

100% RENEWABLE COMMUNITIES PROGRAM



Local energy solutions.

IS YOUR COMMUNITY SEEKING SOLUTIONS ON ENERGY ISSUES?

Is your community:

- Frustrated with high energy prices?
- Wanting to cut energy consumption?
- Thinking about energy independence?
- Seeking an avenue to become stronger?



APPLY TO PARTNER WITH SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL AUSTRALIA (SRA)

Sustainable Regional Australia (SRA) manages the Central Victoria Solar City project, part of the Australian Government's Solar Cities program, studying how hospitals, businesses, schools, individuals and communities use energy and how changes to energy use behaviour and infrastructure can impact overall energy use. SRA is also the lead proponent of the CVSC consortium. Consortium members include Bendigo and Adelaide Bank, Central Victoria Greenhouse Alliance (CVGA), Origin and Powercor.

SRA is seeking applications from passionate and committed regional communities to select one community to partner to increase energy efficiency and establish community owned renewable energy assets through our 100% Renewable Communities program.

A: 3 Johnstone St Castlemaine, Victoria 3450 P: PO Box 557 Castlemaine, Victoria 3450
T: (03) 5479 1900 F: (03) 5406 0953 E: info@centralvictoriasolarcity.com.au

www.centralvictoriasolarcity.com.au

Part of the Australian Government's Solar Cities initiative



Australian Government
Solar Cities



Sustainable Regional Australia (SRA) is the partner of choice for regional communities wanting to find solutions to current energy issues and working towards energy independence. SRA works in partnership with communities using our experience in finding solutions in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industry.

SRA's values: Community Focussed, Cooperatively Spirited, Customer Focussed, Financial Sustainability, Environmental Accountability, Innovation, Broad-based Community Ownership.

100% Renewable Communities program involves projects where SRA partners with passionate and committed regional Australian communities to collectively reduce energy consumption and own a renewable energy asset. The model is delivered in six incremental stages. The model is structured to be flexible to achieve community goals and outcomes, and communities may wish to achieve part of the model.

SRA partnership benefits include project facilitation and mentoring; access to intellectual property of 100% Renewable Communities model; support in community engagement, marketing and research; energy assessment training and employment; assistance in company formation, capital raising and solar park infrastructure building; and access to SRA established networks and opportunities across business, government and community.

Community actions and outcomes may include increased energy literacy; enhanced social capital and capacity building; improved governance; collective reduction in energy consumption; local employment; energy independence and security; tailor made community enterprise; eco-tourism; and establishment of a community-owned renewable energy asset.



SRA's 100% Renewable Communities Model:



Renewable Newstead story:

Newstead set some goals for tackling energy solutions at their very own "Newstead Summit 2021". Their proven track record in delivering local projects made a perfect fit to partner with CVSC to establish Renewable Newstead. The committee of 14 bring a diverse skill base to steer the project. The project's Community Engagement Officer has been integral to gain the local support. Newstead's principle goal is to strengthen their community as they proceed to establish a community owned renewable asset. Their project has a website, complete with video, and Renewable Newstead is also the main sponsor of the Newstead Football and Netball Club!

The Newstead community has recently completed the first three stages of the 100% Renewable Communities project, in partnership with CVSC (SRA). Newstead is a town that is tackling energy issues and strives to become a community where people think, talk and understand energy usage and options.

Stage one allowed the project to become established and over 100 people attended the public launch. Stage two has seen community engagement through workshops, the completion of 170 energy assessments and take-up of product suite offers including retrofit, solar hot water and solar electricity. Stage three completed and presented the feasibility study and social survey.



"I feel lucky to have had the opportunity to pull together with my neighbours and community to be part of something important."

Newstead resident, October 2011

"I have never lived in a town as cohesive and active as Newstead. This is the perfect town for such a project as a large part of the community already has a huge interest in sustainability, environmental preservation and sharing resources."

Renewable Newstead Community Survey, Sept 2011

Application process for the in the 100% Renewable Communities program:

For the most up to date and comprehensive information on the project description and application guidelines please visit www.centralvictoriasolarcity.com.au/renewable-communities

For further information, please contact:

Ross Egleton, Project Manager Renewable Communities; Mob: 0467 519 003; Ph: 5479 1900.

Communities must provide a cover letter requesting to partner with SRA, address the selection criteria below and submit their application in one document (Microsoft Word format) by Tuesday 31st January, 2012 to:

Sustainable Regional Australia

Ross Egleton

100% Renewable Communities Project Manager

by post: PO Box 557, Castlemaine 3450

or email: ross.egleton@centralvictoriasolarcity.com.au

Selection criteria for application:

Essential Selection Criteria to become a project partner in the 100% Renewable Communities program (maximum 300 words for each criteria)

Demonstrated track record in community led and delivered projects, highlighting volunteerism and in kind support

Describe your approach to community engagement in this project

Community capacity to provide an energy assessor for one year paid part time employment

Evidence that a minimum of 100 people have completed or would commit to an energy assessment for households and businesses

Leadership group commitment, skill set and wide spread community representation

Reasons why your community is suitable to partner

Eligibility:

Any Australian regional community with minimum population of 400 residents.

Selection Date:

SRA intend to notify the successful applicant by Wednesday 29th February, 2012.

