



## Energy Smart Government 2003/04 - Executive Summary

The second report of the Energy Smart Government program demonstrates the ongoing commitment of the agencies participating in the program. Agencies have continued to build on the progress made in 2002/03, with a significant amount of activity focused on establishing energy management policies and developing action plans.

The Government has saved over 173,000 GJ of energy since the program's inception, with a contribution of 91,500 GJ in 2003/04. This represents a saving of more than \$2.3m in agency operating budgets.

The energy reduction target for the 2003/04 financial year, as set in the Energy Smart Government policy, is 6%. The combined data for 61 of the 62 participating agencies shows a very encouraging 6.4% reduction in energy consumption.

Hospitals remain the single largest energy user reported under the Energy Smart Government program and account for 44% of total government energy use. The Department of Health did not meet the 2003/04 target and this has influenced the 2003/04 whole of Government result. The combined result for all participating agencies is a reduction in energy use of 4.6%.

The Government's Health Reform Implementation Program will enable further integration of energy efficiency into the design and management of health facilities, both new and existing. The Department of Health has been working with the Sustainable Energy Development Office to implement an agreed action plan to achieve future energy savings. This should start to show in next year's results.

Other significant categories of energy users are primary and secondary education facilities, accounting for 16%, and tertiary educational facilities and custodial facilities, each accounting for 6%. At the agency level the results vary widely, with 37.6% the largest reduction by a single agency. Overall, 44 agencies reported a reduction in energy use, of which 34 exceeded the 2003/04 energy reduction target of 6%. Relative to 2002/03 results, this represents a 20% increase in the number of agencies that met the target.

Another 13 agencies showed a significant improvement in the intensity of their energy use. While some agencies were not able to achieve the energy reduction target due to an expansion in services, many minimised the impact of those additional services and achieved reductions in energy use per person (total number of people occupying a facility, including permanent staff, temporary staff and contractors) or energy use per square metre of floor area. It is acknowledged that the outcomes achieved in 2003/04 are also a result of the efforts of those agencies.

Overall, participating agencies achieved the following savings in 2003/04 relative to the baseline:

- Energy consumption reduced by 4.6% to 2,683,898 GJ.
- Energy cost reduced by 3.3% to \$76.1 million
- Greenhouse gas emissions reduced by 3.6% to 509,502 tonnes

Agency demand for Facilitation Grants was strong throughout the year with more than 35 energy audits being conducted. The benefit from actions following these audits is expected to be fully realised next year. A further \$1.1m was committed to capital works projects at nine sites with projects involving lighting upgrades being the main recipients of the funds. The demand for Capital Advances is expected to increase as agencies continue to implement the initiatives identified through energy audits and other means.

The 2003/04 results demonstrate improvements in the way energy is viewed and managed by agencies. This is reflected in a survey undertaken during the year on agency energy management practices. The survey found that most agencies had made initial progress towards integrating energy management into their daily operations with 43% indicating that an energy management policy had been developed within the last two years.

While there is still significant work to be done before energy management is fully incorporated into agency culture, the early indications remain positive. The impact of other State Government sustainability policy announcements during the year is expected to provide further impetus for agencies to realise their energy saving potential.

### Further information

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