



# 2011 Melaleuca Awards Alice Springs Airport

SUBMISSION DOCUMENT

Category: Commercial/Industrial

## Alice Springs Airport Solar Power Station

*Creating a New Energy Future*

**2011****MELALEUCA  
AWARDS**Recognising  
Environmental  
ExcellenceTicket class  
Friday  
29 AprilAward ceremony  
Friday  
30 April

## Nomination Form

Name of group, organisation or individual:

Alice Springs Airport

Postal address

PO Box 796

Alice Springs

Contact person

Sharon Hoops

Telephone

08 8920 1814

Email

sharon.hoops@ntairports.com.au

Facsimile

08 8920 1800

How did you find out about the Melaleuca Awards?

(please tick):

- ☐ Bus advertisement      ☐ Brochure  
☐ Newspaper                ☐ Radio  
☐ Website                    ☐ Word of mouth  
☐ Direct mail                ☐ Car advertisement  
☐ Customer service centre  
☒ Other Previous entrant

Category (please tick one):

- ☒ Commercial/Industry      ☐ Schools  
☐ Community                ☐ Small Business  
☐ Individual                  ☐ Environment Grants  
☐ Photographic Competition  
☐ Children's section (under 12 years)  
☐ Young people's section (12 to 18 years)  
☐ Open section (over 18 years)

Title of photograph:

Photograph caption: (maximum 50 words)

Your entry must include the nomination form and digital image (10MB size minimum 300dpi) to be submitted electronically via email or online form; via post or hand delivery with image on a USB stick or CD.

I certify that this nomination is complete, the information is true and accurate and I have read and accept the conditions of entry:

Signed

Sharon Hoops

Date

19/4/2011

Name (please print)

SHARON HOOPS

## Completed nominations (excluding photographic competition):

Electronic entries via the website or email address are strongly encouraged. Entries must include the nomination form, submission, 10 electronic photos (300 dpi, jpeg) and any other supporting documentation as appropriate.

## Online

powerwater.com.au/melaleuca

## Email

melaleuca.awards@  
powerwater.com.au

## Hand deliver

Corporate Communications  
Power and Water Corporation  
Melaleuca Awards  
Level 2 Mitchell Centre  
55-59 Mitchell Street  
Darwin NT 0800

## Post

Power and Water Corporation  
Corporate Communications  
Melaleuca Awards  
GPO Box 1921  
Darwin NT 0801

## For more information contact:

Corporate Communications,  
Power and Water Corporation

## Telephone

Melaleuca Awards Coordinator  
08 8985 8513

## Email

melaleuca.awards@  
powerwater.com.au

powerwater.com.au/melaleuca



# SECTION 1 Executive Summary

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The idea for the Alice Springs Airport Solar Power Station was conceived in 2006.

After four years of extensive planning, recruitment of project partners, tender processes and construction, the Solar Power Station was switched on in September 2010, then officially launched at a “ribbon cutting” event in November 2010 by the Director of Solar Cities (Australian Government, Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency), Mr Michael Ward.

The initiative was part of the Alice Solar City Project – one of the seven cities selected for funding under the Australian Government’s \$94 million Solar Cities Program.

Alice Springs Airport is now the only Australian airport to have a large scale solar energy plant feeding back to its electricity grid and at peak output provides around 28% of the airport’s average daily energy needs.

“This Australian-first installation of the latest solar technology will be a great asset for Alice Springs Airport for years to come.”

Don McDonald,  
Development Manager (Infrastructure)  
Northern Territory Airports





## SECTION 2

### Entry

## BACKGROUND

Alice Springs Airport is owned by Northern Territory Airports who in turn is owned by three major shareholders; Industry Funds Management Managed Funds, Hastings Funds Management/AIX and Palisade Investment Partners Limited. More than 70,000 Territorians receive a contribution to their superannuation account from Alice Springs Airport each year.

In the 2009/2010 financial year, Alice Springs Airport serviced some 681,000 passengers and handled 23,000 aircraft movements.

Alice Springs Airport is strategically important to the Central Australian community, providing facilities for the local community, tourists, and other visitors to the area, air services for remote communities, a Royal Flying Doctor base, the Joint Research Facility at Pine Gap, and other recreational activities.

Other stakeholders involved in the Solar Power Station project include:

- Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency (DCCEE);
- Alice Solar City (ASC);
- Ingenero;
- SolFocus and
- CAT Projects (CATP).

