CASE STUDY: Solar DC BBQ Systems Supporting Remote Indigenous Communities

Greenplate® recently partnered with the **MacDonnell Regional Council** to deliver a series of standalone Solar DC BBQ Systems across some of the most remote communities in Australia. Located near Alice Springs, the installations were completed in Titjikala, Haasts Bluff, and Kintore – each situated in areas where access to traditional mains power is either challenging or unavailable.

The project featured Greenplate® Matilda Single BBQ Cabinets paired with integrated battery seat storage systems. The seating was finished with a durable commercial bronze anodized plank design, ensuring both strength and aesthetic appeal while doubling as discreet energy storage.

SYSTEM DESIGN

Each BBQ was installed beneath existing park shelters, with solar modules mounted to the shelter roof to maximise exposure to sunlight. The stored energy is directed into the Greenplate® Solar DC BBQ System, providing a reliable and fully autonomous cooking solution.
To further enhance security, the systems were fitted with a lockable cover plate over the start button. Community members are required to collect a key from their local community centre to activate the BBQs. This approach ensures proper management of the facilities while encouraging responsible use within the community.

WHY THIS SOLUTION WORKS IN REMOTE COMMUNITIES

For communities such as **Titjikala**, **Haasts Bluff**, and **Kintore**, infrastructure is limited and connecting to the electrical grid can be prohibitively expensive or impractical. The Greenplate® Solar Standalone BBQ System is designed specifically for these scenarios, offering a self-sustaining, off-grid cooking solution that operates independently of any external power supply.
This not only eliminates the need for costly infrastructure but also ensures ongoing reliability in areas where power interruptions or shortages can impact day-to-day life.

KEY FEATURES

Matilda Single BBQ Cabinets
Robust and low-maintenance design

Solar-powered DC Technology
No reliance on mains power, ideal for remote regions.

Battery Seat Storage System
Innovative dual-use seating and energy storage solution with anodized finish

Lockable BBQ Access
Managed via community centres to control usage.

Completely Off-grid
Autonomous cooking facilities powered directly by the sun.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Providing communal cooking facilities in these remote Indigenous communities is essential to supporting both cultural and social wellbeing. By offering a clean, safe, and reliable cooking solution, the Greenplate® Solar BBQ Systems become more than just amenities – they serve as gathering points where families and communities can come together.
The installations across MacDonnell Regional Council demonstrate how sustainable off-grid infrastructure can empower remote regions, creating inclusive community spaces while eliminating reliance on traditional utilities.

OUTCOME

The deployment of Greenplate® Solar DC BBQ Systems across **Titjikala**, **Haasts Bluff**, and **Kintore** highlights the success of delivering innovative off-grid technology in some of Australia's most isolated locations. The systems are performing reliably, providing a long-term, environmentally friendly solution that enhances community living and ensures access to safe cooking facilities where they are needed most.

AUSTRALIAN MADE