



# E3 ACHIEVEMENTS

## July 2016–June 2017

### THE E3 PROGRAM

The Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) Program undertakes a range of activities to improve the energy efficiency of appliances and equipment sold in Australia and New Zealand.

To reduce energy use and emissions, the Australian Government, states and territories and the New Zealand government collaborate to deliver minimum energy performance standards, energy rating labelling, compliance, registration, and education products for appliances and equipment.

Over the past 12 months, the E3 Program has contributed more than \$1 billion to the Australian economy and \$114 million to the New Zealand economy in avoided energy costs. Combined, this is an estimated 11.8 million tonnes of carbon emissions avoided per annum.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2016-17

The **E3 Prioritisation Plan** identifies how E3 will accelerate policy development and focus on regulating products that will deliver the most energy and emissions savings.

The Plan identified six priority areas in 2015–16: lighting, non-domestic fans, swimming pool pumps, refrigerated storage and display cabinets, air conditioners and domestic refrigerators.

The Plan was updated in 2016–17 to include televisions, industrial products, and hot water products.

The E3 Program will continue to regulate other products covered by legislation, with priorities updated regularly to reflect new and emerging products, changes in technologies and developments in international regulations.

### POLICY DEVELOPMENT

#### **Air conditioners**

Supplementary analysis and consultation was completed to inform the Decision Regulatory Impact Statement (RIS). The Decision RIS is expected to be released late 2017.

#### **Commercial Refrigeration**

The Consultation RIS submissions closed in September 2016 following the RIS release in July 2016. The Decision RIS is expected to be released late 2017.

#### **Lighting**

The Lighting Consultation RIS was released in November 2016 with public consultation sessions held across Australia and New Zealand. A Decision RIS is being developed.

Changes to allowable mercury levels for compact and linear fluorescent lamps was endorsed under the Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) legislation (effective 7 December 2017).

#### **Refrigerators**

The Refrigerator Consultation RIS was released in April 2017 with public consultation sessions held across Australia and New Zealand. Submissions closed in May 2017. The Decision RIS is expected to be released late 2017.

#### **Swimming Pool Pumps†**

The Consultation RIS for Swimming Pool Pumps was released in November 2016 and submissions closed in January 2017. The Decision RIS is under development.

#### **Non-Domestic Fans**

The Consultation RIS for Non-Domestic Fans was released in May 2017 and submissions closed in June 2017. The Decision RIS is under development.

[www.energyrating.gov.au](http://www.energyrating.gov.au)

*A joint initiative of Australian, State and Territory and New Zealand Governments*

## Street lighting

The [Street Lighting and Smart Controls \(SLSC\) Roadmap](#) was released in December 2016 in partnership with the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA) SLSC Programme.

The [SLSC website](#) was released in December 2016, providing free resources on best practice installation of LED street lighting and smart controls.

[LED and Smart Control Model Specifications](#) were released in July 2016 to assist public lighting buyers, vendors, contractors, funders and advisors to efficiently and economically engage in procurement of LED lighting and smart control systems for public lighting.

## GEMS REGISTRATION

In 2016–17, the GEMS Regulator approved 5,780 applications in Australia and responded to 998 enquiries. On average, applications were approved in 3.7 days. Six exemption requests were granted.

A stakeholder survey on the registration process was run in May 2017 and found that 84% of respondents were satisfied with the registration process (up from 77% in 2015–16) and 85% agreed their applications were processed in a timely manner (up from 80% in 2015–16).

As at 30 June 2017, a total of 22 Determinations were in effect under GEMS Act. Determinations are legislative instruments that specify GEMS requirements.

## GEMS COMPLIANCE

As a result of the check testing and market surveillance activities, and ‘tip offs’ received, 79 investigations into suspected non-compliance.

The GEMS Regulator completed check tests of 86 products. Of these, 79 met GEMS requirements at the conclusion of either stage 1 or stage 2 check testing, while 7 did not. In response, the GEMS Regulator cancelled 4 registrations and took alternate enforcement actions against 3 models.

Market surveillance activities revealed high levels of registration compliance for a range of household GEMS products. However, labelling compliance

results in Australia revealed significant room for improvement for some products, most notably televisions and computer monitors. GEMS inspectors will continue to focus on these products in 2017-18 as well as GEMS products in the industrial and commercial sectors, in particular three-phase motors in machines and electric and gas hot water systems.

## COMMUNICATIONS<sup>†</sup>

In 2016-17, the E3 Communications Team focused on consumers to build on the energy rating brand and promote the energy rating label. Lighting and energy rating label website content was developed specifically for a consumer audience using search engine optimization methods to increase the likelihood of it being discovered organically. The use of paid digital marketing was trialed to actively promote content to consumers and new video content was complete to promote the Light Bulb Saver App and the energy rating label.

The energy rating calculator interface and functionality was improved, making it easier and more intuitive for consumers to use. Further enhancements were also made to the calculator app and the Light Bulb Saver app.

The Efficiency Standard newsletter, published each month, kept stakeholders up-to-date on program and compliance activities. An infographic summarizing the program’s achievements was released.

Under the National Retailer Engagement Strategy (with the NSW and Victorian governments) we continued to work with retailers on voluntary measures that support and complement the Program’s regulatory functions. The measures included encouraging retailers to display the energy rating icon online and in print advertising, embed the energy rating calculator into their websites, and integrate the online training modules into their in-house learning and development programs.

## LOOKING FORWARD

In 2017–18, E3 will be focused on delivering the Prioritisation Plan, our registration processes, and a continued compliance presence.

<sup>†</sup> participation in swimming pool pumps and digital communications by Australian and State and Territory Governments only