email your enquiries to [info@renewablelogic.com.au](mailto:info@renewablelogic.com.au)