### ALICE SOLAR CITY

Alice Solar City is a \$37 million project designed to explore how solar power energy-efficient technologies and new approaches to electricity supply and pricing can encourage residents and businesses to become energy champions and develop a sustainable energy future.

Alice Solar City is not just about solar power, it's also about being energy wise.

Alice Springs Airport worked with Alice Solar City for several years on the Solar Power Station project with support from Alice Springs-based CAT projects.

The commercial and public sectors use more than 50% of Alice Springs' power and are integral to the success of Alice Solar City.

The commitment by Alice Springs Airport to invest in this project (with funding assistance from the Australian Government) demonstrates its clear commitment to reducing carbon emissions.



“This is an installation that everyone can be proud of: it combines outstanding technology with solar common sense.”

Rodger Whitby  
General Manager – Generation, Ingenero

## BACKGROUND continued

### Construction and commissioning of the Solar Power Station at Alice Springs Airport is the culmination of a four year project.

The project idea was initially conceived in 2006 and, over a four year period, the airport worked closely with Alice Solar City and undertook a competitive tendering process run by CAT Projects.

In mid-2009, after assessing 21 responses to the Request for Proposal (RFP), Ingenero Pty Ltd was selected by Alice Springs Airport to design and construct the Solar Power Station.

Ingenero is a leading Australian renewable energy company specialising in solar power, using a variety of world-class solar technologies.

Ingenero is an Australian development partner for SolFocus, based in California (USA), whose concentrator photovoltaic technology was used for the project.

SolFocus was chosen as the technology partner because of its leading-edge solar concentration technology. The concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) arrays use mirrored dishes to magnify the sun's energy 650 times.

The 235kW facility is the first SolFocus Concentrated Photovoltaic (CPV) facility to be constructed in the southern hemisphere and is the largest tracking solar system in Alice Springs.

Located about 800 metres from the airport terminal building, the Solar Power Station is projected to supply over 600MWh of electricity per annum to the airport, and deliver greenhouse gas savings exceeding 12,000 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> over the life of the plant.

The CPV module structure has been designed to reduce pilot glare as the small parabolic mirrors ensure that only ambient glare and not direct glare is reflected back in any azimuth of the sky.

The project has combined world class technology with national and local industry participation and has brought new skill requirements and expertise to remote Australia.

Reducing the Airport's carbon emissions by about 470 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year (the equivalent of about 70 Alice Springs households per annum) the project confirms Alice Springs Airport's commitment to sustainability.

One of the 28 arrays is a designated research and development tool to help gather data and test new products in the Alice Springs climate.

Local labour was used to install the 28 arrays, and the project was finished on time, on budget and to the highest standards. The project was well managed, and cooperation between the owner, developer, consultants and government bodies was seamless.



# THE TECHNOLOGY

**The Solar Power Station comprises of 28 SolFocus SF-1100 Concentrator Photovoltaic (CPV) tracking arrays. Each individual array is rated at 8.4kW peak power and measures eight metres wide and seven metres high.**

SolFocus technology is particularly effective in areas of high direct normal incident radiation (sunny locations), like Alice Springs.

Due to the use of SolFocus CPV tracking technology, Alice Springs Airport's Solar Power Station outputs more electricity than similar sized systems.

CPV systems are an emerging solar technology offering significant potential for cost reductions in photovoltaic (PV) systems. This technology could make the cost of solar energy more affordable in the near future.

Traditional PV systems use a large amount of photovoltaic material which is expensive. SolFocus technology only uses small amounts of photovoltaic material in conjunction with less expensive materials such as glass and steel, to capture sunlight and direct it only a very small PV cell.

The triple junction photovoltaic cells were originally developed for satellites in space. At approximately 40% efficiency, these cells are about twice as efficient at converting light into electricity compared to polycrystalline silicon PV cells that many households have on their roofs.

Most solar technology is static whereas the SolFocus arrays track the sun, increasing the amount of energy produced. By tracking the sun, the energy output is higher than traditional PV systems, as more of the sun's energy can be harnessed during the day.

At the end of each day, each of the 28 arrays closes down for the night by turning a few degrees off vertical (like a sunflower) to protect them from dust and other hazards. SolFocus CPV technology is suitable for mass production

which helps reduce the cost of producing solar projects. It is one of the few "commercially ready" solar technologies in the world.

The construction of the Alice Springs Airport project is helping to develop this technology.

