



Dear Stakeholder

CONSULTATION REGULATORY IMPACT STATEMENT: PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE MINIMUM ENERGY PERFORMANCE STANDARDS AND LABELLING FOR GAS WATER HEATERS

Australian and New Zealand government agencies responsible for product energy efficiency are currently investigating introduction of Minimum Energy Performance Standards and labelling for gas water heaters that are imported or manufactured and sold in Australia and New Zealand.

A Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS) addressing this proposal is available at www.energyrating.gov.au/whatsnew.html You or your organisation may be interested in commenting on this proposal.

The RIS aims to:

1. Communicate to stakeholders the rationale, most important issues and questions relating to the regulatory proposal.
2. Seek stakeholder comment and industry/market data to better inform the development of the proposal.

We suggest that respondents may wish to review how the RIS deals with timing and transition issues and any impacts the regulation may have for their organisation.

The Australian Government and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) in New Zealand are managing the process of obtaining stakeholder views and data on the regulatory proposal. The Australian Government and EECA will accept written submissions on any issue raised in the document from stakeholders until close of business **Friday 3 October 2008**.

A presentation on this RIS will be held in Sydney on Wednesday 20 August from 10.30 am -12.30 pm. The venue is the Herbert Hinkler Meeting Room, Holiday Inn Sydney Airport, Cnr Bourke Rd and O'Riordan Street, Mascot.

If there is sufficient interest, public meetings can be organised to occur in Melbourne and Auckland prior to the closing date for submissions.

Please address your written submissions to:

Australia:

Ms Lucinda McIntyre
Appliance Energy Efficiency Team
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
GPO Box 787
CANBERRA ACT 2601.
email: energyrating@environment.gov.au

Or

New Zealand:

Ms Lisa Sinclair
Products Advisor
Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority
PO Box 388
WELLINGTON
email: regs@eeca.govt.nz

Please use this opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Yours sincerely



Ms Melanie Slade
Chair
Equipment Energy Efficiency Committee
13 August 2008