



NSW CLIMATE CHANGE FUND

Hot Water System Rebate

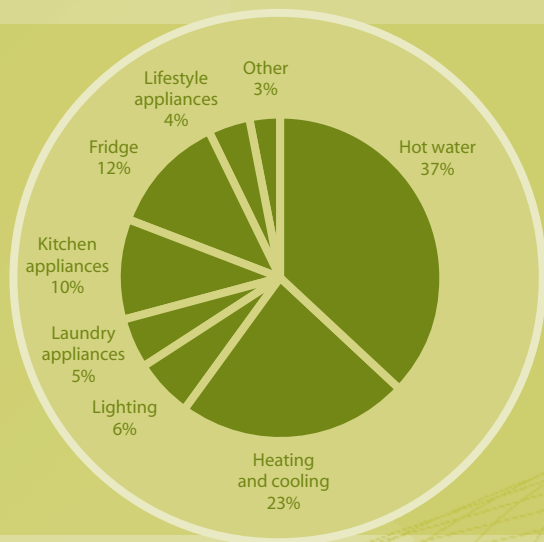


Why are we offering you a rebate?

The NSW Government's \$340 million Climate Change Fund is available to help business, households, schools and government save energy and water.

It includes a \$100 million Residential Rebate Program to help householders make their homes more water and energy efficient. As well as rebates for hot water systems, the Climate Change Fund also provides rebates for rainwater tanks, 4.5 star washing machines and insulation.

Water heating is the biggest energy user in NSW homes. Electric hot water systems typically account for more than a third of household energy use. Because most electricity in NSW is generated from coal-fired power stations, electric hot water systems emit the most greenhouse gas emissions.

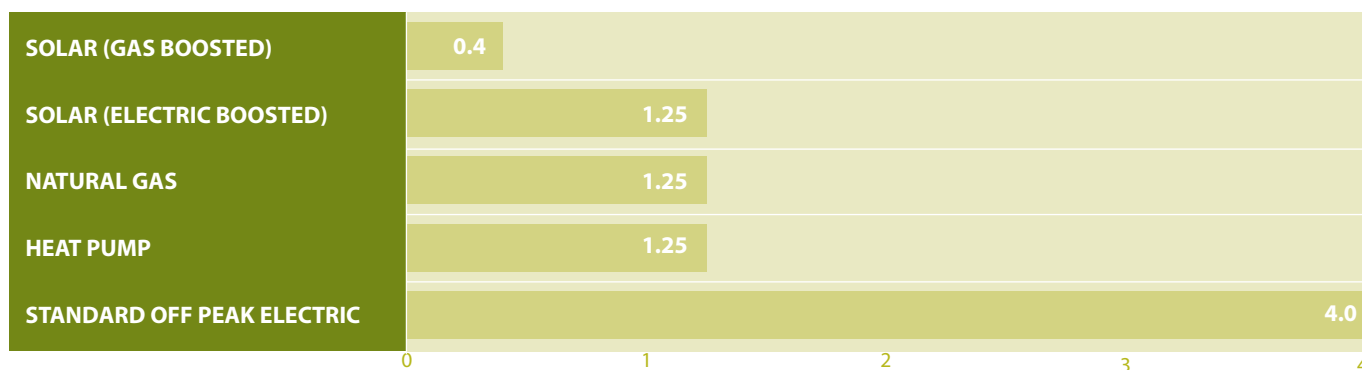


+ Water heating is the biggest energy user in NSW homes

Saving greenhouse gas emissions

Because such a high proportion of household energy use is for heating water, installing a climate-friendly gas, solar or heat pump hot water system can significantly reduce your household's greenhouse gas emissions. The chart below shows the greenhouse gas emissions typically generated each year by different types of systems to heat the same amount of water.

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS FROM HOT WATER SYSTEMS (TONNES PER YEAR)



You can also make the most of your hot water system by using it efficiently:

- + insulate hot water pipes – especially pipes outside the house
- + install a water-efficient showerhead – showering usually makes up more than 30% of hot water use in the home
- + fix dripping taps – a dripping tap can waste 1000 litres of hot water a month.