The SolFocus arrays produce about 600MWh of electricity a year, which is fed directly into the airport's high voltage electricity network.

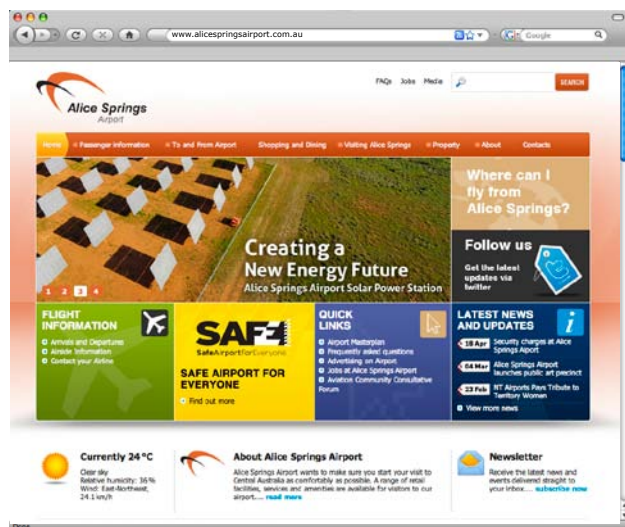


# CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Information about the Solar Power Station at Alice Springs Airport will be communicated to the general community and visitors to the airport via the following methods:

## Web Page

[www.alicespringsairport.com.au](http://www.alicespringsairport.com.au)



The Alice Springs Airport web page currently receives traffic of around 2,000 page views per week. The Solar Power Station features prominently on the web page and will soon be updated to include information on daily power output.

## The Alice Springs Airport “app” for iPhone, iPad and iPod touch

Due for launch in mid-June, the Alice Springs Airport “app” will feature a section on the Solar Power Station. The “app” will detail the background of the project and a direct feed to the data stream detailing power output.



## The Kiosk (or pod)

Also due for installation in mid-June 2011, a unique information kiosk (pod) will be installed in the terminal at Alice Springs Airport.

The kiosk will be a touch screen style unit that allows visitors to the airport to learn about all facets of the project, from conception to completion.



## Promotion at Alice Springs Airport

Advertising space has been provided above the baggage carousel at Alice Springs Airport to Alice Solar City to promote their activity and to highlight the benefits of the use of solar power.

## PROJECT AT A GLANCE

**Location:**

Alice Springs Airport  
Roger Vale Drive  
Connellan  
Northern Territory

**Owner:**

Alice Springs Airport Pty Ltd

**Principal Contractor:**

Ingenero Pty Ltd

**Prime Equipment Supplier:**

SolFocus

**Capacity:**

235kW

**Projected Annual Output:**

600MWh

**Technology:**

SolFocus SF-1100 CPV tracking arrays  
Total Project Cost: \$2.264 million (ex GST)

**Funding:**

- \$1.132 million from Northern Territory Airports Pty Ltd
- \$1.132 million from the Australian Government as part of Alice Solar City

