Solar & Backup Power Decision Checklist

By Ashley Beggs | Energy Consultant

Independent advice to help you make the right decision — no sales pitch.

1. Define Your Primary Goal

Tick the box that best matches your main energy challenge:

☐ I want to keep operating during load shedding (Backup)
☐ I want to reduce my electricity bills (Solar)
☐ I want both savings *and* backup (Hybrid)
☐ I want to meet sustainability targets

2. Understand Your Energy Usage

☐ I know my average monthly electricity consumption (kWh)
☐ I have a list of my **essential loads** (what must stay on during power cuts)
☐ I know my peak power demand (kW)
☐ I have 6–12 months of electricity bills for reference

3. Check Your Site Suitability

☐ My roof or site has enough unshaded space for solar panels
☐ I know my roof's structure can support solar panels
☐ I have space for batteries/inverter in a secure, ventilated area

4. Plan for the Future

☐ My system can be expanded later if my energy needs grow
☐ I've considered potential changes in tariffs or Eskom supply
☐ I've thought about future electric vehicles or extra equipment

5. Budget & ROI

☐ I know my budget range for installation
☐ I've calculated a realistic payback period (ROI)
☐ I understand the difference between upfront purchase, finance, and leasing options

6. Vendor & Technology Check

☐ I've researched at least 3 reputable installers
☐ I've checked product warranties (panels, inverters, batteries)
☐ I understand the difference between product quality levels
☐ I know the maintenance requirements

7. Before You Sign

☐ I've had an independent feasibility review done
☐ The proposed system matches my goals from Step 1
☐ I've seen proof of similar projects done by the installer
☐ I'm confident in the after-sales support offered

Tip from Ashley
If you can't tick every box above, you're not ready to commit to a system yet.
An independent energy strategy session will help you fill the gaps and avoid expensive mistakes.

Book a free 30 minute call - Let's Start Building