

POOR QUALITY OF CURRENT AUSTRALIAN SOLAR

Most Australian solar participants are racing to the bottom - as panel manufacturers and retailers try to grab market share via cheapness. Many consumers choose cheaper options, not knowing that cheap solar (including panels) will cost them more, long term. Cheapness is a trap for first time buyers, and major players keep promoting cheaper options. Within the global industry, Australia has a reputation as the dumping ground for poor and inferior solar.¹

There's a huge difference between CHEAP solar panels and the BEST - see Graph 1.

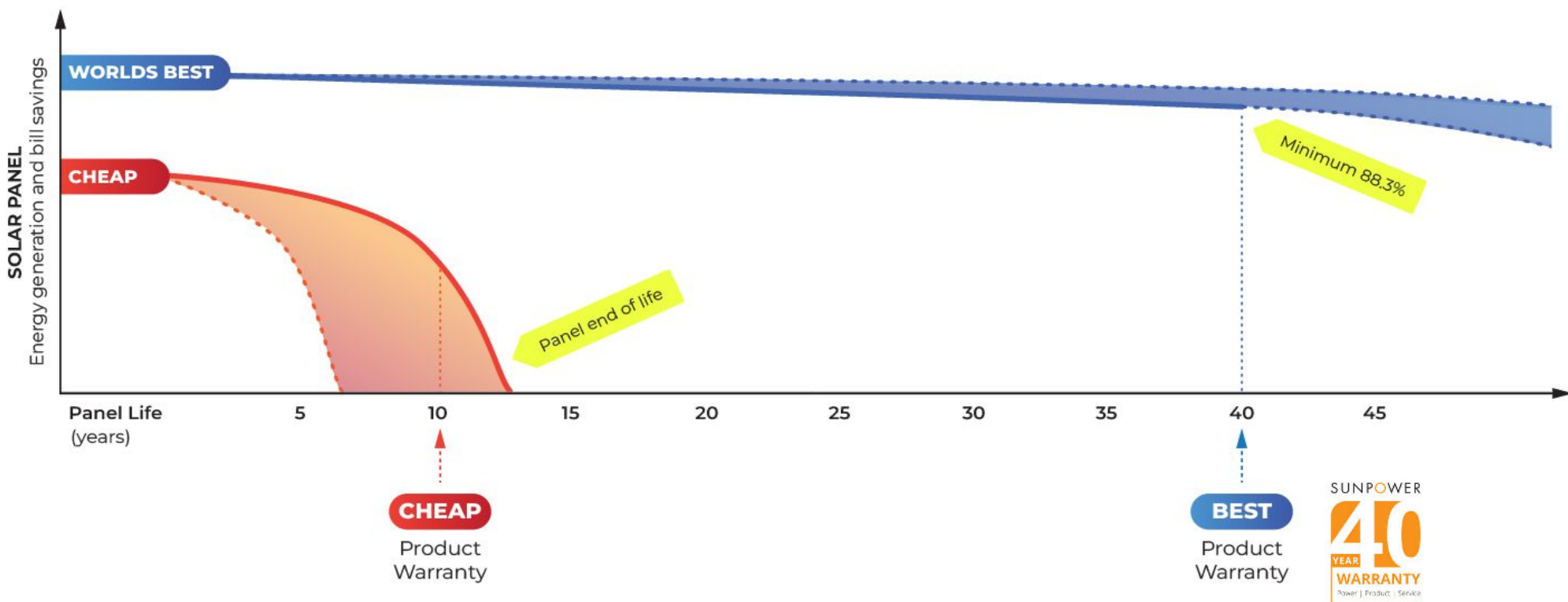
CONVENTIONAL CHEAP APPROACHES

- ✗ Build solar panels with forced labour.²
- ✗ Build using cheap, dirty, coal fired power in Western China - dramatically increasing carbon intensity (compared with other manufacturing regions world-wide).³
- ✗ Build flawed technology - cracking and corrosion issues account for 86% of conventional panel failure.⁴
- ✗ Only cover parts (panel replacement) in product warranties - not freight, labour or disposal (using extensive product warranty loopholes).⁵
- ✗ Provide 'golden samples' for testing only, with inferior versions for end consumers

