

**Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2011-12**  
**GPSC 3 – The Legislature**  
**Answer to question taken on notice**

**Question from Mr David Shoebridge:**

***What is the status of water recycling and solar panel use in Parliament House?***

Rob Stefanic's response was: *I am advised that the detail is in the annual report. Because the question requires a detailed answer I will take it on notice.*

**Answer:**

Since late 2008, Parliamentary Facilities has conducted an extensive facilities and engineering program to improve solar, water and energy consumption at the Parliament. Dubbed the 'Parliament House Sustainability Program', the project has seen the installation of several environmentally friendly and sustainable technologies at Parliament House including solar panels, recycled water schemes and energy saving lighting and electricity systems.

The water re-use system was installed in February 2008 and supplies the air conditioning cooling tower plant and toilets. To date, it has saved in excess of 8 million litres of potable water. The recycled water system saved 3 million litres of potable water in 2010-2011.

Since the 25.6 kilowatt solar array was installed on the roof of Parliament House and commissioned in June 2008, it has produced 101,473 kilowatt hours and exceeded its original design expectations. The solar array continues to exceed expectations with a total of 29,573 kilowatts of power generated in 2010-2011. Over the past year, the building's electricity consumption was also reduced by 2.36% through other energy saving initiatives.