



The Sustainable Engineering Society

...engineering in harmony with ecology

Media Release

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SENG in Full Support of a Port Augusta Solar Thermal Project

"As engineers, we -are responsible for implementing the technologies required to build a sustainable future for Australia, in line with our Code of Ethics.

"Implementing renewable energy generation is a key part of meeting the challenge of climate change and sustainability.. These technologies will require initial support to achieve the economies of scale to make them competitive with established coal and gas power plants."

"It is thus extremely disappointing that there is not more government support in bringing concentrated solar thermal power to realisation in order to meet its commitment to the renewable energy target. The Port Augusta project presents an excellent opportunity for implementation for large scale solar thermal due to its high levels of insolation and, existing infrastructure, i.e. the transmission grid, town, water."

"This project is not only an important step in developing a sustainable electricity generation sector, but also for regional development and employment in the Spencer Gulf region. It also represents a valuable opportunity for South Australia's struggling manufacturing sector."

Investment in integrated renewable technologies and infrastructure in the power generation sector is critical to supporting Australia's transition to a less carbon-dependent and sustainable economy."

"The ability of solar thermal power to operate at peak electrical demand as well as the ability to store and dispatch would be extremely valuable to complement the large contribution of variable wind power in South Australia's electricity supply."

Sustainability is the biggest challenge of our time, and a CST (or CSP), goes some way toward initiating the change that our society needs to make in order to build a sustainable economy and mitigate against the risk imposed by fossil fuels.(refer link to council approved climate change policy)"

"We acknowledge the huge health risks posed by current fossil fuel based energy sources."