Eligibility criteria

The NSW Hot Water System Rebate is available for the installation of a new gas, solar or heat pump hot water system which replaces an existing electric system. It is available for hot water systems for residential properties only, purchased in full and installed between October 1, 2007 and June 30, 2009.

The hot water system must be installed by a licenced plumber to ensure that all relevant requirements and regulations are met.

How much is the rebate?

- + \$300 for a gas hot water system with a 5-star or higher energy rating
- + up to \$1200 for a solar or heat pump hot water system.

The rebate for solar and heat pump hot water systems is based on the amount of greenhouse gas emissions saved, determined by the eligibility of your system for Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs), as follows:

NUMBER OF RECs	REBATE
8-19	\$0
20-27	\$600
28-35	\$800
36-43	\$1000
44+	\$1200

Your supplier and/or installer will be able to provide you with more information about RECs. The installer must complete Sections 3 and 4 of the application form, providing full details about your new hot water system, including the system model number, the number of RECs for which it is eligible and confirmation that it has been professionally installed.

To ensure the correct rebate is paid, your plumber must provide the exact model number as listed in the current Australian Gas Association Directory of Certified Gas Appliances and Components or the current Schedule 7 of the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001.

Planning requirements

Some local councils have specific rules covering the installation of hot water systems. Check with your local council to ensure your new system complies with local planning requirements.

Applying for the rebate

You apply for the rebate after the hot water system has been installed. You will need to:

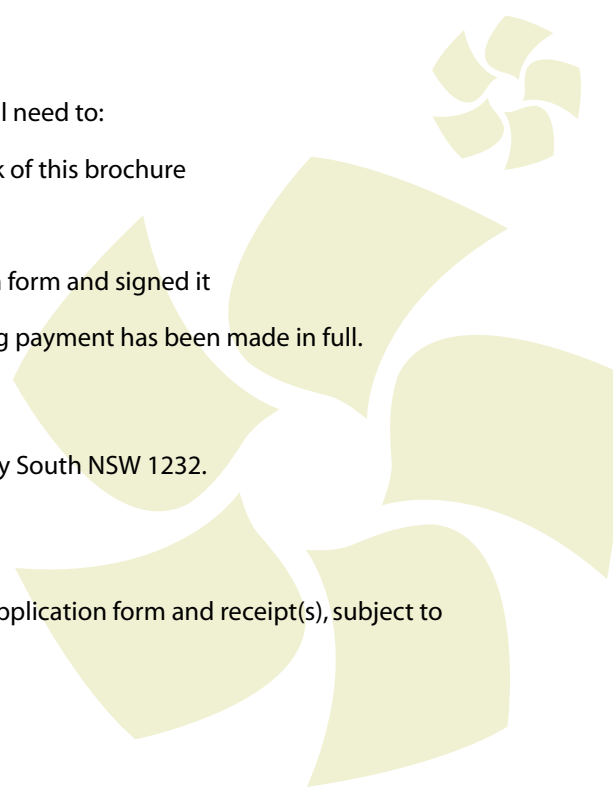
- + read and agree to the terms and conditions of the rebate offer on the back of this brochure
- + complete all relevant sections of the application form and sign it
- + make sure your installer has completed sections 3 and 4 of the application form and signed it
- + attach original receipt(s) for the hot water system and installation, showing payment has been made in full.
The receipts will be posted back to you after processing.

Forward the application form and receipts to:

NSW Climate Change Fund Hot Water System Rebate | PO Box A290 | Sydney South NSW 1232.

When will I receive the rebate?

We will send your rebate cheque within 60 days of receiving the completed application form and receipt(s), subject to verification of your application details.



Terms and conditions

The following terms and conditions apply to the NSW Government's Hot Water System Rebate Program. The applicant should read them carefully before signing the application form.

APPLICATION

An application for a rebate must be submitted on an official 'Application for Hot Water System Rebate' form and must be approved by the Department of Environment and Climate Change (DECC) before a rebate can be issued.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a rebate, the applicant must be an owner of the residential property in NSW where the hot water system is installed, complete an official 'Application for a Hot Water System Rebate' form and attach the original receipt(s) for the purchase and installation of the hot water system. The receipt(s) must be in the applicant's name. Please note, invoices without proof of payment are not acceptable. DECC must receive the application no later than 5:00pm, 30 September 2009.

