

MEDIA RELEASE

Amanda Rishworth MP

Federal Member for Kingston

15th of December

MORE SCHOOLS GO Green WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Amanda Rishworth MP, Federal Member for Kingston has welcomed the announcement by the Federal Government that 11 schools from the southern suburbs of Adelaide will receive grants to help them reduce their carbon footprint and conserve water as part of the Australian Government's National Solar Schools Program.

"I am pleased that the Federal Government is helping schools in the southern suburbs of Adelaide take practical action on climate change by improving their energy efficiency and generating solar electricity. In addition these grants will also help schools to conserve our precious water resources" Ms Rishworth said

"The grants of up to \$50,000 have been made available to successful schools to help with the cost of installing solar and other renewable power systems, rainwater tanks and to help implement a range of energy efficiency measures." Ms Rishworth said.

Announcing the successful schools today, Minister for Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, Greg Combet said more than 2,600 schools have already been funded under the National Solar Schools Program.

"The solar systems installed under this program alone have generated approximately 11 megawatts of solar power – the equivalent of meeting the electricity needs of around 2,400 average households each day," Mr Combet said.

"The success of this program shows that schools are getting smarter about their energy use and water conservation, and it gives students the opportunity to learn about renewable energy generation first-hand, as well as practical ways to conserve energy" Ms Rishworth said.

The successful schools to receive grants in the seat of Kingston announced today are Christies Beach High School, Braeview Junior and Primary Schools, Happy Valley Primary School, Hackham South Primary School, Pimpala Primary School, Noarlunga Primary School, Reynella Primary School, Seaford 6-12 School, Woodcroft Primary School and All Saints Catholic Primary School.

These schools join 1,226 successful schools announced today who will share in \$51 million from the Federal Government National Solar Schools Program.

Applications were assessed using merit-based criteria, meaning schools had to demonstrate value for money, as well as environmental and educational benefits. Applicants who were not successful in this round will be eligible to re-apply in future rounds.

Further information about the National Solar Schools Program is available on the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency website: www.climatechange.gov.au