

SA announces innovative education centre for future green builders

A \$125 million Sustainable Industries Education Centre is to be built on the former Mitsubishi site at Tonsley Park by TAFE South Australia. The centre will specialise in training more than 8000 people a year – including plumbers, bricklayers, designers and carpenters – in emerging green technologies associated with the building and construction industry.



Building and construction workers will be among those trained at TAFE SA's new Sustainable Industries Education Centre.

Premier Mike Rann said the new education centre, which is being built in collaboration with universities and industry, is designed to transform training in the building, construction and water industries. It will also open the way to incorporating more clean green technology into future building projects.

'This is about making sure the building industry has a workforce capable of implementing the new technologies that will move our state to a low carbon future,' said Premier Rann in a statement.

Building and construction is a \$4.5 billion industry in South Australia, which employs 8.3 per cent of the state's total workforce. At present, the state is facing critical skills shortages, with demand for building and construction qualifications predicted to increase by at least 30 per cent over the next two years.

'The purpose of building this new centre within [the Tonsley Park Redevelopment] is to improve links between green technology research and design in our universities, education and training of workers, as well as the industry that relies on both sectors,' the Premier said.