



# Alice Solar City

## ENERGY CHAMPIONS

In 2007 Alice Springs became Australia's fifth Solar City, joining the Australian Government's Solar Cities Program that aims to develop a sustainable energy future for towns and cities nationwide.

### What is Alice Solar City?

Alice Solar City is a six year project that aims to explore how technology, behaviour change and new approaches to electricity pricing can combine to provide a sustainable energy future in urban locations throughout Australia. It involves all levels of government, the private sector and the local community. It brings the community together to become:

#### Energy wise

Engaged in a debate about energy efficiency and solar power

#### Energy savvy

Aware of the need to conserve energy and the things we can do to contribute

#### Energy committed

Prepared to make changes in our lives to conserve energy

#### Energy champions

A model for the rest of Australia and the world to follow

### Why did Alice Springs become a Solar City?

Simple. Located in the heart of our continent, and blessed with an abundance of sunshine, our town is the perfect candidate. There are many benefits in being a Solar City, including decreasing our greenhouse emissions, reducing our impact on the environment, and saving money. For Alice Springs residents, learning how to be more energy efficient can lead to substantial savings on power bills. You may also find your property value increases when you install photovoltaic solar power systems, solar hot water systems and other energy efficiency measures. The project includes a range of attractive financial incentives, making it easier to invest in these initiatives. Through the project, we can learn more about our own energy use and how to manage it, and show the next generation how to conserve resources. Also, we will all save money in the long run by reducing the need for costly upgrades to electricity infrastructure.



**Australian Government**  
**Solar Cities**



## What are the main elements of the project?

There are three main elements to the Alice Solar City project.

## Who is managing the Alice Solar City project?

Alice Solar City is managed by a consortium that includes:

- Alice Springs Town Council
- Power and Water Corporation
- Northern Territory Government
- Desert Knowledge Co-operative Research Centre
- Arid Lands Environment Centre
- Tangentyere Council
- Northern Territory Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Imparja, BP Solar, Solarhart, Solar Systems, Bendigo Bank, TIO, Alice Springs Airport and the Joint Defence Facility Pine Gap have committed to support for the project. But the most important participants in this project are the people of Alice Springs – businesses, NGO's and individuals. It's only by working together as a community that we can all become energy champions.



**Australian Government**

**Solar Cities**

Part of the  
Australian Government's  
Solar Cities Initiative

## 1. Residential incentives

A range of incentives will be available to Alice Springs residents, including rewards for reducing their electricity use and incentives to implement energy efficiency measures, solar hot water systems and photovoltaic solar power systems. They will also be encouraged, with financial incentives, to monitor and reduce their energy use through home energy surveys, smart meters and cost reflective tariffs.

## 2. Iconic solar energy installations

Alice Solar City is supporting the development of major "iconic" projects in and around Alice Springs that will play a critical part in our strategy of making Alice Springs a national and international showcase for sustainable living and the use of renewable energy.

These projects will showcase large scale renewable energy technologies, which will include large scale photovoltaic and solar thermal systems.

## 3. Commercial incentives

The commercial sector in Alice Springs will be targeted under the Program, with free energy audits provided for small to medium sized enterprises. For larger businesses, financial assistance of up to 50% will be offered to assist with the cost of engaging a professional energy auditor. Funding will be made available for the implementation of energy efficiency and solar energy measures at both small and large businesses and other non-domestic premises.

## When?

The project will run for six years, from 2008 to 2013. Over this time, we expect to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by about 12,942 tonnes each year – the equivalent of removing 3,266 or about one in five of all the cars in Alice Springs!

## Where?

The national program focuses on urban centres, so participants must live in the township of Alice Springs (within the municipal council boundary). The Smart Living Centre is the Alice Solar City activity hub, coordination centre, education venue and showroom for project initiatives. Anyone who is interested in the project is encouraged to come in and learn more.

## Need more information?

Come and see us at the Smart Living Centre or phone us on **08 8950 4350**, email **info@alicesolarcity.com.au** or visit our website **www.alicesolarcity.com.au**

**Location:** 2/82 Todd Street (opposite Civic Centre)  
**Opening hours:** 8.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday  
10.30am to 5pm, Friday