

MEDIA RELEASE

Monitor and manage energy use with Central Victoria Solar City's free in-home display offer

Tuesday 12 April 2011:

Central Victoria Solar City is helping residents across our 14 municipalities to better monitor and manage their energy use with in-home displays that are being offered free with the energy research projects' household solar electricity package.

CVSC is giving away 250 in-home displays to its household solar electricity package customers across the 14 central Victorian municipalities in which it operates.

The offer builds upon CVSC's success in providing more than 1000 free home energy assessments to central Victorian residents as part of its research into the effectiveness of different energy efficiency and renewable energy products and services in reducing energy use and reliance on non-renewable energy.

The CVSC in-home displays are a great tool for monitoring and managing household energy consumption and measuring renewable energy exported to the grid and will contribute to the projects research.

The in-home display offer is also a great inducement to purchase a household solar electricity package through CVSC before the reduction to the federal government's solar credits scheme from 1 July.

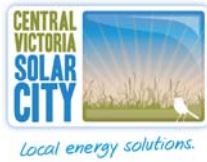
According to CVSC project director Leah Sertori, an in-home display is similar to a petrol gauge as it allows households to monitor how much energy they are using and manage that use appropriately.

"Imagine driving your car without a petrol gauge ... you can't see how much petrol you're using - it would come as a shock when the petrol runs out," Ms Sertori said.

"Like a fuel gauge in a car, an in-home display reduces the shock that people tend to get when they receive their electricity bill, because they can see at each moment in time how much electricity their home is using and how much they are paying for it," she said.

"An in-home display is a great tool for quickly becoming aware of your household's electricity use."





CVSC participants who take up the household solar electricity package will also receive a free home energy assessment to test the energy efficiency of their home and to provide householders with the knowledge to run their homes more efficiently.

Central Victoria Solar City is managed by locally-based Sustainable Regional Australia. Consortium members include Bendigo and Adelaide Bank, Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA), Origin and Powercor. The Victorian Government, through Sustainability Victoria and the Sustainability Fund, is also a key funding contributor. Fourteen local municipalities in Central Victoria support the project.

Hepburn residents can sign up for a solar system (and also their free In-Home Display and Home Energy Assessment) by calling the office on (03) 5479 1900 or registering their interest at www.centralvictoriasolarcity.com.au.

For further information please call:

Hugh Martin (0437 030 024) or Ned Kemal (0419 284 658)



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