'This community is not the same since the fire, it's better. In many respects, it's brought some beautiful and wonderful things to this town. One of them is something like Renewable Cobarge happening.' Dan Williamson, Manager of Cobargo Colorial



## CASE STUDY: RENEWABLE COBARGO (Cobargo)

Focus: Delivering Resilient Clean Energy to a Local Community.

**Background:** Renewable Cobargo is a community-based collective established after the Black Summer Bushfires in 2019/20.

Residents, business owners, farmers and others rallied together to commit to a renewable energy future, ensuring greater energy security and efficiency, and to accelerate the transition to renewables after experiencing prolonged grid failures during previous natural disasters.

**Circular innovation:** In the transition to 100% clean renewable energy, Renewable Cobargo have installed solar battery systems in four community buildings to create cool refuges during heatwaves and ensure business continuity for the Cobargo Rural Fire Brigade and local agricultural co-op.

They have also developed a plan for a community microgrid which would act as a large-scale solar battery system for the whole village, powering essential energy supply for water, internet, sewerage & petrol pumps during grid failures.

**Impact and future development:** As Renewable Cobargo progress their transition to clean, local energy they continue to reduce their Co2 emissions and the need for importing electricity and petroleum products, creating a resilient and self-reliant local community where the benefits remain local.

For more information: www.renewablecobargo.com.