

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP
Minister for Climate Action
Minister for Energy and Resources
Minister for the State Electricity Commission



Wednesday, 13 March 2024

DEMAND FOR HOT WATER REBATES AT RECORD LEVELS

More Victorians than ever before are slashing their energy bills, with demand for the Allan Labor Government's Solar Homes Hot Water Rebate at record levels.

Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio today announced an expansion of the program with 8,000 additional rebates on offer in response to the huge demand.

This financial year there has already been 16,132 applications for the program, far exceeding the initial target – representing a 224 per cent increase from the previous year, before the year has even finished.

The expansion will save more Victorians \$1,000 off the cost of installing a heat pump hot water system and up to \$400 a year on their electricity bills.

Through our Solar Homes rebate and Victorian Energy Upgrades Program – thousands of households are swapping out gas and saving on their energy bills.

Heating and hot water are the biggest energy users in the home, accounting for more than 50 per cent of total energy usage - installing a heat pump hot water system alone can save a household up to \$400 a year on electricity bills and when combined with rooftop solar, savings can be up to \$1,400 a year.

Heat pump hot water systems have never been more popular - with more than 700 Victorians applying for the hot water rebate every week and 20,000 systems installed to date.

Uptake has been incredibly high in Casey with 1193 households, Wyndham with 968 households and Greater Geelong with 975 households.

These residents join more than 350,000 Victorian households who have received a rebate or loan to take up rooftop solar, home batteries, heat pump hot water systems, and other energy efficient appliances since 2018.

To ensure fast installation of solar hot water systems, the Labor Government is also delivering free training to upskill plumbers through an \$11 million workforce development program to grow Victoria's clean energy workforce.

Cutting the upfront costs of these systems is helping thousands more families slash their energy bills while driving down Victoria's emissions. To applying for a hot water rebate visit, solar.vic.gov.au/hot-water-rebate.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy and Resources Lily D'Ambrosio

"More Victorians than ever before are taking advantage of our rebates and switching to efficient electric technology – saving thousands of dollars and driving down emissions."

"We're helping more Victorians save on the upfront cost of installation of heat pump or solar hot water systems and slash their energy bills every year after."

Quote attributable to Member for Southern Metropolitan John Berger

"There has never been a better time to install a new energy efficient system and bring down your household energy bills."

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