



Simon Corbell MLA

ATTORNEY GENERAL
MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND WATER
MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES
MINISTER FOR ENERGY
MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

MEDIA RELEASE

MINISTER ANNOUNCES RENEWABLE ENERGY TARGETS

The Canberra community will be sourcing 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2012 and 25% by 2020, under new targets set today by Minister for Energy, Simon Corbell.

“These important renewable energy targets (RETs) underpins the Government’s commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 40% by 2020, and to be carbon neutral by 2060,” Mr Corbell said.

“The Government has decided that it is a better approach to set targets based on usage within the ACT, because it paints an accurate picture of the emissions from ACT electricity users.”

Mr Corbell said work currently being undertaken by Government on its Sustainable Energy Policy and *Weathering the Change* Action Plan² was used as a basis to set the targets.

“The Government has done extensive analysis in developing carbon emission reduction targets, and this analysis has played a key role in informing renewable energy uptake targets.”

Some of the ways Canberrans will contribute to reaching these targets include increased take-up of GreenPower, further uptake of solar energy in the ACT both of roofs of homes, and larger commercial installations and energy efficiency programs such as those announced in this week’s Budget.

ACT homes and businesses are the largest per capita contributors to the national GreenPower scheme. In 2009 the ACT became the first jurisdiction to pass legislation to require electricity retailers to make a renewable energy offer to their customers.

Mr Corbell said that setting these targets meets the Ministerial obligation under section 9 of the Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010, by making a determination on renewable energy targets by 5 May 2011.

“This is another way that the ACT Labor Government is taking a leadership role in tackling climate change and making our city the solar capital of Australia.”

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