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Solar energy powering Rundle Lantern

Adelaide Solar City project's fourth key solar photovoltaic (PV) installation, which will power the \$2 million Rundle Lantern, was unveiled today by the local Federal Member and Minister for Early Childhood Education, Child Care and Youth and Sport, Ms Kate Ellis, and Lord Mayor, Mr Michael Harbison.

The 50 kilowatt solar PV installation, designed and supplied by BP Solar, a member of the Adelaide Solar City Consortium, will harness the sun's energy to generate green power from 297 solar panels on the roof of the U-Park building.

Minister Ellis, representing the Minister for Environment, Heritage and the Arts, Mr Peter Garrett, said the installation is expected to produce more than enough electricity to power the nine-storey, 1066 square metre Rundle Lantern.

"Congratulations go to the Adelaide City Council for ensuring the Rundle Mall installation is powered by renewable energy, BP Solar for providing and designing the system and the Adelaide Solar City consortium for delivering projects that increase the use of renewable energy and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, like this one," she said.

"The Australian Government is proud to have contributed more than \$15 million to help Adelaide demonstrate how our cities can deliver a more energy efficient future by embracing energy efficiency and solar power at a community level." Minister Ellis added.

Program Manager for Adelaide Solar City, Mr Dario De Bortoli, said the Adelaide Solar City Project had reached another milestone with the launch of the Rundle Lantern solar installation.

"The Project is an extremely valuable tool for educating the community about the benefits of solar power as a sustainable energy option," he said.

"Adelaide Solar City encourages the community, households and businesses to embrace solar energy to help create a more sustainable future for Adelaide."

Mr De Bortoli, of Origin, who is the project's lead proponent, said it was the fourth key solar PV installation completed as part of the Adelaide Solar City Project. Solar PV installations have already been installed by BP Solar on the roof of the Adelaide Central Bus Station to power the Adelaide City Council's solar electric bus, Tindo, and by Origin on the Golden Grove Arts and Recreation Centre in the City of Tea Tree Gully and on the new \$15.8 million Aquadome in the City of Playford. Three other key installations are planned.

Adelaide is one of several regions in Australia specially chosen for the Australian Government's \$94 million Solar Cities trial. The six-member consortium, led by Origin, includes BP Solar, ANZ, Delfin Lend Lease, Big Switch Projects and the City of Salisbury in association with the Cities of Playford and Tea Tree Gully and Adelaide City Council.

Dario De Bortoli is available for interview: Mobile - 0418 642 338

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