

MEDIA RELEASE: Australia's Largest Produce Market Harvesting Solar Energy

NSW Planning Minister Anthony Roberts will today unveil one of Australia's largest purpose built solar car parks - the \$14 million car park extension at Flemington's Sydney Markets.

The industrial scale solar car park was built as part of Sydney Markets continued commitment to environmental sustainability. The 640kW structure will save 936 tonnes of carbon each year, or the equivalent of taking 522 small cars off the road annually¹.

Along with the other two solar systems on site, it brings Sydney Markets' total renewable energy capacity to about 900kW. The customised solar installation will also attract Large Scale Generation Credits (LGCs), meaning Sydney Markets can trade renewable electricity generated above the power station baseline to likeminded companies.

The upgrade also improves accessibility for stallholders, employees and the wider community. A newly installed footbridge from Flemington Station will provide safer pedestrian access to Sydney Markets - allowing pedestrians to avoid any motor vehicles, trucks and forklifts, while also improving traffic flow on the busy South Road.

The market community will also benefit from an additional 350 parking spaces in the multi-level car park, as well as a new 4.5 tonne goods lift, making the early mornings more manageable for the small business owners.

CEO of Sydney Markets Limited, Bradley Latham, said that Sydney Markets was proud to be home to one of the largest solar carports and extensions in Australia.

"In recent years Sydney Markets has unveiled many ground-breaking initiatives as part of our commitment to sustainability and our community. The upgrade is another successful step towards our goal of being the greenest food market in Australia," said Mr Latham.

"The power generated by the car park's solar system is the equivalent of 257 car parks being efficiently powered each year – simply amazing!"

"By investing in large scale solar infrastructure, we have improved the markets' green credentials, while reducing its consumption of energy from fossil fuels," said Mr Latham.

NSW Planning Minister Anthony Roberts added, "I congratulate Sydney Markets on this magnificent re-development which will make access for the public and freight carriers to this iconic institution much easier and more efficient."

"It's the site of the nation's largest wholesale fruit, vegetable and flower market and one of the biggest and most efficient food centres in the world. It employs more than five thousand workers and generates three billion dollars of trade annually.

¹ *No. of cars is based on 5L/100 km driving 15,000 km a year.



“The NSW Government understands and acknowledges the significance of the Sydney Markets to the people and economy of NSW and the important role it plays in daily lives of the state’s citizens.”

Sydney Markets is Australia’s largest fruit, vegetable and flower wholesale marketplace. Over 2.5 million tonnes of fresh produce and flowers are traded annually through the markets. The site covers approximately 43 hectares, operates 24 hours a day, and is home to 5,000 employees.

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