



Sharon Grierson MP
Federal Member for Newcastle

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NEWCASTLE’S SOLAR CITIES BID: A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

Federal Member for Newcastle Sharon Grierson has today expressed disappointment that the Newcastle City Council (NCC) led Solar Cities bid had been rejected by the Federal Government.

“Newcastle is fast becoming a hub for renewable energy technologies, with our region leading the way in research and development in the renewable sector.” Ms Grierson said.

“The NCC has won many awards for its approach to sustainability, and their proposal under the Solar Cities program was similarly first rate.”

“This is a real disappointment for the Newcastle region.”

“Once again, this government has failed to recognise the strengths of our region and reward our unique capacity for renewable energy development.”

“Federal Labor recognises those strengths and has already committed to establishing a \$50 million National Solar Institute.”

“I remain positive about the role that Newcastle will continue to play in fighting climate change with research projects already underway in areas such as solar thermal, clean coal, CO2 abatement, oxyfuel technologies and coal gasification.”

“Our resources are not the only thing this region has to offer. Our innovation, community and research commitment is first class.”

“But today I do express my disappointment. This was a missed opportunity for a deserving and qualified region.”

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