



**ENERGY
CONSUMERS
AUSTRALIA**

A Suite 2, Level 14, 1 Castlereagh Street
Sydney NSW 2000
T 02 9220 5500
W energyconsumersaustralia.com.au
Twitter @energyvoiceau
in /energyconsumersaustralia
f /energyconsumersaustralia

ABN 96 603 931 326

Media Release

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Energy Consumers Australia welcomes support for NSW energy consumers

Energy Consumers Australia today welcomed the NSW Government's announcement of new funding to provide discounts to consumers on energy efficient appliances, and increased energy rebates.

CEO, Rosemary Sinclair, said households and small businesses were feeling significant pain from rising energy costs and government and industry needed to remain focused on practical solutions.

"The NSW Government's initiative will provide relief for many households and small businesses who are feeling the pinch," Ms Sinclair said.

"It is particularly pleasing to see a focus on energy management for community housing and major appliances.

"Our research underlines that energy is not just a financial concern, it is critical to health and wellbeing and it is much harder for consumers to lower their energy costs if they can't afford to upgrade appliances or improve the energy efficiency of their home or business."

Ms Sinclair said it was pleasing to see all Governments step in over recent weeks to play their part, in recognition of the immediate problems facing consumers struggling to keep their heads above water.

"The Prime Minister has identified that there was up to \$1500 on the table for consumers who move onto the best possible energy deal. This is money which should be in the hands of consumers, not retailers.

"Ultimately, we need a significant change in culture with energy retailers. We're starting to see green shoots with some retailers responding to the Prime Minister's intervention in recent weeks, taking up the challenge to do more to help people find the lowest priced energy deal for them."

Ms Sinclair said the best thing to do if consumers are worried they are paying more than they should for power is to call their retailer and check if they're on the best offer.

"Some households haven't moved off outdated, expensive offers for years and could save hundreds of dollars by calling their retailer, or shopping around for a better deal."

For more information and tips on what to say to your energy retailer to get the best deal, visit www.energyconsumersaustralia.com.au or our [Facebook page](#). To find the best deal in the market visit www.energymadeeasy.com.au

Media contact: Tim O'Halloran 0409 059 617