

Rebate To Boost ACT Solar, Gas Heater Use

The ACT Government has increased a rebate scheme, first introduced 10 months ago, by 25% to encourage residents to convert to gas boosted, instead of electric boosted solar hot water systems.

ACT Chief Minister, Jan Stanhope, said 277 households have so far taken advantage of the rebate scheme, saving a combined total of about 900 t of greenhouse gas emissions, but

most of the installations have been of less efficient electric boosted systems.

"Gas boosted solar hot water systems are the most efficient water heaters available", Stanhope said. On average, gas boosted systems produce 17% of the greenhouse gas emissions of an equivalent electric boosted solar system and only 4% of an equivalent off-peak electric hot water system.

"A gas boosted system will cost you only half the amount to run each year compared with an electric boosted system", he said. The amount of money that will be refunded under the rebate, that was increased on April 3rd, will depend on the number of solar panels installed. The rebate for one panel was increased from \$759 - \$900, two panels \$1,000 - \$1,250 and three panels \$1,300 - \$1,600.