



CORNWALL HILL COLLEGE

PAVING THE WAY FOR A BETTER FUTURE THROUGH SOLAR PV INSTALLATION

Irene, Centurion – It was a momentous occasion at the Cornwall Hill College on Thursday, 3 November 2022, during the ribbon cutting ceremony that commemorated the completion of the solar installation project by The Energy Gurus in Irene, Centurion.

The college that will be celebrating 25 years in 2023, is certainly paving the way for our future generations, and it is a proud

achievement as one of the first schools to have embarked on a solar installation project of this magnitude in the country. Environmental sustainability is embedded at the core of Cornwall Hill College's strategy, and although discussions relating to alternative power solutions began approximately four years' ago, it became a reality and materialised in the second half of 2022, and was made possible by **The Energy Gurus**.



EXPLORING THE BENEFIT OF SOLAR POWER

The company was chosen on completion of a rigorous tender process based on their competitive pricing, work ethic, high quality standards, and very high recommendations from previous and/or existing clientele.

Positioned as one of its kind, the school operates in a completely paperless environment, and hence the need was established for solar power to ensure that there are no disruptions within the learning environment especially during loadshedding.



Figure 1

Greg Theron and Stephan Bezuidenhout cut the ribbon to the school's official handover of their solar PV system

“When The Energy Gurus were approached to execute this major solar installation process, we were absolutely delighted. With the multitude of commercial and residential completed projects in our portfolio, we welcomed the challenge and learnings with excitement as this was the company’s first school project and it was completely different when compared to the different engineering facets in comparison to our industrial projects. We are extremely proud to have partnered with a reputable organisation, and it is heart-warming to mention

that the team were never treated as a contractor, but this was rather a partnership with the foundation being a great deal of mutual respect and understanding, which we truly value.” - **Alexis Barwise, Managing Director, The Energy Gurus.**





The completed solar project brought a great deal of interest and excitement to the students. In order to continue with the school's sustainability strategy, the school will be embarking on other initiatives such as the reduction of carbon emissions, recycling, etc.

Another exciting chapter in the near future, is the plan to establish an Innovation Hub that will be a learning and technology centre whereby children will be taught how to build their own micro solar systems.



“Environmental awareness and our impact on our globe form a very important part of the strategy of CHC. We have accordingly been discussing replacing our electricity supply with a PV system for some time. This is an important action point in the plan. There has been much excitement created on the student body, and amongst the staff and parents about this and we hope that it drives the broader environmental agenda going forward.

It was a great pleasure working with Energy Gurus and we appreciated the knowledge of your team; the advice that we received from you and the efficiency with which the plant was erected.”

- **Greg Theron, Rector at Cornwall Hill College**





“From a time constraint point of view, we had a period of three weeks to complete an enormous amount of work namely; installation of **850 roof solar panels**, installation of an **8km special cable management system**, **600m of trenches** that were dug by hand, **250 metres** of paving that had to be lifted and replaced, installation of **3 GoodWe invertors (260kVA)** and the integration of a generator.

This project was different when compared to any other industrial project because of the children who were on-site, and the team ensured that the health and safety of the children were a priority, and secondly our team had to ensure that there were no disruptions during the learning period whilst adhering to all the health and safety guidelines as outlined by the school.

Within a period of four days upon commencement of the project, the team was able to have 700 solar panels delivered on-site which is testament to the expertise of The Energy Gurus team.”

**- Adriaan Ballack, Head Project Manager,
The Energy Gurus**



ABOUT THE ENERGY GURUS



With over 10 years industry experience, The Energy Gurus are one of South Africa’s leading engineering firms in the commercial, industrial, agricultural and residential energy sectors. The Energy Gurus directs their focus on the individual and unique requirements of each client, building bespoke, cost efficient and sustainable energy profiles.

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