To be eligible for a rebate, the hot water system must:

- + be a new solar or heat pump hot water system that is eligible for at least 20 Renewable Energy Certificates under the Mandatory Renewable Energy Target (MRET); or
- + be a new gas storage or instant hot water system that is connected to either reticulated gas or LPG and has an equivalent or greater than 5-Star Energy Rating
- + replace an existing electric hot water system
- + be paid for in full and installed from 1 October 2007 to 30 June 2009
- + meet all relevant standards and local council requirements
- + be installed by a licenced plumber
- + not be used for non-domestic purposes such as heating a pool, spa or similar.

RECEIPTS

To receive the rebate, DECC requires an original tax invoice or receipt stating:

- + date and place of purchase
- + exact system model number
- + receipt number
- + ABN of the supplier
- + that payment has been made in full.

Although every effort will be made to return original receipts, DECC will not be held responsible for failure to return original receipts. Applicants are advised to retain a copy of their receipt.

RENEWABLE ENERGY CERTIFICATES

To be eligible for the rebate, solar and heat pump hot water systems must be eligible for at least 20 Renewable Energy Certificates as currently listed in Schedule 7 of the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001. The rebate is scaled as follows:

NUMBER OF RECS	REBATE
20-27	\$600
28-35	\$800
36-43	\$1000
44+	\$1200

STAR RATINGS

To be eligible for the rebate, gas hot water systems must have a star rating of 5 star or higher, as currently listed in the Australian Gas Association Directory of Certified Gas Appliances and Components.

A star rating is not required for the gas component of a gas boosted solar system.

BASIX

Hot water systems installed to comply with BASIX (the Building Sustainability Index) for new homes or major renovations are not eligible for a rebate.

ONGOING OPERATION OF HOT WATER SYSTEM

The hot water system must operate on the property for a period of five (5) years after installation. On provision of reasonable notice from DECC, the applicant will allow an authorised inspector access to the hot water system to conduct audits to ensure its continued operation.

RESEARCH

For the first five (5) years following installation, rebate recipients may be asked to participate in DECC research about energy efficiency and hot water systems.

SOLE REBATE

DECC will only issue one (1) hot water system rebate per property.

REFUND OF REBATE

Applicants may be required to repay the rebate if any of these terms and conditions are found to have been breached in the first five (5) years after installation of the hot water system.

PROGRAM CHANGES

DECC reserves the right, at its sole and absolute discretion and at any time, to change any or all of the terms and conditions of the rebate program or to cancel the rebate program prior to 30 June 2009. Applications must be received by DECC prior to any published termination date for the rebate program. Current terms and conditions are available on DECC's website.

LIABILITY

The applicant acknowledges and agrees that as far as the law permits, DECC (and its successors) accepts no liability in respect to any claim, cause of action or loss or damage arising out of, or in relation to, any hot water system or the use of any water from such hot water system that is the subject of funding assistance.

The applicant agrees that they will indemnify and keep indemnified DECC from any claim or liability arising out of, or in relation to, the hot water system that is the subject of this application to the extent that any claim or liability is not caused by DECC's negligence or breach of this application or any other term implied by law.

PAYMENT

Payment of approved rebates will be by cheque only and made payable to the property owner as identified in the application form.

PRIVACY NOTICE

DECC collects and manages the personal information you provide in accordance with the Privacy and Personal Information Protection Act 1998. Information collected by DECC may be disclosed to the Department of Planning and/or the relevant local council or energy utility. The provision of this information is voluntary, however DECC will not issue a rebate to an applicant who refuses to provide information or agree to the disclosure of their details to the above agencies.

If the information provided by the Department of Planning and/or councils indicates that you are not eligible, then DECC will not pay the rebate or will seek reimbursement of any rebate paid.

For further information or enquiries regarding privacy or access to your information, contact an FOI/Privacy Officer on 9995 6080 or 9995 6497 or write to FOI/Privacy Officer, Department of Environment and Climate Change, PO BOX A290, SOUTH SYDNEY NSW 1232.

For more information about the NSW Hot Water System Rebate and other rebates available under the Climate Change Fund, visit:

www.environment.nsw.gov.au/rebates

or call **1300 361 967**