**Construction Start:**

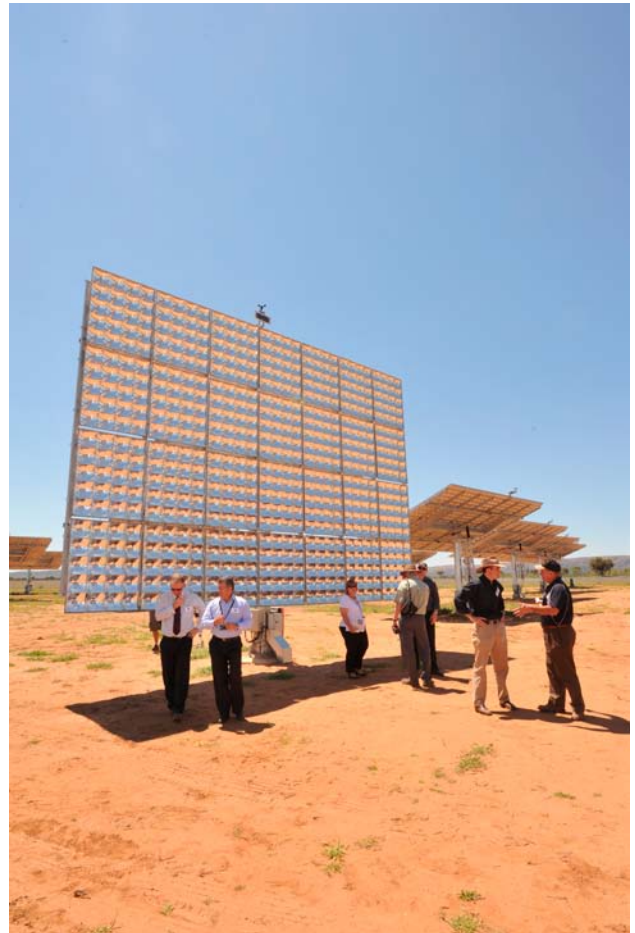
May 2010

**Switch On Date:**

September 2010

**Launch Date:**

November 2010



# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

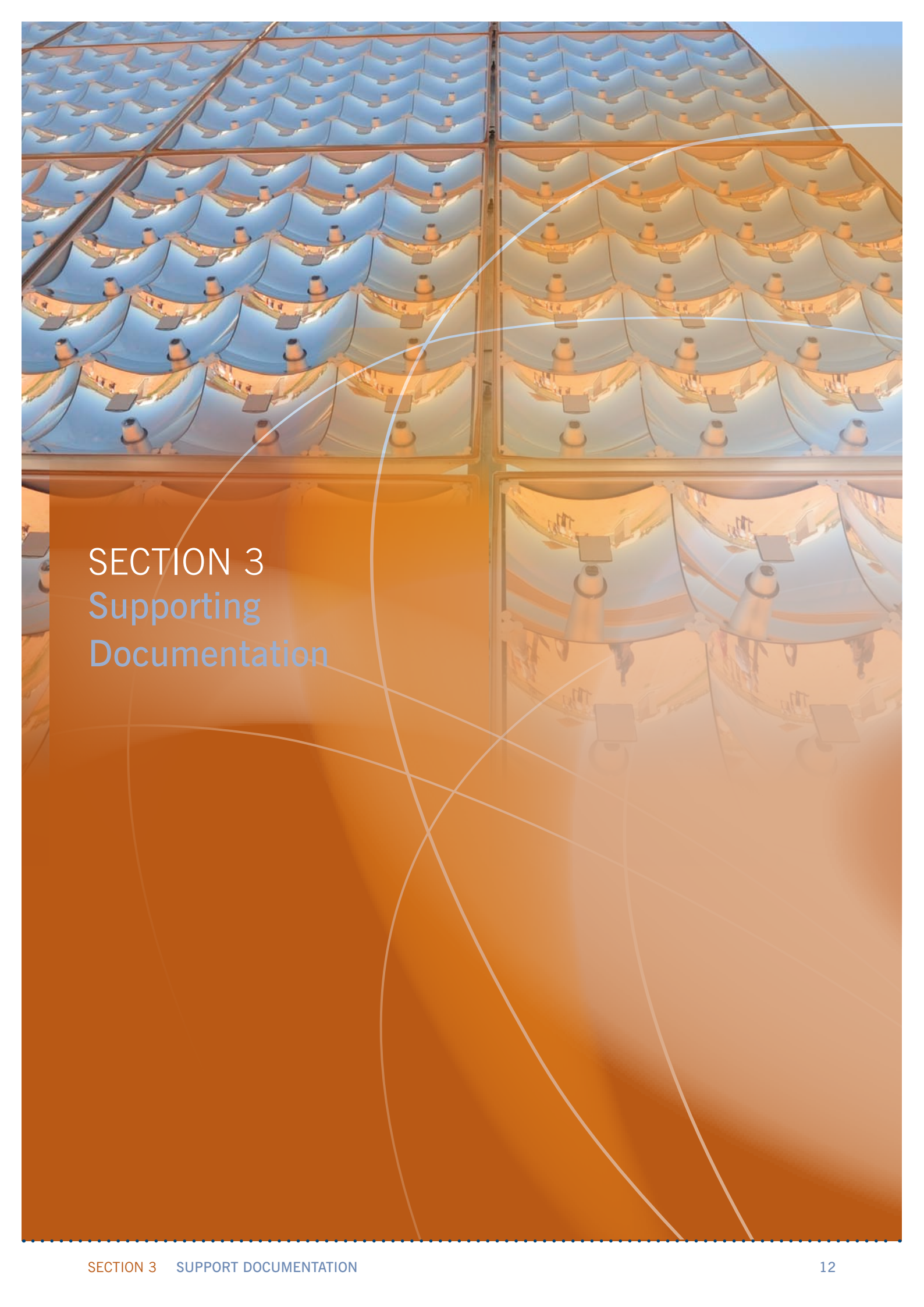
Airport Development Group\* recognises the importance of maintaining and enhancing the quality of the environment for the benefit of all Australians, present and future.

