

MEDIA RELEASE

10 May 2011

High Wycombe family wins \$50,000 home makeover

The Roberts family of High Wycombe are the lucky winners of a \$50,000 home eco-makeover to transform their home into a showcase energy efficient house as part of a Perth Solar City competition.

Perth Solar City Manager Andrew Blaver said the Roberts family have won a suite of energy efficient products and services.

"We received over 400 entries from households eager to win," he said.

As part of the home eco-makeover David and Deborah Roberts and their young daughters Gemma and Hannah will receive prizes worth a total value of \$50,000, including:

- a premium SunPower 2.38kW solar PV system
- a Solahart hot water system
- a fully installed smart meter and in-home display from Western Power and Synergy
- a tailored energy coaching service from Living Smart
- a lighting and water efficiency retrofit
- roof insulation and whirly birds
- curtains and pelmets
- native garden makeover
- rainwater tank and other energy saving products and services.

"Six finalists from High Wycombe, Bassendean, Kewdale, Greenmount and Maida Vale received a free home eco-consultation to assess their current energy habits and identify ways they can become more energy efficient," Mr Blaver said.

"These runners-up have won a family sized solar hot water system from Solahart."

"It has been a pleasure meeting our finalists. We've seen a growing community interest in finding out how families can stop wasting energy and adopt more sustainable lifestyles.

"Like many Perth families, the Roberts family want to make a difference, but are unsure of where to start. The home eco-makeover will show the Roberts and the community a range of energy efficiency actions from simple behaviour changes, to generating their own energy.

"These changes can have a huge impact on reducing household energy bills" said Mr Blaver.

David and Deborah were shocked to receive a zero star energy rating on their home and can't wait to start their energy efficiency journey with Perth Solar City.

"We want to set a good example to the girls, teaching them about sustainability and the natural environment. We can't wait to educate ourselves and others.

"Winning the competition means that we can start to be good role models to our daughters, and share our story with the community" said Deborah.



Once the make-over is complete the house will be used as a display model to demonstrate best practice in energy efficiency and sustainable living, with the first home scheduled for 11 September 2011 – National Sustainable House day.

Perth Solar City is part of the Australian Government's \$94 million Solar Cities program and is managed locally by Western Power. The competition was open to all residents within Perth's Eastern region, including the Town of Bassendean, City of Bayswater, City of Belmont, Shire of Kalamunda, Shire of Mundaring and City of Swan.

For more information on Perth Solar City visit: www.perthsolarcity.com.au

(The Robert's family can be available for interviews on request)

(ENDS)

Media Contact – media@westernpower.com.au or 1300 139 240