



## Energy Smart Government 2006/07 - Executive Summary

The Energy Smart Government policy was established in 2001/02 to realise ongoing reductions in energy use, energy costs and associated greenhouse gas emissions by establishing energy efficiency as an integral component in the management of government assets. The period in which the policy has operated has been one in which Western Australia has undergone significant economic growth. In response to the booming economy, Government operations have expanded to provide the services and infrastructure needed to support industry and the community. The Energy Smart Government program has promoted effective energy management and facilitated energy efficiency upgrades in many Government facilities, allowing many agencies to significantly curb potential increases in energy consumption that would have resulted from the growth in their operations.

In the five years that the program has been operating, the public service has grown by over 16% but absolute energy consumption by participating agencies has remained below 2001/02 levels throughout that time. Headline results over the duration of the program relative to the 2001/02 baseline include:

- Energy savings of almost 500,000 GJ (equivalent to the annual electricity consumption of 26,000 houses)
- Energy cost savings of over \$13 million
- Avoidance of almost 37,500 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions (equivalent to taking 8,600 cars off the road).

In 2006/07, agencies achieved a 24% saving in energy use relative to a business as usual scenario based on State economic growth.

The target for 2006/07 set in the Energy Smart Government policy was a 12% reduction in energy consumption relative to the 2001/02 baseline. Collectively, on the basis of efficiency of energy use, participating agencies exceeded that goal, delivering an energy use per employee (FTE) of 16.2% below the baseline level. Individually, many agencies demonstrated significant improvements in energy efficiency. Forty-one agencies achieved an overall reduction in energy use per FTE of over 12% and nearly 70% of agencies demonstrated improvements in energy efficiency through individual end-use category performance indicators. The absolute energy reduction target was achieved by 20 agencies, with 11 of these reporting energy consumption more than 20% lower than their baselines.

The larger agencies account for most of the energy consumption reported with the five largest agencies responsible for 77% of reported energy consumption in 2006/07. These agencies collectively reported an absolute energy use 0.4% higher than their baselines, but an energy use per FTE 12.9% lower. The other 57 agencies collectively reported energy use of 11.1% below their baselines.

The data reported by agencies for 2006/07 shows that collectively, energy consumption for the year was 2,779,642 GJ energy cost was \$77.2 million and greenhouse gas emissions were 572,950 tonnes. Electricity remained the predominant energy type utilised by Government agencies in 2006/07, followed by natural gas.

There has been a steady increase in the amount of renewable electricity purchased in recent years. This has reduced the total emissions resulting from Government energy consumption over the five year period. The Government's commitment to purchase 20% of electricity from renewable sources by 2010 will further support this aim.

Renewable energy generated by Government agencies is also increasing rapidly and is now considerably higher than when the Energy Smart Government program commenced. The aggregated purchased and agency-generated renewable energy in 2006/07 was nearly three times that in the baseline year.

### Further information

For more information please contact:

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