



Stoneville house wins first energy award

THE Stoneville residence of Mr and Mrs Catchpole is the first house to be accredited with an 80% energy saver rating award in WA.

The plans were accessed by a computer program written by leading solar architect, Garry Baverstock and Dr Neville De Cruz, head of Curtin University's School of Architecture in conjunction with CSIRO.

The object of a solar or energy efficient house is to maintain a year round comfort zone between 18 and 25 degrees Celsius.

A host of factors are considered in the computer analysis, such as orientation, the area of glass on each wall, insulation, shade pat-

terns, types of material used in construction, roof color etc.

As further confirmation of the computer figures, Mr Catchpole has charted daily internal and external minimum and maximum temperature readings by using min/max thermometers.

The highest internal recorded was 29 degrees C. Perth's maximum that day was 42.5C and the lowest internal reading was 17.5C - the same day local temperature hit a 30-year low of 2.5C.

A slow combustion stove is the only artificial device used for

space heating and the Catchpole's electricity/gas bill is under \$25 for each two months' billing period.

The house is 240sqm and has a metal roof with brick walls and sits on a 8.5 hectare block.

Watering points around the property are serviced by a Supertube solar water pump.

Fuels, Mines and Energy Minister, Jeff Carr, presented the Catchpoles with an "Energy Saver" certificate during a ceremony at the Solar Energy Information Centre last Thursday.