

Australia A Model For Improving Energy Efficiency: IEA

The International Energy Agency's (IEA) latest report has selected The Australian Government's Energy Efficiency Opportunities (EEO) program as a case study and was presented as a model for improving energy efficiency outcomes and addressing information failures.

The report, *Energy Management Programmes for Industry: Gaining through saving*, stated that opportunities to improve energy efficiency are still under-exploited in the industrial sector,

which accounts for one third of global energy demand and more than 40% in countries like Australia and developing economies like China.

Federal Resources and Energy Minister Martin Ferguson said that the IEA's report demonstrates that the EEO program is having "a very real impact" on emission reductions.

In 2010-11, businesses reported that the EEO program identified possible savings of 10% of their assessed energy use. The savings that will

be implemented represent 1.5% of Australia's total energy use and equates to 1% of total emissions, Ferguson said.

Industry has reported estimated savings of \$800 MM pa due to the EEO, he added.

IEA Executive Director Maria van der Hoeven said that Australia's EEO program provides a "leading-edge example of how best to reduce energy use and improve energy management systems". ■