

Water and Energy Rebates

**Sustainable Building Workshop
Marysville, 9th of May 2009**

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Outline

- Water rebates
- Solar Hot Water
- Energy efficiency rebates
- Renewable energy rebates
- Green Loans
- Feed-in tariffs
- GreenPower

Water Rebates

<http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/saving/home/rebates>

- Water Smart Gardens & Homes (Victoria)
 - Rainwater tank connected to toilet & laundry (Up to \$1000)
 - Greywater systems (\$500)
 - Dual flush toilet (\$50)
 - Water efficient showerhead (\$10 - \$20)
 - Home water audits (\$50)
 - Basket of goods (\$30 when you spend \$100)
 - ✓ Mulch, compost bins, shower timers, flow restrictors...
 - ❖ **Must be connected to town water**

Comments:

Victoria based, administered by DSE under Our Water Our Future
Website = <http://www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/saving/home/rebates>

Are rural people eligible? = Yes, but only if connected to town water.

Duration of grant = product grants finish 31 May. Other grants under water smart gardens + homes finish end of June. Check website!

Water Rebates (2)

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/nrgi/index.htm>

- National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative
 - Up to \$500
 - New rainwater tank connected to toilet / laundry
 - Permanent greywater treatment system

- Existing homes only
- Connected to mains water
- Installed by licensed plumbers

Comments:

Eligible for households in rural towns? = Yes, only if connected to town water

Who administers this grant? = Dept. of Environment Water Heritage and the Arts

Website =

<http://www.environment.gov.au/water/programs/nrgi/index.html>

Valid for new tanks bought after January 2009.

Solar Hot Water – Existing Homes

■ Regional Vic - Solar Hot Water Rebate

- Up to \$2350 depending on system
- Switch existing electric or gas HWS to solar
- Where Nat Gas exists, must be gas
- Available through manufacturers

http://www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for_households/rebates_3096.html

■ Commonwealth Gov Rebate

- Up to \$1600
- Replacing electric with solar ONLY

<http://www.environment.gov.au/settlements/renewable/solarhotwater/index.html>

Comments:

Solar hot water rebate for regional Victoria

who administers this grant = participating manufacturers, suppliers and plumbers

who is eligible=principal residence in regional Victoria (list of post codes), non-commercial, only existing home with 12 month (5yrs for solar) operated heater. **For new homes sell renewable energy credits RECs**

www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for_households/rebates_3096.html

Solar hot water - Commonwealth Gov Rebate

who administers this grant=Energy efficient homes package of DEWHA,

who is eligible for this grant=owner-occupier, landlord or tenant can apply for dwelling that is a principal place of residence

Must be installed by a qualified person (e.g. plumber or electrician)

-what is the website for this grant =

<http://www.environment.gov.au/settlements/renewable/solarhotwater/index.html>

-Duration of grant = since 3 February 2009

Solar Hot Water - RECs

<http://www.orer.gov.au/swh/>

- Renewable Energy Certificates
 - Represents avoided GHG emissions
 - On purchase of SHW system
 - Calculated on the size of system
 - Available for all replacements
 - New homes eligible
 - Paid in lump sum upfront
- **New and existing homes**



Comments:

RECS for Solar hot water for new + existing homes, 1REC for 1MWh renewable energy produced

who administers this grant = Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator

Website <http://www.orer.gov.au/swh/>

Trading of RECs either do it yourself or trade via an accredited agent (most people choose to sell the RECs to their provider to get benefit upfront)

Energy Efficiency Rebates – Fed Govt.

www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/insulation-homeowner.html

Hotline: 1800 808 571

■ Ceiling insulation

- Up to \$1600
- Rental properties where tenants are concession card holders also eligible for 50%
- Ceiling must previously not have been insulated

- **Existing homes only**

Comments:

Energy Efficiency Rebates = Ceiling insulation

Energy Efficient Home Package of Commonwealth Govt.

who administers this grant = registered business operating in the installation of thermal insulation

Website=www.environment.gov.au/energyefficiency/insulation-homeowner.html

what is duration of this grant = start since February 2009 = early phase runs now but official start is July 2009

Renewable Energy Rebates

www.environment.gov.au/settlements/renewable/pv/index.html

■ Solar Homes and Communities (SHCP)

- Federal government program
- Solar PV only, Equipment must be new
- \$8 / Watt (maximum \$8000 for 1kW unit)
- Household taxable income < \$100,000 p.a.
- Not eligible if you already get Remote Renewable Power Generation Package
- Applications in by June 30!



Comments:

Renewable Energy Rebates of the Federal Government

Applications must be in by June 30, then wait for approval (e.g. August) and from then on 9 months time to install.

Installation can also be on shed or off-roof in the garden.

therefore we promote NEGHA bulk buy solar communities project (Clean Local Energy) starting soon -> next slide!

