



SUNPOWER DEVELOPS AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST TRACKING SOLAR POWER STATION

The remote town of Alice Springs continues to develop a sustainable energy future, with the completion of the 1MW Uterne solar power station.

The Uterne power station, appropriately named after a local Arrernte word meaning 'bright, sunny day', was designed and constructed by SunPower under the first utility scale solar power purchase agreement in Australia, an agreement that will see electricity generated by the 1MW power station sold to Power and Water Corporation at a guaranteed price for the next 20 years.

Power and Water Corporation originally identified the need to provide all Alice Springs residents with access to renewable energy and worked with Alice Solar City (part of the Federal Government Solar Cities program) and SunPower to develop the Uterne solar power station.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Site location:	Alice Springs, Northern Territory
System size (MWp):	1MW
Number of panels:	3,048
Number of tracking arrays:	254
SunPower products:	SPR-318 Watt solar panels SunPower T20 tracking arrays
Project completed:	July 2011

BENEFITS

- Produces 2,300 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity per year, equivalent to the annual consumption of 270 average Alice Springs households
- 1,564 tons of CO2 saved per annum
- The plant will produce about 1% of Alice Springs' electricity a year and can meet 2% of its peak demand on a sunny day.

“We are proud to be among the first in Australia to use this technology on this scale and to make the benefits of solar power available to all residents in Alice Springs.”

Andrew Macrides
Managing Director
Power and Water Corporation Northern Territory



The development of the \$6.6 million Uterne project was supported by \$3.3 million of funding from the Australian Government as part of its \$94m Solar Cities program. As a result of this successful project, the power plant generates electricity equivalent to the annual consumption of 270 average Alice Springs homes.

SunPower constructed the Uterne project, Australia's largest tracking solar development using 3,048 ultra-efficient 318W SunPower panels. The panels were installed on SunPower® T20 tracking systems, which allow the power station to generate up to 30% more electricity than a fixed tilt design.

After the first year of successful operation, the Uterne power station was purchased by Epuron with the support of the Commonwealth Bank, which provided project financing, making it the country's first major bank to support a solar project of this size. SunPower will continue to oversee the operation and maintenance of the plant on behalf of Epuron.

“As the Southern Hemisphere's largest tracking solar power plant, this project is the most iconic and notable example of efficient photovoltaic technology in Australia, integrating innovative products and advanced engineering practices and we are proud to play a part in its success.”

Sam Latz
General Manager
Alice Solar City



SunPower Corporation

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