



# HOW DOES A BUSINESS THAT RECYCLES WASTE MANAGE THEIR HUGE ENERGY REQUIREMENTS IN AN ENVIRONMENTALLY-FRIENDLY WAY?

## Project Overview

Plasgain is one of the first companies in Australia to recycle plastic packaging into urban residential development products. They take plastic from recycling centres in Australia to create products such as their patented underground cable cover, Plaslab™, a product that was previously imported from overseas.

“We have two lines currently running 24 hours, five days a week, making these products out of recycled milk bottles and waste plastic,” says Plasgain Director Darren Williames.

The process is energy intensive. Plastics are heated to melt and form the products, and then rapidly cooled to solidify them back into the required shape. They then laser etch text and other details into the surface.

## Solution

Plasgain recently installed solar power on the roof so that the whole process is as sustainable as possible, without costing the business anything out of pocket.

“We’re solving other people’s recycling and land fill problems as well as our own,” says Darren. “To be

as close to carbon neutral as possible is core to what we’re trying to do.”

Not only that, Plasgain are looking to the future by installing electric vehicle charging stations on site. They hope to have a fleet of electric utes on the road as soon as they come available. Whether a few months or a few years down the track, Darren knows that he’ll have staff and customers that will require a vehicle charge at some point.

## Process

Plasgain worked with UCS Group to design the solar systems systems for each site. They then worked with Sustainable Australia Fund (SAF) and Baw Baw Shire Council to fund the systems using an Environmental Upgrade Agreement.

## Outcome

The two buildings have a 98.8KW and a 34.8KW solar system installed, as well as two 25kW electric vehicle charging stations. The upgrades are expected to save the businesses over \$33,900 per year, and reduce carbon emissions by over 170 tonnes of Co2-e. That’s the equivalent of taking 36 cars off the road!

“It’s exciting to know that the machines are running throughout the day with no power costs,” says Darren.





# ENVIRONMENTAL UPGRADE FINANCE FOR MANUFACTURING AND WAREHOUSING

As a property and business owner, you have the opportunity to gain from exciting changes occurring in energy, waste and water technologies. Environmental Upgrade Finance (EUF) can help you access capital, freeing up cash flow and helping you complete projects that give your business long term security and cost savings.

Sustainable Australia Fund are Australia's leading provider of EUF.

**Easy to apply. Easy to service.**

**No upfront costs for your project – Simply repay via a quarterly charge on your property rates notice.**

EUF allows you to access capital that was previously unavailable to business and property owners.

Benefits include:

- Extended finance loan terms to increase cash flow
- No additional security requirements (personal, business guarantees, mortgages or registered charges)
- Reduced business risks with low, fixed rate interest periods and predictable quarterly repayments
- No hidden costs - 100% finance for hard and soft costs
- No costly and complicated refinances

## What is Environmental Upgrade Finance?

EUF is a loan made out to a building owner and repaid via quarterly council rates.

## Who is Sustainable Australia Fund?

Sustainable Australia Fund was established in 2002 to finance building repositions, solar, waste, water solutions as well as more innovative solutions such as waste to energy.

## Why choose us over other lenders?

Since our inception, we've worked with local and state governments to develop Environmental Upgrade Finance and help businesses unlock savings and sustainability. Unlike financiers that do not uniquely specialise in EUF, clients can trust our expertise and experience.

**INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE?  
CONTACT US TODAY.**

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