

Media Release

For immediate release: 31 May 2016

Gas Energy Australia Welcomes Extension of NSW Gas Rebate to LPG Customers

Gas Energy Australia congratulates Deputy Premier, the Hon Troy Grant MP, and Minister for Industry, Resources and Energy, the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, on their recent announcement that the NSW Government has decided to extend the NSW Gas Rebate program to cover households that use LPG delivered in cylinders. This program will now provide a \$90 rebate to vulnerable, low income customers who use LPG in the kitchen, to heat water and warm their homes.

GEA CEO, John Griffiths, said "This is a great initiative by the NSW Government which addresses the need to also support the many low-income households not connected to gas networks, the majority of which live in regional areas of NSW.

In advocating the extension, GEA had emphasised to the NSW Government the capability of its members to supply LPG to meet the energy needs of households living in all parts of the State, many of which are far from the natural gas pipeline network.

GEA also emphasised that increased use of LPG will support the NSW and Australian Governments' environmental and energy security goals.

"There are substantial savings in carbon and noxious emissions from household use of LPG compared to grid electricity or burning wood. Domestically available LPG represents a realistic and practical solution to meeting air quality and carbon emission targets that balances the economic, health and environmental needs of the state," Mr Griffiths said.

In GEA's recently released Vison for Stationary Energy LPG, a key priority in the 10 Point Plan is ensuring that governments take an objective and technology neutral approach to government energy policies. This includes the many government policies that restrict support to selected technologies such as renewable energy.

GEA continues to urge governments to assess energy policies on the basis of their environmental benefits as well as cost effectiveness. The NSW Gas Rebate program is a step forward to achieving more equal government treatment of different energy technologies.

"We hope this decision will increase awareness of the benefits of, and widespread use of LPG by households. We will continue to work with Australian Governments to identify ways that gaseous fuels can contribute to economic, environmental and energy goals."

The GEA Vision for Stationary Energy LPG can be viewed here. More details about the NSW Gas Rebate program can be viewed here.

Media enquiries: John Griffiths, 0439 344 622

Gas Energy Australia is the peak national body for downstream Australian gas.





