

HOUSE INFORMATION SHEET



Shlegeris House

This home is an example of stock-standard, dumb-as-dirt construction: a rectangular box made of concrete blocks with a tile roof. We have nevertheless found it easy to reduce our electricity consumption by around 80% by installing standard solar technologies for water heating and electricity generation. We pay nothing for electricity and expect a net credit to our account of about \$100 per quarter thanks to the feed-in tariff.

Name of Owner/s	Joe & Karen Shlegeris
Address	4 Edinburgh Court, Yarrowonga, Townsville
New or Retro	Existing home built around 1970, acquired by present owners in 1998.
Unique Sustainable Elements featured in this home	
Water Harvesting	We capture rainwater in a 2200 litre tank and use this for watering the garden. It takes about 17mm of rain to fill the tank from empty.
External walls	Rendered concrete block, no special features.
Internal walls	Some block, some wood frame & gyprock, no special features.
Roof	Concrete tile roof, 17.5 degree slope, north side oriented 20 degrees east of due north.
Floor	Concrete slab on both levels.
Window treatments	Few window coverings; most naturally shaded by overhangs and eaves.
Solar or wind generation	2,000 watt grid-connected photovoltaic system installed January 2008.
Heating & Cooling	No heating. Ordinary air conditioning used sparingly 3-4 months/year.
Water Heating	Evacuated tube solar system--has provided 100% of our hot water requirements since January 2008. A backup heating element is connected, but has never been used.
Other	Chickens! They consume ALL kitchen scraps--except chicken and egg shells, of course--greatly reducing the amount of rubbish we send to the tip.