In developing and managing Darwin International Airport, Alice Springs Airport and Tennant Creek Airport, we will establish and maintain a system to:

- Identify and manage the significant environmental impacts on our airports;
- Set, in consultation with relevant authorities and the community, specific environmental objectives and targets to continually improve environmental management, minimise our environmental impacts and to prevent pollution;
- Continually measure, monitor, report, review and improve upon the environmental performance defined by our objectives and targets;
- Incorporate sustainability principles to ensure the needs of the present generation can be met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs;
- Ensure company systems and processes incorporate consideration of sustainability;
- Comply with relevant environmental legislation and regulations;
- Lead and encourage stakeholders to improve the management of the environment, resources and communities in the regions in which we operate; and
- Promote the Company's commitment to the environment, to our employees, tenants, customers and neighbours.



\*Airport Development Group is the parent company of Alice Springs Airport



## SECTION 3 Supporting Documentation



21 April 2010

## MEDIA RELEASE

### World Leading Solar Power Station for Alice Springs Airport

Alice Springs Airport today launched a major solar power station project, using new Concentrator Photovoltaic (CPV) technology that will supply about 28 per cent of the airport's energy needs.

Concentrator Photovoltaic (CPV) systems are an emerging solar technology offering significant potential for cost reductions in photovoltaic (PV) systems.

The first of its kind in the southern hemisphere, the installation will comprise 28 impressive SolFocus arrays, each eight metres wide and seven metres high.

"We are installing one of the largest tracking solar systems in Australia and the largest in Alice Springs," said Ian Kew, Chief Executive Officer of Northern Territory Airports.

Alice Springs will be the first Australian airport to have a large scale (over 100kW) photovoltaic system providing a direct source of renewable energy to its internal grid. It will be on display to travellers, visible from both the ground and the air.

Valued at about \$2.3 million, the project will receive \$1.132 million of funding from the Australian Government, as part of the Alice Solar City Project.

Brisbane solar energy specialists Ingenero Pty Ltd will be the principal contractor for the solar power station, to be located about 700 metres north-west of the terminal building.

"It will reduce the airport's carbon emissions by about 470 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year, the equivalent of about 70 Alice Springs households per annum," Mr Kew said.

"We are a major electricity user in Alice Springs, and this project seemed an ideal way to demonstrate our commitment to harnessing the benefits of renewable energy."

"We have also encouraged tenants to undertake their own solar installations. For example, one of the airport's tenants, Alice Springs Helicopters who were winners of the National Small Business Export Award for 2009, recently installed rooftop solar panels with support from Alice Solar City."

"We have also implemented a number of energy efficiency measures inside the airport terminal building, such as installing energy-efficient light globes, motion sensors and timers to control lights and other electrical appliances."

"These initiatives reconfirm Northern Territory Airports' commitment to sustainability. In addition to the solar project, \$100,000 will be spent making the terminal more energy-

# Watts up at our mega sun farm

Dan Moss

AUSTRALIA'S largest solar power plant will be built in Alice Springs in the coming months to power nearly a third of the airport's electricity needs.

The first sod was turned on Wednesday for the \$2.3 million project, which is slated to generate up to 600 megawatt hours a year from solar arrays that follow the sun like sunflowers.

The Alice Solar Cities project funded by the Federal Government and the Alice Springs Airport each paid half the project's costs.

NT Airports CEO Ian Kew said he hoped a new housing development on airport land, which still needed to be approved by the Federal Government, would be powered by an extended solar power plant.

The array — shaped like a big muffin baking tray — holds individual solar concentrators, round reflectors, like those in car headlights.

The concentrator magnifies the sun's rays 600 times on to another mirror, which shines through a prism on to a 1-sq cm high-efficiency solar cell at the middle of the concentrator.

In total, 28 arrays will be placed



Ingenero manager Rodger Whitby, airport GM Don McDonald, Alice Solar Cities GM Brian Elmer and NT Airports CEO Ian Kew.

adjacent to the Airport. Mr Kew said they would be a prominent sign of the town's solar credentials.

"It is a scalable technology and we can increase that (generating capacity)."

