



Rob Stokes MP
Minister for the Environment
Minister for Heritage
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MEDIA RELEASE

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TRANSFORMING GOVERNMENT ENERGY USE

Environment Minister Rob Stokes addressed the opening of Clean Energy Week today, announcing a new way forward that will slash the state government's energy and water use, improve waste management and deliver cleaner air.

In his address, the Minister said that the new Government Resource Efficiency Policy leads the way for resource efficiency in NSW.

"The NSW Government is one of the one of the biggest electricity consumers in the state and this new policy will increase resource efficiency and free up funds for frontline Government services," Mr Stokes said.

"Through this policy, NSW Government agencies are anticipated to invest around \$290 million in energy efficiency and on-site electricity generation projects over the next decade."

The Minister outlined that under the new policy, all NSW government departments will undertake energy efficiency projects for 90 per cent of their billed energy use by 2023-24, reducing their energy bills across the NSW government by \$55 million a year.

"We will improve our cities by getting all large office buildings, owned or leased by the NSW government, to achieve and maintain a NABERS Energy rating of at least 4.5 stars, and a NABERS Water rating of at least 4 stars," Mr Stokes said.

"The policy also demonstrates our commitment to the renewable energy sector by including a requirement for six per cent of electricity for most agencies to come from GreenPower.

"There are also measures for NSW Government agencies who have small electricity contracts to identify sites where solar photovoltaic systems are feasible using a simple checklist.

"This information will be published by October 2015 to enable the solar industry to make market offers to agencies to install or lease solar systems across their sites.

"The policy covers all general government sector agencies who will publish a statement of their performance against the policy on an annual basis.

"The Office of Environment and Heritage will assess whole-of-government performance and review the policy every two years.

“The reporting requirements in this policy focus on key outcomes and allow agencies to get on with implementing projects rather than getting bogged down in paperwork,” he said.

Parliamentary Secretary for Renewable Energy, Leslie Williams said that the Government Resource Efficiency Policy is a great opportunity for the clean energy industry to do business with the NSW government.

The policy can be downloaded from

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/government/140567NSWGREP.pdf>

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