

JULY 28, 2009

ADVERTISEMENT

City working towards a greener future



THE CITY OF WANNEROO IS LEADING THE WAY IN ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY PRACTICES, WITH TWO NEW INITIATIVES IT WILL IMPLEMENT TO HELP REDUCE ENERGY AND WATER USE.

"The City is committed to ensuring a sustainable environment for the community", said Mayor Kelly. **"One of the main objectives in our Strategic Plan is to encourage the reduction of greenhouse emissions and the use of alternate energy. What better way to promote that than leading by example and implementing these initiatives."**

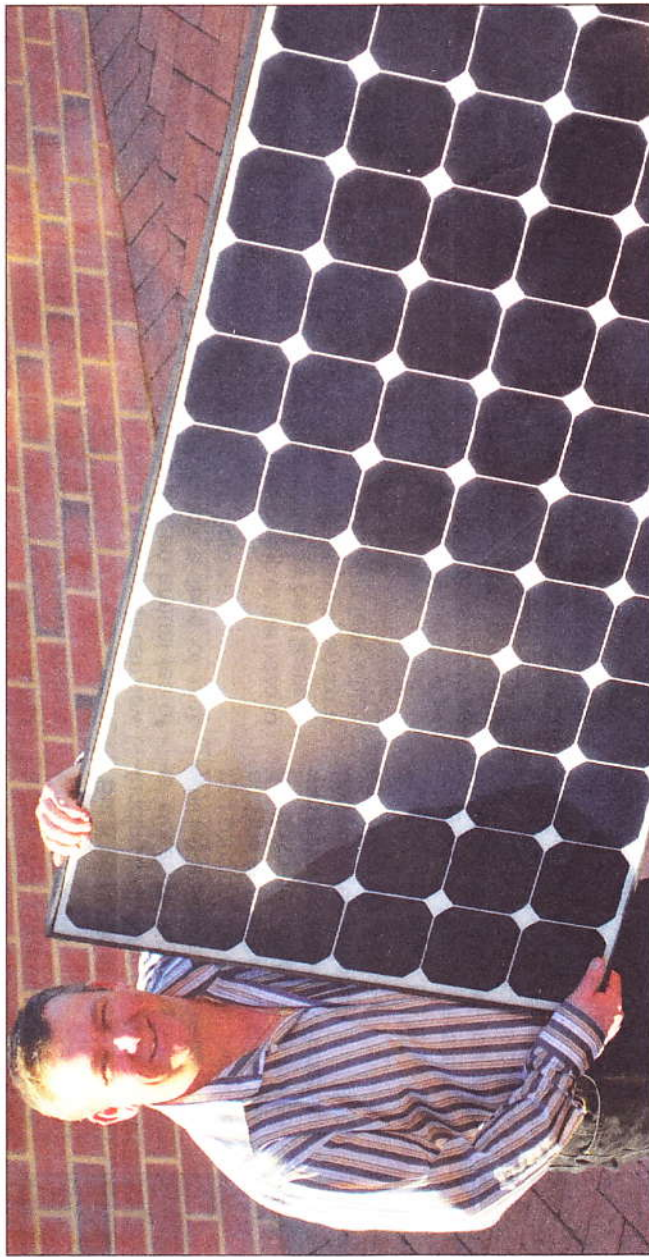
Next month a solar power generator system will be installed at the City's Civic Centre, which has the potential to save 38.5 tonnes of carbon dioxide per year which is equivalent to heating and cooling 26 homes for a year.

Mayor Kelly said the City planned to run educational tours with local schools about solar power generation and the issues of climate change.

"The installation of a solar power system will raise the profile of sustainable practices and will highlight the importance of positive change through the education of staff and residents of the Wanneroo community," Mayor Kelly said.

The \$230,000 project is covered by the Federal Government under the 'Regional and Local Community Infrastructure Program - Strategic Projects' Program.

The City has also signed up to the 'Switch Your Thinking' program - a community engagement and incentive project that aims to reduce water and energy use.



City of Wanneroo Mayor Jon Kelly with one of the solar panels being installed at the Civic Centre.

While the City has been working hard to reduce energy and water use through the 'Cities for Climate Protection and Water Campaign' programs, by joining the "Switch Your Thinking" program, Wanneroo will be closer to reaching its goal of reducing community emissions by 20 per cent by 2012.

Launched in 2002 by the South East Regional Energy Group (SEREG) councils, the 'Switch Your Thinking' program intends to deliver sustainable initiatives to local communities.

The program has been a success, already helping to cut greenhouse emissions by more than 250,000 tonnes - the equivalent of taking more than 58,000 cars off the road.

Mayor Kelly said a major benefit of the City joining the program was the incentives that will be available to residents.

"Influencing the community to reduce their water consumption and energy use can be difficult but the discounts and offers available are a great incentive," he said.

The City is working with SEREG to plan the projects and initiatives that will be implemented over the next three years.

Projects will target several sectors within the City, including residential, commercial, schools and the development industry.