He said if the plant were successful it could be expanded and power a proposed residential development on airport land in the

future. He said: "Who knows, that residential development may be powered by solar power in the future. We'd certainly like to see that was the case."

Brisbane technology supplier Ingenero supplied the SolFocus designed arrays and was aiming for a switch on date of August 2010.





Ian Kew and Senator Trish Crossin

## Solar Project

Construction at Alice Springs Airport's Solar Power Station kicked off in April with an official "sod turning" event officiated by Senator Trish Crossin.

Using new Concentrator Photovoltaic (CPV) technology that will supply around 28% of the airport's energy needs, the power station is the first of its kind in the southern hemisphere. Valued at around \$2.3 million, the project received \$1.132 million of funding from the Australian Government as part of the Alice Solar City Project.

Brisbane solar energy specialists Ingenero Pty Ltd are the principal contractor for the solar power station which is located 700 metres north-west of the terminal building and will be visible from Roger Vale Drive.

*"It will reduce the airport's carbon emissions by around 470 tonnes of carbon dioxide a year, the equivalent of about 70 Alice Springs households per annum"* said Ian Kew, CEO Northern Territory Airports.

The solar power station is expected to be fully commissioned and operational by the end of August 2010 with an official launch shortly after.

## MEDIA RELEASE

4 November 2010



### Ingenero completes innovative Alice Airport solar power station

Leading solar power company Ingenero has completed a major installation for the Alice Springs Airport, using leading edge solar concentration technology from America to deliver over a quarter of the airport's electricity requirements.

Twenty-eight solar power arrays will magnify the sun's rays by 650 times and maximise energy generation by tracking the path of the sun across the sky. The 'power station' will produce around 600 megawatt hours of electricity a year, the equivalent to that used by 70 homes in Alice Springs.

"Ingenero searched the world for the best Concentrated Photovoltaic (CPV) technology and is pleased to have built this 'first of its kind' solar installation in the southern hemisphere," said Rodger Whitby, GM of Generation for Ingenero.

"We chose SolFocus as technology partner because of their leading edge solar concentration technology. The concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) arrays use mirrored dishes to magnify the sun's energy 650 times," he said.

"It is also one of the only CPV technologies in the world that is bankable, that is – able to be funded into medium and large scale projects by banks. This further attests to the reliability and the manufacturability of the product."

Both Ingenero and the airport have to live with the power plant for the next 20 years so we've ensured a technology base that, while innovative, could do the job.

"The seven by eight metre arrays are brought to life each day by the sun. They follow the sun throughout each day – much like sunflowers – creating clean, renewable energy for the airport.

"Alice Springs is the ideal location for concentrated photovoltaics, especially with its status as an Australian government Solar City.

"Ingenero is proud to be able to bring this exciting solar technology to Australia for the first time.

"We congratulate the Alice Springs Airport on its vision in bringing this project to life. The Australian government has also provided invaluable financial support for the project."

"This is an installation that everyone can be proud of: it combines outstanding technology with solar common sense."

Mr Whitby said Ingenero's preparation for the project was significant. Local labour was used to install the 28 arrays, and the project was finished on time, on budget and to the highest standards, with strong project management by both the airport and Ingenero being the key.

"We got on with the job and delivered what was promised."

.../2

#### Other key points:

- As part of the Alice Solar City project, Ingenero built the power station using leading edge solar concentration technology from US based company SolFocus.

## Media Release from Ingenero (continued)

4th November 2010

- At the end of the day each of the 28 arrays closes down for the night by turning a few degrees off vertical (like a sunflower) to protect them from dust and other hazards.
- The power station, one of five iconic projects planned for Alice Solar City, is the largest of its kind in the southern hemisphere.
- The system incorporates highly efficient triple junction photovoltaic (PV) cells originally developed for satellites in space. At approximately 40% efficiency, these cells are about twice as efficient at converting light into electricity compared to polycrystalline silicon PV cells that many households have on their roofs.
- The airport's solar power station will produce around 28% of its electricity and will reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by around 470 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e per annum.
- The project cost approximately \$2.3 million, up to half of which was met by the Australian Government under the Solar Cities program. Construction began in April and Ingenero completed the project by August 2010.
- Chief Technology Officer and co-founder of SolFocus, Steve Horne, who is originally from Australia, said, "CPV works best in environments with clear skies and little cloud cover – so that means most of Australia other than the coastal fringe."
- Ingenero is a leading Australian renewable energy company specialising in solar power. Ingenero develops utility scale solar power stations using a variety of world-class solar technologies and is the Australian development partner for SolFocus concentrated photovoltaic (CPV) systems.