SOLAR PANEL LONGEVITY COMPARISON

GRAPH 1

Huge difference between cheap and the best



1. Australia - China's solar dumping ground, The Weekend Australian, 17 May 2013

2. In Broad Daylight - report on slavery in panels

3. The current global solar manufacturing landscape, The Breakthrough Institute

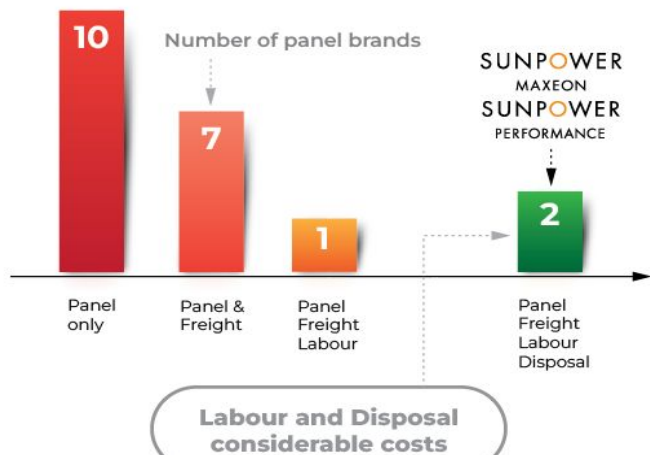
4. Wohlgemuth J. "Reliability of PV systems," proceedings of SPIE

5. Energy Buster 2023 survey

TOP 20 SOLAR PANELS GRAPH 2

Product Warranty Coverage

Based on brands best selling model*



* 2023 survey conducted by Energy Buster

PRODUCT WARRANTY IS CRITICAL

Most solar panels don't last the warranty distance. The best have long and comprehensive warranties. For quality solar without future costs, choose the best panels to start with. **Cheap panels come with cheap warranties!**

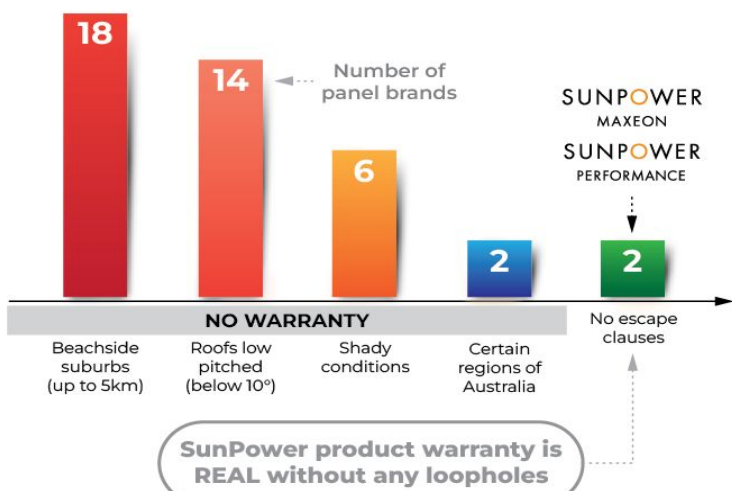
Hints for avoiding the cheapness traps:

- ✓ DON'T stop your purchase review at the product warranty length, study what the product warranty covers, whether there are any loopholes, its relevance to your site, and whether the panels can handle extreme weather conditions.
- ✓ DON'T mistake performance warranty for product warranty. With most solar panel brands you have no warranty once the product warranty ends.
- ✓ BEWARE most panel manufacturers only cover part replacement - see Graph 2. In the future, if your panels fail and your installer (solar retailer) has closed their doors, you'll be paying for freight, labour and disposal.
- ✓ BE ALERT to escape clauses in product warranties, some are triggered by install manuals - see Graph 3.
- ✓ NOTE that nearly all solar panels on the Australian market are built with slave labour. It's likely the Australian Government will follow other Western countries in embargoing these panels - making their product warranties worthless.

TOP 20 SOLAR PANELS GRAPH 3

Product Warranty Escape Clauses

Based on brands best selling model*



* 2023 survey conducted by Energy Buster

SOLUTION

Energy Buster recommends SunPower panels - either their (world's best) Maxeon or their (next best) Performance Series.

- i) SunPower panels are not conventional - they're unique patented technology. The cracking and corrosion flaws of conventional panels have been engineered out.
- ii) A SunPower performance warranty is the same length as the product warranty.
- iii) SunPower panels have the longest and most comprehensive product warranty.
- iv) SunPower panels are not built with slave labour. SunPower's independent audits are listed on SEDEX. **Do not accept anything but an independent audit - inhouse anti-slavery policies and statements are not credible.**
- v) A SunPower product warranty has no escape clauses.

(SEDEX is a leading global reference source for independent audits of responsible and ethical sourcing).

SUNPOWER MAXEON

SUNPOWER PERFORMANCE

