

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Asia-Pacific Solar Research Conference

Date: 3 December 2024

Location: Sydney, hosted by UNSW

Attendees: Rob Passey (UNSW, ITP, APVI), Roger Dargaville (Monash), Steve Blume (NoCarbon), Renate Egan (UNSW), Ken Guthrie, (SET), Chris Fell, (CSIRO), Anna Bruce (UNSW), Shan Dora He (ANU), Mike Roberts (UNSW), Geoff Stapleton (GSES), Trevor Lee (Exemplary Energy), Marnie Shaw (ANU), Rebecca Yang (RMIT), Rong Deng (UNSW), Muriel Watt (Aust PV Consulting), Nathan Chang (Solinno).

Quorum Met

1. Welcome and Agenda

The Chair opened the meeting and presented the agenda:

- Minutes of AGM 2023
- Chair's Report
- Strategic Plan
- IEA Tasks (PVPS / SHC)
- PV Manufacturing / Silicon-to-Solar (S2S) / Sunspot
- Treasurer's Report & Appointment of Auditor
- Election of Directors
- Any Other Business (AOB)

2. Minutes of AGM 2023

The minutes of the 2023 AGM were tabled and accepted. [Blume, Egan]

3. Chair's Report

Roger Dargaville presented the years highlights (refer to slides attached)

- The APVI continues to support the development and uptake of photovoltaics (PV) through research, analysis, data, collaboration, and policy engagement.
- Review of **Strategic Action Plan 2023** progress:
 - Membership growth maintained.
 - Networking and research sharing expanded.
 - Stronger linkages with industry and Asia-Pacific region.

4. International Engagement (IEA Tasks)

- **PV Power Systems (PVPS):** Maintaining engagement despite reduced support.
- **Solar Heating and Cooling (SHC, now renamed “Solar Technologies and Sustainable Heating and Cooling”):** Broader scope to include lighting, fuels, and industrial applications.
- **Australia’s involvement:** 15 active Tasks (9 PVPS, 6 SHC).
- Future proposals:
 - Task 19: PV & Grid Integration (Prof. Iain Macgill, UNSW).
 - Task 20: Energy Hubs & Green Hydrogen (Dr Raman Daiyan, UNSW, under discussion).
 - Action Group on Agri-PV (pending).
 - SHC: Thermal Energy Storage Materials.
- Funding: DCCEEW has provided one-year funding to cover fees and travel until end of 2025. Without new funding, withdrawal may be required.

6. PV Manufacturing and Future Made in Australia

Highlight for the APVI with the 2023 release of the Silicon to Solar Report leading to the following outcomes;

- PV manufacturing declared a **strategic national priority**.
- Included under Government’s **Future Made in Australia** package (\$22.7B for net zero transition).
- Solar Sunshot program:
 - \$1B allocated for PV manufacturing projects.
 - Module manufacturing (EOIs due Dec 2024; full applications Apr 2025).
 - Feasibility studies (applications due Nov 2025).
- S2S study outcomes shaped policy recommendations:
 - Risk mitigation in supply chains.
 - Support for domestic industry and exports.
 - Establishment of Solar Manufacturing Taskforce and ARENA Sunshot Advisory Panel.
 - Policy and financial support mechanisms (production credits, capital support, R&D continuation).

7. Sunspot & Solar Maps

- **Sunspot:** Now ~5,000 visitors/week.
 - Featured on Federal Government’s Solar Consumer Guide, Solar Victoria site, and NSW Government Energy site (pending).
 - Future upgrades: consumer data right integration (2025), electrification add-ons (EVs, HVAC, appliances).
- **Solar Maps:**
 - Rooftop PV: 37.8 GW installed.
 - 40% household penetration (methodology revised for >15kW).
 - Discussions ongoing with ARENA/CER to improve replacement system data.

8. APSRC Conference Overview

- History of recent conferences:
 - 2020: Melbourne/Sydney (Monash)
 - 2021: Sydney (UNSW)
 - 2022: Newcastle (CSIRO)
 - 2023: Melbourne (RMIT)
 - 2024: Sydney (UNSW)
- The 2025 conference will be held in Brisbane (UQ) with Paul Shaw as the Chair

9. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer (Rob Passey) presented financial statements for 2022/23.
- Detailed breakdown of income and expenditure provided.
- Accounts show healthy position.
- Auditor for next year appointed.

Treasurers Report was accepted. [Egan, Guthrie]

WCA to be the auditors. [Passey, Watt].

10. Election of Directors

- Current directors: Ken Guthrie, Linda Koschier, Roger Dargaville, Rebecca Yang, Rong Deng, Marnie Shaw, Michelle Taylor.
- *Secretary: Linda Koschier, with R Egan retiring. The meeting thanked Renate.*
- Treasurer: Rob Passey
- Public Officer: Igor Skryabin
- All current directors are either mid-term or renominating.
- No vacancies or new nominations this year.
- Noted: In 2025, Ken Guthrie and Linda Koschier will complete their third terms, creating two vacancies.

11. Any Other Business (AOB)

- No additional business was raised.

12. Closing

The Chair thanked members for their contributions and closed the meeting.