Using innovative solar power purchase agreements, Ingenero enables commercial and industrial customers and local government entities to install solar panels on the roofs of their buildings without the need for up-front capital investment.

Ingenero also supplies and installs PV and solar hot water systems to residential customers and communities, with an industry leading system guarantee and tailored finance packages.

For **media enquiries** and to arrange interviews or photography, please call:  
Casey Macneil, Macneil Marketing & Communications  
07 5446 6945 0402 993 688 [casey@macneilmarketing.com.au](mailto:casey@macneilmarketing.com.au)

## News Story

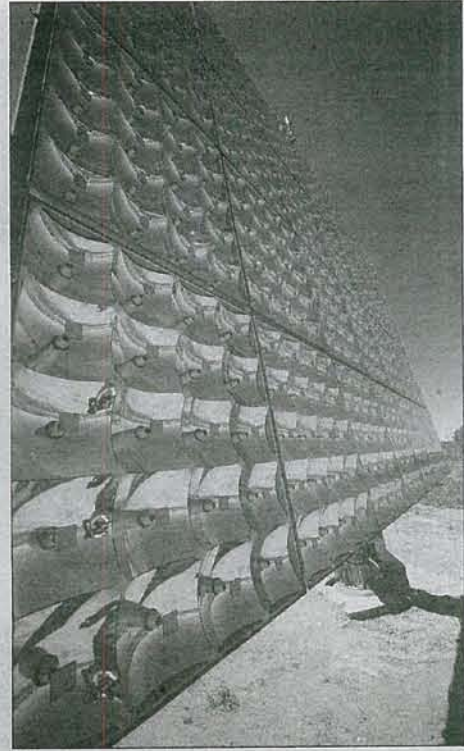
Centralian Advocate Friday November 5th 2010

(see next page for story)



NT Airports boss Ian Kew and Solar Cities director Michael Ward at the launch of the \$2.3 million solar power station at the Alice Springs Airport yesterday. It will begin operating tomorrow, providing 28 per cent of the power used by the airport. ■ Story: Page 4

Picture: JUSTIN BRIERTY



LEFT: Chief executive of NT Airports Ian Kew, Katie Cooper, Don McDonald, Michael Ward and Brian Elmer at the launch of the first solar array for a southern hemisphere airport. RIGHT: The solar panels in all their glory. Pictures: JUSTIN BRIERTY

# Solar array sets world standard

## Cameron Boon

A SOLAR power station set up at the Alice Springs Airport is the first of its kind in the southern hemisphere.

The 28 solar arrays cost \$2.3 million and took five years to develop, but will officially begin powering the airport tomorrow.

Each solar array is seven by eight metres and divided into 28 pieces. Each section houses 20 collection mirrors which are made of treated glass, aluminium, steel and a small triple junction photovoltaic cell.

The triple junction cells are made up of three layers – the first containing gallium indium phosphide, the

second containing indium gallium arsenide and the third germanium.

The materials do not degrade in the sun like silicon (which is used in most solar arrays) does.

The panels move in three directions and will follow the sun's path at all times to get the maximum amount of sunlight.

Ingenero was chosen to design and build the array midway through last year.

Ingenero Generation general manager Rodger Whitby said he expected the solar array to last for 30 years.

He said: "The technology has a warranty for 25 years, but we expect it to last longer than that."

"Each mirror magnifies the sun's energy by 650 on to a very high-efficiency photovoltaic cell and each array has an 8.4kW peak capacity."

"The total power provided will equal roughly 28 per cent of the power used by the airport."

The array will be controlled remotely from the Ingenero facility in Brisbane.

Alice Springs Solar Cities general manager Brian Elmer said the Alice Springs airport was pioneering solar technology.

"It is certainly one of the biggest tracking arrays, so it's using really unique technology."

Airport general manager Katie Cooper said the array would be

maintained mostly by locals.

She said: "The airport technical facilities supervisor has been doing some training with Ingenero about the maintenance on site. We also have a contract with Ingenero, who will be able to do a lot of the work remotely."

"They can do that using the internet to monitor and track the calibration and make sure everything is working correctly and efficiently and they will be doing that for a number of years. There is a number of support staff who have worked with Ingenero so if they need to engage in maintenance they can do so."

Ms Cooper said the

array would be mostly self-cleaning.

