



**central**  
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Thursday April 8

### **Perth Solar City commissions first iconic project**

The first of five major solar energy installations in Perth was launched today at Central Institute of Technology (formerly TAFE) in East Perth, as part of the Perth Solar City program.

Central Institute of Technology is the major training provider in Perth for technicians installing PV panels, the panels to be installed will be connected to the main grid and will provide hands-on experience for students studying in this field.

This 48.6kW system, made up of 162 SunPower 300W modules (panels) will produce 73,000 units annually (73MWh), which is equivalent to the annual electrical demand of approximately 20 houses. Any excess power produced will be fed back in to WA's electricity grid.

Central Institute of Technology's Managing Director Neil Fernandes said that the Institute is very proud to launch one of the first iconic solar power systems as part of the Perth Solar City program. This solar installation is an important development for our East Perth campus as it is where the Institute's Green Skills Training Centre is located.

"Adding to the Centre's training portfolio in sustainability, water operations, and environmental science, this development is both a significant enhancement to our renewable energy training program, as well as a great opportunity for the Institute to contribute to the community effort to reduce carbon emissions," said Mr Fernandes.

The Central Institute of Technology's Perth Solar City installation is one of five iconic solar energy projects designed to build, test and promote energy efficient power systems in the community.

Western Power's Andrew Blaver, Perth Solar City Program Manager said the Central Institute of Technology should be congratulated for their vision and commitment to sustainable energy.

"This project fulfills all of Perth Solar City's objectives: to create projects which engage the community; save power; test solar power systems' interaction with the electricity network and educate the public.

“The five iconic installations, along with a series of initiatives in Perth’s Eastern region involving 106,000 homes, will help to highlight the importance of renewables as a future energy source,” Mr Blaver said.

There will be four other solar energy installations at iconic locations around Perth, to showcase the economic and environmental benefits of wiser energy choices.

These solar installations will be showcased at Perth Zoo, Perth Arena, Midland Foundry, Central Institute of Technology and Kings Park.

### **Background: Perth Solar City**

Perth’s Eastern region is home to Perth Solar City and includes the Shire of Kalamunda, Town of Belmont, Shire of Mundaring, City of Swan, Town of Bassendean and Town of Bayswater.

Perth Solar City is part of the Australian Government’s \$94 million Solar Cities Program.

Residents in Perth’s Eastern region will gain access to valuable discounts off solar hot water systems, solar energy systems, and take part in other energy saving projects.

The five iconic projects are located outside the EMRC geographic area so that the West Australian public can also have access to major PV installation projects around Perth.

Western Power is leading the Perth Solar City program, with other consortium members being the Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority, Mojarra, EMRC, Prospero Productions, SolaHart, SunPower, and Synergy.

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