



**Carmel Tebbutt MP**

**Deputy Premier**

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment | Minister for Commerce

**Tuesday, 25 August 2009**

## **101,000 rebates provide jobs and investment boost**

NSW households have claimed more than 101,000 residential rebates under the NSW Government's Climate Change Fund since the program began, the Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Carmel Tebbutt, announced today.

"NSW households have invested more than \$200 million in water and energy upgrades to their homes, backed by 101,605 NSW Government grants worth \$47 million – this has been a huge boost for the environment, the economy and green jobs," Ms Tebbutt said.

"The science shows us that climate change is happening and that's why the NSW Government is making it easier for families to reduce their impact on the environment, save money and boost the economy at the same time.

"This huge uptake of rebates is estimated to have created more than 1,700 green jobs across NSW in a range of industries including manufacturing, sales, installation, customer service and processing.

"This investment is now saving almost two billion litres of drinking water or 800 Olympic swimming pools, and 88,000 tonnes of carbon pollution – the equivalent of taking 19,000 cars off the road for a year.

"It is also shaving almost \$10 million a year off household water and power bills."

Ms Tebbutt said that more than 33,000 rebates have been claimed for hot water heaters alone since the program began. Rebates are also offered for water tanks and 4.5 star-rated washing machines.

"Since February 2009, the demand for hot water system rebates has increased five-fold," Ms Tebbutt said.

"Hot water is the biggest power user in NSW homes, the switch from electric to either solar, gas or heat pump systems is helping to achieve the biggest carbon pollution savings – more than 82,000 tonnes per year."

Matt Sexton, CEO of Rheem Australia, said that manufacturing of renewable water heaters at its Rydalmere water heater plant had seen a significant upturn since the introduction of the NSW solar hot water rebate in July 2007.

"Our renewable business has almost doubled since the State Government rebates came in and we have had to create 80 more manufacturing positions, and hundreds of other sales, distribution and installation jobs to manage that demand," Mr Sexton said

"We have also committed to a \$5 million capital expenditure program over the next 12 months to upgrade our manufacturing capability.



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“As a whole the rebates have been a triple-win resulting in lower running costs, lower emissions and job creation.”

Ms Tebbutt said the rebates also provided a good indicator of which areas were the most environmentally conscious.

- Across the state - Kyogle and Bellingen led the way with the most rebates per capita;
- Throughout the Sydney metro region - Ku-ring-gai residents claimed first place.
- In Inner Sydney - Leichhardt Council topped the uptake;
- In Western Sydney - Blue Mountains and Wollondilly residents topped the rebate count;

“Overall the rebate uptake rates have remained consistent across the state, with regional areas continuing to take the top 10 spots for uptake on a per capita basis,” Ms Tebbutt said.

For full details on NSW rebates visit [www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates](http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates)

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## NSW rebate uptake to July 2009

	Number of rebates	Rebates paid \$	kilolitres savings per year	tCO2e savings per year	Bill savings per year
Rainwater tanks	27,765	\$15,100,106	1,249,425		\$2,011,574
Hot water	32,913	\$24,604,400		82,283	\$4,476,168
Insulation	11,723	\$3,375,881		5,862	\$2,344,600
Washing machines	29,204	\$4,380,600	700,896		\$1,128,443
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,605</b>	<b>\$47,460,987</b>	<b>1,950,321</b>	<b>88,144</b>	<b>\$9,960,785</b>

### Top 10 LGAs – Total

LGA	No. rebates	Rebate paid
Wollongong City Council	3,776	\$1,789,529
Gosford City Council	3,377	\$1,679,847
Lake Macquarie	3,319	\$1,920,924
Wyong Shire Council	3,276	\$1,741,981
Tweed Shire Council	2,973	\$1,974,053
Sutherland Shire Council	2,889	\$1,217,256
Blacktown City Council	2,488	\$895,696
Hornsby Shire Council	2,288	\$942,454
Port Macquarie Hastings	2,269	\$1,407,992
Coffs Harbour Council	2,093	\$1,351,453

### Top 10 LGAs - rebates per capita

LGA
Kyogle Council
Bellingen Shire Council
Tenterfield Shire Council
Kiama Municipal Council
Tweed Shire Council
Byron Shire Council
Uralla Shire Council
Greater Taree City Council
Port Macquarie Hastings
Coffs Harbour City Council

### Top 10 LGAs by rebate

Rainwater Tank rebate	No. rebates	Rebate paid
Wyong Shire Council	1,655	\$930,199
Gosford City Council	1,449	\$830,042
Wollongong City Council	1,273	\$709,560
Sutherland Shire Council	811	\$418,582
Blacktown City Council	675	\$274,712
Penrith City Council	650	\$269,725
Blue Mountains	616	\$385,649
Hornsby Shire Council	589	\$292,847
The Hills Shire Council	547	\$247,545
Ku-ring-gai Council	511	\$266,637

Insulation rebate	No. rebates	Rebate paid
Lake Macquarie	533	\$152,875
Newcastle Council	505	\$143,222
Blacktown Council	427	\$119,884
Sutherland Shire Council	423	\$122,274
Gosford City Council	389	\$112,505
Wollongong Council	379	\$108,869
Wyong Shire Council	371	\$107,132
Port Macquarie Hastings	361	\$105,094
Tweed Shire Council	342	\$99,127
Coffs Harbour Council	301	\$88,153

Hot water system rebate	No. rebates	Rebate paid
Tweed Shire Council	1,801	\$1,574,500
Lake Macquarie Council	1,791	\$1,466,700
Coffs Harbour Council	1,210	\$1,035,900
Wollongong City Council	1,204	\$833,100
Port Macquarie Hastings	1,199	\$1,013,700
Shoalhaven City Council	1,154	\$913,800
Blue Mountains Council	835	\$433,900
Newcastle City Council	820	\$559,300
Greater Taree Council	816	\$665,200
Wyong Shire Council	765	\$631,900

Washing machine rebate	No. rebates	Rebate paid
Sydney City Council	1,229	\$184,350
Wollongong City Council	920	\$138,000
Sutherland Shire Council	920	\$138,000
Blacktown City Council	886	\$132,900
Parramatta City Council	835	\$125,250
Hornsby Shire Council	796	\$119,400
Gosford City Council	788	\$118,200
Randwick City Council	788	\$118,200
The Hills Shire Council	776	\$116,400
Warringah Council	730	\$109,500