She said: "The glass is actually toughened and it essentially will be able to put up with dust and whatever lands on it and still be efficient."

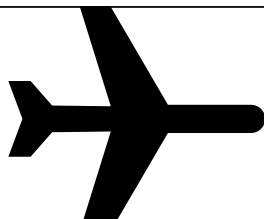
"The array actually moves at various angles so any dust that gathers will fall off."

"When they are 'parked' at night, any wind or rain can also brush any dust off."

Climate Change Minister Karl Hampton said the system set "a tremendous example to the rest of the NT".

A public open day will be held tomorrow from 10am to noon at Roger Vale Drive. Parking will be available and there will be a free sausage sizzle.

**Public Open Day**



**ALICE SPRINGS AIRPORT**

**✈ SOLAR POWER STATION**

**The first and largest of its kind  
in the southern hemisphere . . .**

Alice Solar City and NT Airports invite the Alice Springs community to celebrate the opening of the Alice Springs Airport Solar Power Station at a public open day this Saturday.

As the second of Alice Solar City's iconic projects, after Crowne Plaza, the Airport is now the first in Australia to be powered by such a large scale solar power station. This cutting edge technology will produce about 600 MWh of electricity a year and provide the Airport with 28% of its energy needs.

Come and learn more about this iconic project, with staff from Alice Solar City, CAT Projects and solar developer Ingenero on hand to conduct tours and answer questions.

Enjoy a **free sausage sizzle** under the shade of the 28 solar tracking arrays, standing at 8 metres wide by 7 metres high.

**When:** Saturday 6 November

**Time:** 10am to 12pm

**Where:** Roger Vale Drive, Alice Springs (just before you reach Airport). Parking available on site – follow directions.



**Alice Springs**  
Airport



**Australian Government**  
Solar Cities

## Invitation

Event hosted by Alice Solar City at the Alice Springs Airport Solar Power Station

# Central Australian Region BUSINESS AT SUNSET

Hosted by: Alice Solar City  
Tuesday 23 November 2010 - 5:30pm to 7:30pm  
Venue: Alice Springs Airport Solar Installation



Alice Solar City is proud to invite you to join us for an exclusive evening of solar, under the new solar arrays at the Alice Springs Airport.

The Airport is now the first in Australia to be powered by a large scale solar power station, and the cutting edge technology is the first of its kind in the Southern hemisphere.

Come and learn more about this iconic project, and chat with Sam and the staff about all things solar and energy in Alice Springs. Perhaps your business could become part of the solar revolution too?

We'd love to see you there!



**Please RSVP by Friday 19 November 2010**  
**Email: [alice@chambernt.com.au](mailto:alice@chambernt.com.au) Fax: 8952 1769 Phone: 8952 4377**

Business : \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Attendee 2: \_\_\_\_\_



## MEDIA RELEASE

### **Solar Power Station nominated for Engineering Award**

Northern Territory Airports, owner of Alice Springs Airport, today nominated its Solar Power Station project for consideration in the 2011 Engineering Excellence Awards (Northern Division).

The 2011 Northern Division is celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> year of hosting the Engineering Excellence Awards. The awards reinforce the values that are central to Engineers Australia which are to provide leadership, foster excellence, encourage innovation and promote community confidence in Australian Engineering.

Alice Springs Airport's Solar Power Station opened for business in September 2010 and, using Concentrator Photovoltaic (CPV) technology, now supplies about 28 per cent of the airport's energy needs.

Alice Springs is the first Australian airport to have a large scale (over 100kW) photovoltaic system providing a direct source of renewable energy to its internal grid.

Northern Territory Airports previously won an Engineering Award in 2008 for its resurfacing of runway 11/20 project at Darwin International Airport.

For more information on the Solar Power Station at Alice Springs Airport visit [www.alicespringsairport.com.au](http://www.alicespringsairport.com.au)

#### **Tweet Text Package:**

Alice Springs Airport Solar Power station nominated for Engineering Award - <http://tiny.cc/jkt83> for more info #flyalice

#### **Ian Kew**

Chief Executive Officer | Northern Territory Airports Pty Ltd  
T: 08 8920 1808

## Video Links

Click on video screens below to view online videos



### ABC News Story

Thursday 4th November 2010

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/video/2010/11/04/3057670.htm>

### Ingenero Australia Video

A short video showing the construction of the solar power station at Alice Springs Airport.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OVDsulmzIHQ>