

Hawea Community Resilience Group

Building resilience with solar—together

Trusted solar. Better pricing. Together.



Our Community. Our Preparedness. Our Responsibility

Hawea Community Resilience Group (Hawea CRG) was formed with a simple belief:

Resilient communities are built before emergencies happen – not during them.

In times of disruption – storms, earthquakes, infrastructure failures – the strength of Hāwea will depend on how prepared we are as households and neighbours.

- Prepared homes reduce pressure on emergency services.
- Prepared homes support vulnerable residents.
- Prepared homes allow communities to stabilise faster.

Resilience begins at home – and multiplies across the community.

Why Electricity Resilience Matters

Electricity underpins almost every part of modern life.

When the grid fails:

- ❄ Heating systems stop
- 🧊 Refrigeration fails
- 🌐 Internet and communication drop
- 📱 Phones cannot charge
- 🏥 Medical equipment may be compromised
- 💧 Water pumps may stop operating

Power outages can last hours – or days.

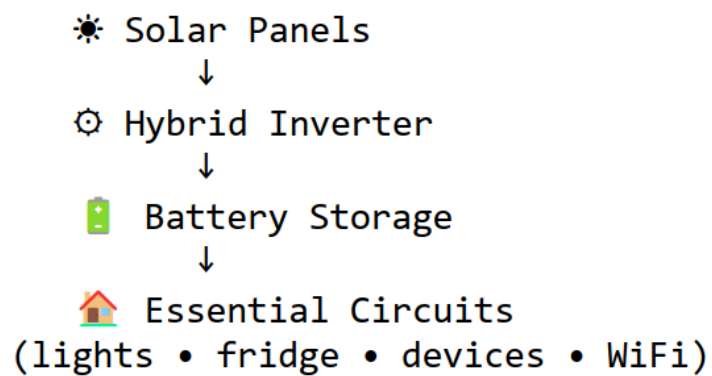
The more households that can maintain essential electricity during an outage, the stronger Lake Hāwea becomes.

Solar Alone Is Not Enough

Standard grid-tied solar systems automatically shut down during outages for safety reasons.

True electricity resilience requires battery storage.

How It Works During an Outage



A properly designed Solar + Battery system can:

- Keep essential circuits running
- Maintain lighting and refrigeration
- Charge phones and devices
- Support communication
- Reduce stress during emergencies

This is not just about reducing power bills.

This is about preparedness.

What We Are Proposing

Hawea CRG is facilitating a community-led Solar + Battery initiative for households who want meaningful outage resilience.

Our aim is to coordinate approximately five households at a time to:

- Install solar panels
- Install battery storage
- Improve household-level resilience
- Support a local independent electrician
- Reduce unnecessary overhead costs through coordination

This is not a commercial solar venture.

Hawea CRG is acting as a facilitator only. Each household will contract directly with the electrician.

Participation is voluntary.

Why Coordinate as a Group?

By working together, we aim to:

- Improve equipment purchasing efficiency
- Reduce installation mobilisation costs
- Remove marketing and sales overhead
- Support local tradespeople
- Build local capability

We are not promising dramatic discounts.

We are aiming for:

- ✓ Fair pricing
- ✓ Quality installation
- ✓ Stronger community resilience
- ✓ Local economic benefit

The greatest value may not be financial savings – it is the increase in distributed resilience across Lake Hāwea.

What This Means for Our Community

Imagine multiple homes in our community able to maintain essential power during an outage.

5 Homes with Batteries → Shared Capability → Stronger Community

That could mean:

- Neighbours able to support vulnerable residents
- Charging capability for communication devices
- Refrigeration for essential medicines
- Reduced stress across the community
- Faster stabilisation after events
- Greater self-reliance

Resilience is strongest when it is distributed.

Even a small group of prepared homes can make a meaningful difference.

A Note on Finance

If you currently have a mortgage over your property, your bank may offer low-interest “green” or sustainability loan options – sometimes in the range of 1–2% – for energy efficiency or solar installations.

Several New Zealand banks provide special lending facilities for solar + battery systems as part of their sustainable home lending programmes.

Participants are encouraged to speak directly with their bank or mortgage provider to understand what options may be available.

Hawea CRG does not provide financial advice, but we encourage households to explore whether existing mortgage structures may make resilience upgrades more affordable.

Important Clarifications

- Hawea CRG does not sell or install solar systems.
- Each household will receive an individual system design and quote.
- All installations will comply with NZ electrical standards.
- There is no commitment at the expression-of-interest stage.
- Each household decides independently whether to proceed.

Next Steps

We are currently seeking **expressions of interest**.

If sufficient interest is confirmed (around five households):

- Technical feasibility will be assessed.
- Indicative pricing will be obtained.
- Clear information will be shared.
- Each household can independently decide whether to proceed.

There is no obligation at this stage.



A Stronger Lake Hāwea Starts With Prepared Homes

The more families who can maintain essential power during disruption, the easier it becomes for our community to support everyone.

Resilience does not begin when the emergency arrives.
It begins with preparation.

Hawea Community Resilience Group

Contact: Andre Meyer 027 883 3119 - Website: haweacrg.nz

Expression of Interest (name) : _____

Address of the Property: _____