Can't apply for Solar Homes and communities if you already get grant under RRP GP = Renewable Remote Power Generation Program



Bulk buy solar community project coming soon!

- Organised by the North East Greenhouse Alliance
- 10 rural Shires involved, including Murrindindi
- Information sessions with the provider during May
- If you are a BCSE accredited installer, let us know!

Comments:

Renewable Energy Rebates of the Federal Government

Applications must be in by June 30

therefore we promote NEGHA bulk buy solar communities project (Clean Local Energy)

Get better deal because of bulk discount AND get assistance with the Grant Application for SHCP grant from Federal Dept. of Environment, Water, Heritage & the Arts DEWHA

Can't apply for "Solar Homes and Communities" if you already get grant under RRP GP = Renewable Remote Power Generation Program

BCSE = Business council for sustainable energy -> now Clean Energy Council!

(could change under new budget!!!)

Renewable Energy Rebates (2)

www.environment.gov.au/settlements/renewable/rrpgp/index.html

- Renewable Remote Power Generation Program (RRPGP)
 - Federal government program
 - All renewables
 - Must be off-grid (more than 1km or \$30,000+ costs of grid connection)
 - Up to 50%
 - Generation equipment + batteries, inverter, etc.

Comments:

Renewable Remote Power Generation = Commonwealth Govt.
DEWHA

who is eligible=residential and medium scale systems, household,
businesses, not-for profit, govt. buildings not close to the grid

who administers the grant

www.environment.gov.au/settlements/renewable/rrpgp/index.html

maximum rebate available is \$ 200,000

(could change under new budget!!!)

No Interest Loans Program (Vic)

www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for_households/rebates_3740.html

- No Interest Loan Scheme
 - interest-free loans between \$800 to \$1,200
 - individuals or families on low income
- Progress Loans program
 - Credit for low income earners.
 - small loans of between \$500 and \$3,000
 - Purchase essential items.
- Good Shepherd Buying Service
 - free statewide telephone service
- All for concession card holders

Comments:

No Interest Loans Program

who administers the loan = Sustainability Victoria

what can the loans be used for white goods – refrigerators, washing machines

Concession card holders

www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au/for_households/rebates_3740.html

Progress Loans Program

The Progress Loan program is a joint initiative of the Brotherhood of St Laurence and ANZ Bank to provide access to mainstream credit for low income earners. Brotherhood of St Laurence loan officers guide each client through the application process for small loans of between \$500 and \$3,000 to purchase essential items.

Good Shepherd Buying Service

The Good Shepherd Buying Service is a free statewide telephone service that assists people on low incomes who have a concession card to purchase new essential household items such as: fridges, washing machines, furniture, and medical appliances,

Green Loans Program

www.environment.gov.au/greenloans/index.html

- The Green Loans Program will provide:
 - detailed home sustainability assessments
 - low interest Green Loans of up to \$10,000 each

- To commence 1 July 2009
- Details to come
- Register your interest now

Comments:

Green Loans program = Federal Government

Home owners with less than \$250,000 taxable income

who administers this scheme = Green Loans Programme by DEWHA

www.environment.gov.au/greenloans/index.html

Feed-in Tariffs

www.energymatters.com.au/government-rebates/feedintariff.php

- Higher rate paid for electricity fed into grid
- Designated source of generation, typically renewable energy
- Reduces payback of renewable energy systems to desirable levels
- Rewards micro-generation for true value
- Recognises benefits of technology

Feed-in Tariffs in Victoria

<http://new.dpi.vic.gov.au/energy>

- Commencing mid-2009 (for 15 yrs)
 - Solar only
 - New and existing homes / systems
 - Must be place of residence
 - 60c/kWh for excess electricity (net FiT)
(after in-home consumption)
 - 3.2kW max system size
 - Can offset electricity bill
(but no actual payment...)

Comments:

Feed-in Tariff Administration by Victorian Department of Primary Industries

<http://new.dpi.vic.gov.au/energy>

GreenPower

www.greenpower.gov.au/home.aspx

- Pay for someone else to do the work for you
- Electricity generated from clean, renewable energy sources. Govt. audited + accredited.
- Sources include solar, wind, hydro, biomass, wave and landfill gas
- GreenPower refers to the national government accreditation scheme – administered via energy suppliers



Comments:

Green Power is Government accreditation system for renewable energy

how much does it cost in comparison to regular power? –
Depends on percentage % of switch you make

For average household, if you switch 100% to GreenPower there is about \$5.50 additional costs per week or between \$65-75 per quarterly electricity bill

References and Links

- Renewable Energy & Solar Hot Water (Vic):
www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/rebates
- RECs: www.orer.gov.au
- Water (Vic):
www.ourwater.vic.gov.au/saving/home/rebates
- Department of Environment, Heritage, Water and the Arts: www.environment.gov.au/rebates