



# Carmel Tebbutt MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment | Minister for Commerce



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## **NSW Govt announces extension to household rebates program**

The NSW Government is extending its hot-water system and rainwater tank rebates until 2011, complementing the recently-announced Federal rebates.

Deputy Premier and Minister for the Environment and Climate Change Carmel Tebbutt said the extension would provide an even greater incentive for NSW householders to improve water and energy efficiency.

“The combination of State and Federal rebates will provide NSW householders with up to \$2,800 back on climate-friendly hot water systems and up to \$2,000 for rainwater tanks,” she said.

“The rebates are working well as an incentive, encouraging people to improve the water and energy efficiency of their homes.

“Uptake of the NSW hot-water system rebate has been steadily growing since the program began. We are now receiving more than 2,000 applications a month, 60 per cent of which are for solar hot water systems.”

Ms Tebbutt said the Department of Environment and Climate Change had analysed the impact of the Federal Government’s rebates on the NSW program.

It recommended extending the hot-water system and rainwater tanks rebates, due to finish this year, because of the high demand, and ongoing water, energy and emission saving benefits.

Because the Federal Government’s insulation rebate covers the entire cost of installing ceiling insulation, the \$300 NSW insulation rebate will end on 30 June 2009.

The money will instead be spent on insulation for properties not covered by the Federal rebate, including public housing.

The \$150 rebate for 4.5 star washing machines remains unchanged and is available to 30 June 2010.

“These rebates significantly narrow the gap between the upfront cost of household investment in efficiency measures and long-term savings on bills,” Ms Tebbutt said.

“The incentive for NSW households to improve the sustainability of their home has never been better.”

To the end of January 2009, 54,217 rebates have been paid to households across NSW for hot water systems, rainwater tanks, insulation and washing machines — totalling \$26.2 million.

Together they are helping NSW householders save an estimated 1.1 billion litres of water a year and 49,150 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, or the equivalent of 31 million water-efficient showers and taking almost 11,000 cars off the road for a year.

For details about the NSW rebates, visit [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates)

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### Rebate background

- The NSW Climate Change Fund was established in July 2007. It provides \$100 million for residential rebates as well as funding support for businesses, government and school water and energy savings
- Current NSW rebates include up to \$1500 for an approved rainwater tank and up to \$1200 for a solar hot water system
- Rainwater tank rebates were introduced on 1 July 2007. To 31 January 2009, 20,421 rebates have been paid, saving an estimated 918 million litres of water a year
- Hot water system and insulation rebates were introduced on 1 October 2007. To 31 January 2009, 16,802 rebates have been paid, saving an estimated 42,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions a year
- The \$150 washing machine rebate was introduced on 1 August 2008. To 31 January 2009, 9,055 rebates have been paid, saving an estimated 217 million litres of water a year
- The NSW Climate Change Fund rebate program also supports Fridge Buyback. To 31 January 2009, 6,500 second fridges have been removed from Sydney homes, saving a more than 6,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions a year

