

Media Release

9 September 2010

SUSTAINABLE HOMES OPEN TO PUBLIC THIS SUNDAY

Alice Springs residents can learn how to live more sustainably from their neighbours this Sunday when two private homes open to the public for Sustainable House Day.

Sustainable House Day is a national event where houses across Australia are opened to the public to provide a living demonstration of how everyone can live more sustainably.

The homes include 68 Kurrajong Drive, which is the retrofitted Alice Solar City and desertSMART COOLmob Sustainable Living House, and 12 Priest St - an ex-government house fitted out for thermal comfort and use of photovoltaic power. Both homes will be open from 1 to 4pm.

Brian Elmer, General Manager of Alice Solar City says that rooftop solar is one of the most popular topics of interest when the regular public open days are held at 68 Kurrajong Drive.

“This Sunday, homeowners can compare the pros and cons of getting rooftop solar at two different sites by talking to the owners, and energy efficiency experts at both houses.”

“Just a few weeks ago we saw the largest PV system installed on a residential home in Alice Springs, bringing the total number of solar homes to 375.”

Graham and Leanne had the huge 5kW system installed by Conergy, one of the preferred suppliers in the Alice Solar City Bulk Purchase Scheme.

“We have a young family and will be living in our house long term, so we thought it would make a great financial investment”, said Graham.

“Due to our large roof space and positioning it made sense to go with the biggest system available and in about 10 years after it has paid for itself, we will no longer have to pay an electricity bill.”

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Also on display at the two open homes, are solar hot water systems, a solar space heating system, rainwater tanks, insulation, arid-zone gardens and there will be plenty of energy and water efficiency advice.

Alice Springs residents are welcome to visit 68 Kurrajong Drive and 12 Priest St anytime from 1-4pm this Sunday.

For more information visit www.alicesolarcity.com.au/sustainable-living-house

Ends...

For media enquiries please contact Laurelle Halford from Creative Territory on 0417 222 211 or (08) 8952 9412 or laurelle@creativeterritory.com

About Alice Solar City

The Alice Springs Solar City Consortium is led by the Alice Springs Town Council and includes broad community support from the Northern Territory Government, Power and Water Corporation, Tangentyere Council, the Northern Territory Chamber of Commerce, the Desert Knowledge Cooperative Research Centre and the Arid Lands Environment Centre. Funding sources include the Australian Government, the Northern Territory Government, Power and Water Corporation, and Alice Springs Town Council.

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