



Queensland Solar Hot Water Program

The Queensland Government is committed to providing a clean energy future for Queensland.

Under the Government's Climate Change Strategy, called *ClimateSmart2050*, electric storage hot water systems will begin to be phased out from 2010.

Premier Anna Bligh's 2009 election commitment to accelerate the state-wide installation of up to 200 000 solar and heat pump hot water systems, over three years, will replace electric storage hot water systems.

The Government's Office of Clean Energy will begin roll out of the new Queensland Solar Hot Water Program, from 1 July 2009.

Queenslanders are now registering their interest for more information about the Program through a Call Centre, and the Office of Clean Energy website.

Program objectives include:

- reducing greenhouse gas emissions caused by fossil fuel electricity generation
- reducing the cost of water heating on Queensland household electricity bills
- diversifying and strengthening Queensland's solar and heat pump hot water industry.

Federal support

The Queensland Solar Hot Water Program is dependent upon the Australian Government's Solar Hot Water Rebate Program (\$1600) and Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) created under the Australian Government's Renewable Energy Target.

What does the Queensland Solar Hot Water Program offer?

Under the Program, eligible participants will have access to a standard installed and warranted, solar or heat pump hot water system for a payment of \$100 for eligible pensioners and low income earners, and \$500 for other eligible participants.

The Queensland Solar Hot Water Program is not a rebate scheme. Successful applicants will not be reimbursed for purchasing a system.

Am I eligible?

The Queensland Government is currently completing full eligibility criteria for the Program and will provide this information in coming weeks.

In the meantime, here are some key criteria of the Queensland Solar Hot Water Program:

- Applicants must be replacing an existing electric storage hot water system with a solar or heat pump hot water system offered under this Program; and
- Applicants can not replace an existing gas hot water system with a solar or heat pump hot water system under this Program; and
- Applicants can not replace an existing solar hot water system with a solar or heat pump hot water system offered under this Program; and
- Applicants are not eligible for the Queensland Program if they have previously applied for the Australian Government's Homeowner Insulation Program; and
- Non residential premises, eg: commercial, are not eligible under this Program; and
- An owner-occupier, landlord or tenant can apply under the Queensland Program as long as the dwelling where the hot water system is to be installed is a principal place of residence.

Because the Queensland Program is dependant on the Australian Government's Solar Hot Water Rebate Program (\$1600), eligibility for this program also applies to the Queensland Program.

How do I register interest in this Program?

If you provide contact details through a Registration of Interest (ROI), the Queensland Government will provide Program updates.



To register your contact details please call the Hotline on 13 25 23 and select the Queensland Solar Hot Water Program.

Alternatively, you can complete an online Registration of Interest (ROI) form available from the Office of Clean Energy website: www.cleanenergy.qld.gov.au. You will receive email confirmation of receipt of your details.

Registering your interest is not an application to participate in this Program.

Information about when Application Packs, including Application Forms, will be released by the Queensland Government in coming weeks.

When will the Program start?

The Queensland Solar Hot Water Program is scheduled to begin from 1 July 2009 and continue for three years, subject to the continuation of Australian Government assistance such as the Australian Government's Solar Hot Water Rebate and Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

Will I have a choice about which system is installed?

A selection of solar or heat pump hot water systems will be offered to eligible participants under this Program.

The most suitable hot water system solution will vary depending on a number of factors, including the size of the dwelling, roof aspect and water quality.

It is expected that three in 10 Queensland dwellings will not be suitable for installation of a solar hot water system for technical reasons. In these cases, a heat pump hot water system would be more appropriate.

The supply, installation and warranty of solar and heat pump hot water systems under the Program will be set through an arrangement between the Queensland Government and industry providers.

Products offered under the Program will comply with relevant Australian Standards and carry the same warranty as products offered for retail sale.

How will this Program benefit the environment?

Electric storage hot water systems are installed in about 80 per cent of Queensland households and are acknowledged as the single largest contributor to household energy use and greenhouse gas emissions.

This Program will contribute to the Bligh Government's *Toward Q2: Tomorrow's Queensland* strategy to reduce the carbon footprint of Queensland households by one-third by 2020, through reduced use of fossil-fuel generated electricity.

Approximately 630,000 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions will be reduced over the three-year life of this program – or about 4.9 million tonnes over the 15-year life of installed greenhouse efficient hot water systems.

How do I find out more about the Queensland Program?

Please call the Hotline on 13 25 23 and select the Queensland Solar Hot Water Program, or visit the Office of Clean Energy website at www.cleanenergy.qld.gov.au

How do I find out more about the Federal Programs?

More information about the Australian Government's Solar Hot Water Rebate Program (\$1600) is available from the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts website, www.environment.gov.au, or the Energy Efficient Homes Package Hotline on 1800 808 571.

Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) are issued when a complete solar or heat pump hot water system is installed. The number of RECs issued varies with each system. For more information about RECs, visit the Office of the Renewable Energy Regulator at www.orer.gov.au/recs.