



Jamberoo FutureCare Solar Water Heater Initiative



Jamberoo FutureCare is a non-political, not-for-profit community group. Our aim is to address the very real issues of global warming and sustainable living. Our goal is to empower people to make changes in their lives to reduce our community's ecological footprint.

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Why should you be switching to Solar Water Heating

- Electric water heaters consume around 30 - 40% of household electricity usage and produce 4 tonnes of greenhouse emissions per year.
- Electric water heaters do not last for ever.. Will not be able to replace domestic electric water heaters from 2012
- Great government incentives. Rebates may not last
- Changeover price is now reasonable.
- Save money - electricity prices increased by 20% last year and is forecast to increase more in the next few years.

Rebates and Incentives

Rebates – only available when replacing an existing electric water heater.

1. Australian Government rebate \$1000 (\$600 for heat pump hot water heaters)
2. NSW Government rebate \$300
3. Renewable Energy certificates, typical approved domestic solar water heaters have 26-32 RECs. **The current (Oct 10) value of a REC is around \$32. Total RECs currently worth around \$832-\$1024.** Most solar hot water providers offer a discount on the purchase price in respect of the REC's.

How much will changeover to solar water heating cost?

- Manufacturers have advised that the net cost of purchasing and installing a solar water heater can be as low as \$2000 - \$3000 after taking account of government rebates and value of RECs.

Major Brands of Solar Water Heaters and local supply agents.

Edwards; www.edwards.com.au - Illawarra Hot Water ph 4226 4400
Rinnai; www.rinnai.com.au - AGL Energy Shop Warrarong ph 4276 4711
Hills Solar; www.endless-solar.com - Endless Solar ph 1300 889 585
Solarhart; www.solahart.com.au - Solarhart ph 1300 721 984
Quantum Energy Technologies; www.quantumenergy.com.au - ph 1800 383 888
Saxon; www.sachs.com.au - Apollo Solar ph 4474 4445
EcoSmart; www.ecosmart.com.au - EcoSmart ph 133 326
Dux; www.ecosmart.com.au - Dux ph 1300 365 116

Shop around and get at least three quotes for the same type of solar hot water sys-

Further Reading: Clean Energy Council's free solar water heating installation manual

www.cleanenergycouncil.org.au/cec/resourcecentre/Consumer-Info/SWHguide.html



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Australian Government Rebate \$1000 (Note - \$600 for heat pumps)

To be eligible for the rebate, a hot water system must:

- replace an electric storage hot water system
- be purchased and installed after 3 February 2009 and before June 2012.
- be a solar or heat pump hot water system that is eligible for at least 20 Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) at the time and place of installation
- be installed by a suitably qualified person (for example an electrician or plumber).

Eligible households

- An owner-occupier, landlord or tenant can apply for the rebate as long as the dwelling where the hot water system is installed is a principal place of residence.
- Rebates are only available to people who have not previously received assistance to install ceiling insulation through the Home Insulation Program or the Homeowner Insulation Program at this address

For further details: www.environment.gov.au/settlements/renewable/solarhotwater
Tel: 1800 808 571

NSW Government Rebate

The NSW rebate for solar and heat pump hot water systems is \$300, the system must be rated at a minimum of 20 REC's.

Eligibility

The new hot water systems must:

- Replace an existing electric hot water system
- Be for residential properties in NSW only
- Be purchased in full and installed between January 15th, 2010 and June 30, 2011
- Be installed by a licensed plumber
- Hot water systems installed to comply with BASIX for new homes and major renovations are not eligible for a rebate
- This forms part of the NSW Home Saver Rebates which is \$1500 max per property

Further details: www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates/ccfhws.htm
Tel: 1300 361 967

Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)

The Australian Government's Mandatory Renewable Energy Target aims to reduce Australia's greenhouse gas production by setting a renewable energy target of 20% by 2020. This will require 45,000GWh of electricity to be derived from renewable sources. This is currently achieved through the market-based Renewable Energy Certificate (REC) trading scheme. Current value (Oct 10) \$32. Will be called STCs from 1 Jan 2011

Further details: contact Office of Renewable Energy Regulator ORER
www.orer.gov.au or Tel: 02 6159 7700

Installation Tips

- External Hot Water Pipe Insulation. To maximise efficiency, insist that all external hot water pipes are fitted with thick polyethylene insulation (usually black) eg Thermotec Quickseal.
- Tempering Valves. Ensure that a tempering valve is included in the quote as this is a legal requirement when any new water heater is installed. This is to prevent scalding in areas of personal hygiene like bathrooms. Discuss location with installer so that untempered water is provided to areas such as kitchens where possible.