

SUMMARY : ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS

(i) Sustainability Advantage

Sustainability Advantage is a holistic sustainability program that assists medium to large organisations (40 staff up) to identify, prioritise and implement environmental projects that 'add value' to the business. The program has grown to 245 medium to large organisations that employ over 90,000 people in NSW and come from sectors as diverse as building products manufacturing, agribusiness, hospitality, health and aged care, tertiary education, community services and government. Participation from the TAFE sector alone includes 6 TAFE institutes and 99 separate campuses.

Sustainability Advantage helps participants advance their environmental agenda in 7 key areas: Vision, Commitment and Planning, Environmental Risk and Responsibility, Resource Efficiency, Supply Chain, Staff Engagement, External Stakeholder Engagement and Climate Change. Members receive support in the form of workshops and training, technical advice and the facilitation of clusters that allow participants to share ideas and find solutions to common issues.

For more information visit: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainbus
Or call the Environment Hotline on 1300 361 967
emailsustainbus@environment.nsw.gov.au

(ii) Sustainability Advantage Energy Saver

As part of its NSW Energy Efficiency Strategy, the Government announced a \$20 million expansion of Sustainability Advantage in June 2008. This will enable Sustainability Advantage to grow to 1000 companies and to increase the focus on energy efficiency. The bulk of the funding will be used to add a new Energy Saver component to the Resource Efficiency Module, which currently helps participants to lower their use of raw materials, energy, fuel and water and reduce the amount of waste they send to landfill.

SAES will be available to all members of Sustainability Advantage who have an active resource efficiency team, a credible resource use 'baseline' and who are prepared to use the program's resource efficiency data base which will be web-based from April 2009. SAES offers:

- At least 50% funding for Level 1, 2 and 3 energy audits.
- Technical assistance to substantiate the business case for recommended actions and other assistance (but not funding for infrastructure) for implementation of energy efficiency projects.

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(iii) Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program

As part of its Energy Efficiency Strategy, the NSW Government announced a \$15 million program to support small to medium sized organisations. The program is targeting 6000 businesses across NSW and is open to organisations that use less than \$20,000 of electricity per year. It offers:

- Walkthrough electricity assessments and an action plan that outlines energy saving opportunities plus, no and low cost savings actions.
- Costs of the assessments will be shared by the business and DECC. Businesses pay an upfront fee of \$50 for their assessment and action plan. If they proceed to claim a rebate, small businesses pay an additional \$100 and medium businesses pay a further \$250.
- Rebates for 50% of the cost of implementing actions in the Energy Action Plan that have a greater than 2 year payback period. Maximum rebates of \$2,000 for small businesses and \$5,000 for medium size businesses.

Rebates are available for lighting (including skylights), HVAC, compressed air, electric motors, commercial refrigeration, boilers and insulation.

The EESB is being offered to eligible organisations from February 2009.

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