

## Energy Efficiency for Small Business



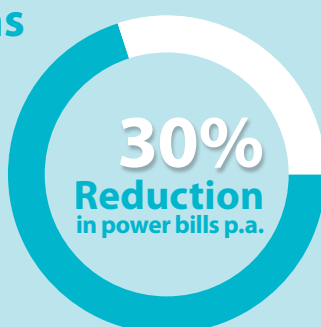
### Case Study

## Alstonville Florist

Alstonville Florist is saving more than \$1200 p.a. on power bills by making improvements such as replacing an old fridge with a more efficient unit, through the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program.

### Energy saving solutions

- Replaced flower display fridge with a more efficient unit
- Installed ceiling fans to reduce the need for air conditioning
- Switching off kitchen equipment when not in use

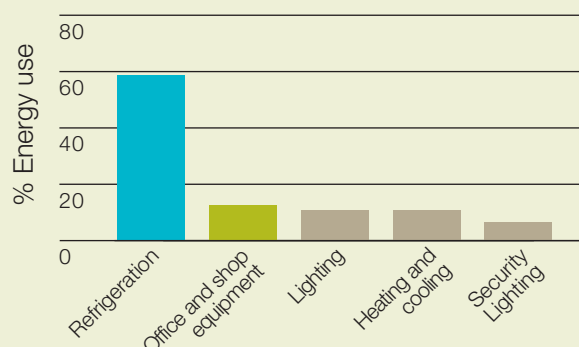


**Power bill cut by \$1230 p.a.**

### Energy use profile

An energy assessment revealed that refrigeration was the main energy user at the shop, followed by office and shop equipment.

#### Top 5 energy uses



**58.6%**  
Refrigeration

**12.6%**  
Office and shop  
equipment

### Business profile

**Location:** Northern NSW

Alstonville Florist provides fresh flowers to the communities of Alstonville, Ballina, Lismore and the surrounding areas of northern New South Wales.

A member of Interflora Australia, Alstonville Florist has been in operation for three years under the new owners Kerry Thompson and Mark Pampling.

As a member of the local chamber of commerce, Kerry was aware of the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program and chose to participate to reduce the shop's energy bills.

*'My power bill has decreased by 30 per cent since we updated the refrigeration – a great result.'*

Kerry Thomson, Owner



## Efficient refrigeration reduces power bills

### Alstonville Florist's story...

Receiving a \$1900 subsidy, owner Kerry Thomson was able to make a start on implementing her Energy Action Plan by focusing on refrigeration.

'As a member of the local chamber of commerce I was aware of the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program. I wanted to save on energy costs and my Energy Action Plan showed that replacing the old three door flower fridge with a new, more efficient unit, would achieve this,' said Kerry.

'I've since seen a difference in my power bills – they have decreased by 30 per cent.'

Running the florist shop requires a lot of effort and implementing the changes takes time, but Kerry says the benefits are worth it.

'Being part of Interflora means we need to keep our computers on standby for orders. However, we switch off kitchen equipment at the power point which reduced our overall energy use.'

Additional changes included replacing a leaky tap on a hand hose in the back area of the shop. One leaking tap can waste more than 2000 litres of water a month.

Managing waste is often a forgotten part of business, but for Alstonville Florist it is part of their everyday activities.

'As a standard practice, we recycle our green waste in designated bins and take it home to use as mulch on our gardens.'

Building on their energy savings, owners Kerry and Mark have been inspired to roll out Energy Action Plan recommendations in their recently acquired store in Lismore.

### POWER SAVING TIP

Replacing incandescent lights with florescent or LED lighting can save you more than 50 per cent on your lighting costs.

### Register your business

If your business spends up to about \$20,000 in electricity a year or employs up to 10 full time staff, you can join the Energy Efficiency for Small Business Program.

**Register online:** [savepower.nsw.gov.au/business/small-business/register-for-program.aspx](http://savepower.nsw.gov.au/business/small-business/register-for-program.aspx)

**Call** 02 8837 6000

**Email** [smallbiz@environment.nsw.gov.au](mailto:smallbiz@environment.nsw.gov.au)

**Visit** [savepower.nsw.gov.au/business](http://savepower.nsw.gov.au/business)