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ROLLING AWARDS FOR SLIVER SOLAR CELLS

The awards keep rolling in for the revolutionary SLIVER solar cells developed at the ANU Centre for Sustainable Energy Systems (CSES). The Australian Institute of Energy's NSW and ACT branches have awarded SLIVER technology their 2005 Excellence in Energy Award for Innovation in Energy Science and Engineering.

At the presentation ceremony in Sydney on Tuesday 6th December Dr Vernie Everett accepted the award on behalf of CSES and commercial partner Origin Energy.

SLIVER solar cells have now won the 2005 Banksia Environmental Award in the category "Environmental Leadership in Infrastructure and Services", the Global 100 Eco-Tech Award in association with the 2005 World Expo in Japan, and was a finalist in the Australian Museum Eureka Prize for Environmental Research.

In accepting the award Dr Everett said, "SLIVER solar cells have the potential to revolutionise the production of electricity from solar energy. It is the breakthrough that the solar energy industry has been waiting for to ultimately reduce the price of electricity from this renewable source to match the generation costs from other green energy sources such as wind and clean coal."

Origin Energy completed its manufacturing plant for the commercial production of SLIVER cells in September 2004 with the first modules reaching pre-production in December 2004. Origin Energy is presently undertaking rigorous testing before releasing modules incorporating SLIVER cells in 2006.

"This award is further testament to the growing recognition of the SLIVER technology and its potential to revolutionise the Photovoltaic industry – in Australia and globally" said Phil Mackey, Origin Energy's General Manager Renewable and Low Emission Technologies.