

## **Australia to build world's largest solar energy plant**

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Sydney: Australia plans to build the world's largest solar power station with an output of 1000 megawatts, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said on Sunday.

The \$1.05 billion plant would have three times the generating capacity of the current biggest solar-powered electricity plant, which is in California, Rudd said.

Tender details will be announced later in the year, and successful bidders will be named in the first half of 2010.

Rudd said the project was aimed at exploiting the country's ample sunshine, which he called "Australia's biggest natural resource".

It was also aimed at helping the country become a leader in renewable, clean energy, he said.

"Why are we doing this? We are doing it in order to support a clean energy future for Australia, we're doing it to boost economic activity now and we're doing it also to provide jobs and much needed opportunities for business as well," Rudd said.

(Gulf News)