

17 September 2019

For immediate release

## **Planet Ark Power partners with Ipswich City Council to create clean energy Virtual Power Plant**

*Ipswich City Council and Planet Ark Power have teamed up to investigate innovative, city-wide renewable energy solutions, some of which may help power part of the new Ipswich CBD redevelopment.*

Council's Office of Economic Development today signed a memorandum of understanding with Planet Ark Power to explore how its unique, market-leading technology could transition the city's energy demands away from traditional carbon intensive sources. It is hoped the development of a clean energy Virtual Power Plant (VPP) will enable Ipswich to meet its ambitious carbon reduction target and become a net zero emissions city.

Economic Development Manager Paul Massingham said, "Council's Smart City and Innovation agenda promotes Ipswich as a living lab for innovative technologies, while Council's Sustainability Strategy has a goal of net zero carbon".

"The purpose of this MOU with Planet Ark Power is to facilitate information sharing of current energy arrangements of Council's asset to enable an informed analysis and exploration of the use of Planet Ark Power's unique **eleXsys™** technology platform." he said.

"This will also include a detailed comparative analysis of energy consumption and costs of Council buildings and other assets."

"We welcome new investment in renewable technology and look forward to working with Planet Ark Power to explore the commercial and environmental benefits of its unique technology solutions."

"That's why we will be working closely with Planet Ark Power and reaching out to local businesses and developers to explore how renewable energy technologies can be a part of a smarter, more sustainable way of doing business in Ipswich."

Planet Ark Power has developed an artificial intelligence and power electronics technology, **eleXsys™**, which increases the bi-directional energy flow across electricity networks. It manages the export of surplus energy back into the electricity grid, allowing clean energy to be both generated and consumed locally, efficiently and at lower cost. It promotes the creation of larger-scale urban rooftop solar farms and community wide Virtual Power Plants (VPP) where residents, business and government can all contribute to reduce a city's carbon intensity.

Over the past 18 months, Planet Ark Power has successfully demonstrated **eleXsys™** at Ipswich's Llewellyn Motors.

Planet Ark Power's Executive Director, Richard Romanowski said, "We are very proud to be exploring opportunities with Ipswich City Council to optimise investment in solar PV across Ipswich and the city's

numerous, large commercial rooftops. We want to help Ipswich transition to a clean energy future by rolling out our unique, world-leading technology platform – **eleXsys™** – which, for the first time, allows clean, commercial-scale solar energy to be generated right where it is needed instead of from remote solar farms that incur significant transmission costs."

"Ipswich, with its combination of large industrial estates, new residential developments, and a visionary Council administration, is an ideal location to develop a clean-energy Virtual Power Plant (VPP) that can boost Ipswich's efforts to meet the target of net carbon neutrality.," he said.

Mr. Massingham said Ranbury, Council's program management partner for the Nicholas Street development, is currently assessing Planet Ark Powers energy solution and indicated positive potential applications for the development.

For information and further comment, contact:

Stephen Robertson  
Director – Stakeholder Engagement & Strategy  
+61 447 068 569  
[stephen.r@planetarkpower.com](mailto:stephen.r@planetarkpower.com)

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## **Planet Ark Power**

Planet Ark Power™ is a leading Australian-owned technology and artificial intelligence company designing and delivering innovative clean energy solutions which radically improve returns on investment (ROI) for rooftop solar and battery in commercial and institutional sectors, helping organisations transition into a sustainable future.

Planet Ark™, one of Australia's leading environmental organisations, partnered with GoZERO Energy to become Planet Ark Power™ in 2017.

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