

Senate Select Committee on Fuel and Energy
Issues relating to the Fuel and Energy Industry
Climate Change and Energy Efficiency Portfolio
Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency

Answers to questions on notice
April 2010

Question No: 2
Topic: Smart Grid in Western Australia
Hansard Page ECA: 28

Senator Cormann asked:

When you say there will be a smart grid in WA, where is that? How is that going to work? Is it a small trial exercise somewhere or is it a particular suburb?

Ms Wiley-Smith—I would have to take the detail on that on notice, but it is certainly part of the Solar Cities project that we have there.

Answer:

The Perth Solar City smart grid trial will be an important and innovative element of the project.

The trial will include installation of smart meters, communications infrastructure, a network management system to control all data, service requests and messaging traffic in the communications network, and a Home Area Network providing information to residents via In-Home Display (IHD) technology and control capability for managing loads at the appliance level.

The trial will see the installation of 8,700 smart meters and 2,200 IHDs for people in the Bassendean, Darlington, Forrestfield and Midland districts to ensure people can have greater access to their electricity information and therefore manage their electricity consumption.