

FACT SHEET

INNOVATION THROUGH DEMONSTRATION

WGV

WHITE GUM VALLEY



WGV LIVING LABORATORY

WHAT IS THE CRC FOR LOW CARBON LIVING?

The Cooperative Research Centre for Low Carbon Living (CRC LCL) is a national research and innovation hub that seeks to enable a globally competitive, low carbon built environment sector. It brings together industry, government and leading researchers to unlock barriers to cost-effective carbon reduction opportunities, empower communities and facilitate the widespread adoption of renewable energy.

WGV has been selected by the CRC LCL to participate in a four year 'Living Laboratory' type research program that will follow the development process from construction through to occupancy. The Living Laboratory concept is a 'learn-by-doing' approach to research where innovations are tested in real-life settings with the aim of informing policy and industry outcomes.

WHY WGV?

WGV demonstrates precinct-scale design excellence on a number of levels by incorporating diverse building typologies, climate sensitive considerations, plus creative urban greening and water management strategies. It is expected there will be a 60 per cent reduction in typical operational greenhouse gas emissions across the various dwelling types resulting from a suite of initiatives with relatively modest cost implications. In many cases, a small upgrade on solar panel capacity will enable the homes to become operationally carbon neutral.

THE RESEARCH FINDINGS FROM THE WGV LIVING LABORATORY WILL BE SHARED VIA VIDEOS, PUBLICATIONS AND EVENTS.

WHAT WILL THE RESEARCH INVOLVE?

The research activities will be undertaken by Curtin University and will include the monitoring of different dwelling types to assess design performance, as well as the impact of technology choice and occupant behaviour on energy use and carbon emissions. The project will also explore the inter-relationships between developers, local government, builders and purchasers in regards to low carbon aspirations and outcomes, and how these can better align.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITH THE INFORMATION?

The research findings from the WGV Living Laboratory will be shared via videos, publications and events to help foster a national conversation about the future of low carbon residential developments in Australia.

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