

News

Sun's rays to cut cost of power

BLACKTOWN'S Solar City initiative is well and truly up and running.

Last week 16 families in Amy Close, Glendenning, turned on their new solar electricity systems for the first time.

The aim was to help the families save energy and reduce greenhouse emissions.

They are the first to be installed as part of the Blacktown Solar City initiative.

Each of the properties has been fitted with a one-kilowatt (kW) solar electricity system, which converts sunlight into electricity.

"Like the 25,000 households across Australia who have already had a solar electricity system installed, it will now be a lot easier for the residents of Amy Close to cut the size of their electricity bills," said BP Solar's regional director Brooke Miller, on behalf of the Blacktown Solar City consortium.

"Summer is just around the corner, the time of year when our electricity bills are often the highest due.

"The systems at Amy Close have the potential to slash electricity bills for its residents by up to 50 per cent, a saving over summer that would be welcomed by all families."

Together with the Housing Department, the Blacktown Solar City project aims to install 100 solar electricity systems and 100 solar hot-water systems over the next three years to directly help families living in community housing.

The project will also provide an extra 40 2.5kW solar electricity systems to light the common areas of a number of social housing apartment blocks in the local government area.

"Making clean, renewable energy more accessible is one of the goals of the Blacktown Solar City project," Ms Miller said.



Solar equipped: Amy Close residents (from left) Joanne Williams, Aaliyah Kennedy, 4, and Lara-Kate Williams have joined the new age.

Picture: Natasha Paes