Environment Grant Case Study

EMC Solar Construction Pty Ltd received a $5,800 grant from the City of Perth in 2012/13 to install an electric vehicle charging station in their property at 18 Colin Street, West Perth.

Objective
There were multiple objectives of this project:

- Provide an electric vehicle charging site in West Perth;
- Utilise energy captured by the 15kW photovoltaic system previously installed on the site;
- Provide a model for sustainable transportation using clean energy technology at the point of generation; and
- Align complementary technologies with high visibility and accessibility for the public.

Major success
Providing a electric vehicle charging station in a busy business district which used complementary technologies has been the great success of the project.

Major challenge
Identifying mediums to promote and engage owners and users of electric vehicles has been a big challenge.
Why the project is important

In 2010 Australia burnt over 31 million litres of fuel for transport equating to over 73,000,000,000kg CO₂ emissions.

As with most capital cities, vehicles significantly contribute to the city of Perth’s greenhouse gas emissions. Unless initiatives like the one taken up by EMC are embraced, Perth can continue to see an increase in vehicle related greenhouse gas emissions.

The Environment Grants and Sponsorship Program coordinates and help fund environment proposals of individuals, groups, businesses or organisations that are aligned with the City’s environment priorities.

For more information on the Program please visit the City of Perth website www.perth.wa.gov.au/environment

What was done

The EV station was installed at EMC House in December 2012. The station has two charging points and provide a level two charge at 32 Amps. Fully charging a 23kW electric vehicle will take approximately 3 hours. All that is required to use the station is a charging cable and a RFID Tag.

The EV station is part of the Renewable Energy Vehicle (REV) project that the University of Western Australia (UWA) coordinates. It forms part of a network of 10 charging points across Perth.

In May 2013 EMC Solar Construction launched a new website, featuring information about the station and will actively promote the station over the coming months.

Lessons Learnt

Engaging with the community was more difficult than expected. While there was positive enquiries about the station before and during installation this has not resulted in regular use of station. The provision of a free charging station in a busy city still requires a high level of formal and word of mouth promotion.

Key Achievement

A strong partnership has been developed between EMC Solar Construction as a technology provider and the UWA as a technology developer.

Partners

In addition to the City of Perth funding, the University of Western Australia donated the charging station.

For further information on the project info@energymadeclean.com or 1300 558 687.