



# Robyn Parker MP

## Minister for the Environment

## Minister for Heritage

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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#### LOCAL CLUBS HAVE THE ENERGY TO SAVE

Registered clubs across NSW can save over \$100,000 a year off their energy bills with the help of the *Energy Saver Registered clubs toolkit* being launched today by the NSW Environment Minister, Robyn Parker.

Ms Parker said that this was a great opportunity for the 1,400 licenced clubs across NSW to save on energy costs and become more environmentally sustainable.

“The toolkit provides practical advice and a step-by-step guide to help clubs get started on energy saving upgrades,” Ms Parker said.

“By using the toolkit to improve their environmental performance, NSW clubs could collectively save \$11.9 million a year and reduce their energy use by up to 17 per cent.

“This toolkit is based on the experiences of clubs who have already made energy and water efficiency upgrades to their facilities – such as Mittagong RSL which has saved \$133,000 a year on average since participating in the program.

“These practical examples and technical advice are now available to all clubs across the state so that they too can make savings.

“The toolkit covers topics such as upgrading heating and cooling, lighting, catering and hot water systems.

“It also includes tips on how to save even more through building insulation, tinting windows, putting timers on equipment, using swimming pool covers and maintaining refrigeration equipment,” she said.

ClubsNSW CEO Anthony Ball said news of the toolkit had generated an overwhelming response from clubs, including many that were expressing interest in environmental initiatives for the very first time.

“The majority of not-for-profit clubs are currently facing some form of financial distress, so any initiative that reduces their energy costs is a huge help,” he said.

“As not-for-profit organisations, less money spent on power bills also means there’s more money that can go towards helping community organisations and sports teams.

Ms Parker also congratulated Oak Flats Bowling Club for becoming a gold member of the NSW Government's Sustainability Advantage Program.

"They're the first NSW club to become carbon neutral and are an outstanding example of how an organisation can respond to changing attitudes towards sustainability and truly demonstrate benefits of investing in energy efficiency," Ms Parker said.

Mr Ball said, "I'd also like to congratulate Oak Flats Bowling and Recreation Club on becoming the first club to become a gold member of the NSW Government's Sustainability Advantage Program.

"It's amazing to see a mid-size club recognised for their environmental leadership and initiatives alongside large businesses that operate across Australia and even overseas," he said.

The new *Energy Saver Registered clubs toolkit* is part of the NSW Government's programs for business. These programs have helped clubs and other businesses to save more than \$100 million a year off utility bills by offering technical advice, energy audits and energy efficiency training.

To download the *Energy Saver Registered clubs toolkit* or get more information about NSW Government programs for business, visit [environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainbus](http://environment.nsw.gov.au/sustainbus)

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