



Simon Corbell MLA

ATTORNEY GENERAL
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR TERRITORY AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

MEDIA RELEASE

LARGE SCALE SOLAR ENERGY AUCTION

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, Simon Corbell, today announced the solar energy industry will have an opportunity to compete to establish 40MW of generation from large scale facilities in the ACT.

“The ACT government stands firm in its position to move toward medium and larger scale renewable energy generation which provides greater cost benefit for the local community,” Mr Corbell said.

“We recognise that competent solar energy developers can lower the cost of renewable energy if they are given an opportunity to optimise the technology employed, size and location of their proposed facilities.

“The government will lead the way to securing significant quantities of affordable renewable energy by conducting Australia’s first of type auction giving solar energy generators a chance to offer the best deal to consumers in the ACT.

“Industry also knows what financial support is required for a successful project and is best placed to propose the level of price support.”

The ACT Government intends to develop supporting legislation and an auction framework during 2011.

Consultations have occurred on the design of an auction and price support mechanism. A briefing paper is now available to inform industry of the design features of the auction and the price support mechanisms available to successful projects. Industry can now prepare for the auction and comment on the design.

“I see several advantages in the auction process that will source solar energy in addition to the current micro and medium scale schemes,” Mr Corbell said.

“This significantly contributes to the Territory’s green house gas abatement targets, leveraging economies of scale and location, providing financial security for developers that will reduce solar energy costs, and contributing to a clean energy industry in the ACT.”

For further information and to access the auction briefing, visit
www.environment.act.gov.au/energy/solar_auction

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