



**Minister for Energy  
Minister for Ports and Waterways  
Minister Assisting the Treasurer on Business and Economic Reform**

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 5AM TUESDAY MARCH 21, 2006**

### **\$20 MILLION TO GO GREEN: NSW GOVERNMENT FUNDS ENERGY PROJECTS**

Almost 30 innovative energy-saving projects across the State have been offered around \$20 million by the NSW Government, Energy Minister Joe Tripodi announced today.

The NSW Government's Energy Savings Fund – an Australian first – will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by supporting 28 projects.

“The NSW Government is investing in our State's future through the Energy Savings Fund which supports energy-efficient projects,” Mr Tripodi said.

Grants announced today are designed to help business, industry and local government go green.

These first round projects are tipped to save 1.4 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions over the next 10 years and will reduce annual peak demand by 60 megawatts, the equivalent to powering 20,000 homes.

They include:

- the installation of energy-efficient street lights in 29 Sydney, Central Coast and Hunter council areas. This will see a total of 42,000 traditional streetlights replaced with energy-efficient alternatives, saving councils up to \$10 million of their \$25 million annual power bill;
- home energy-efficiency programs, including a buyback scheme for second fridges; and
- the introduction of new technologies in the food processing and manufacturing industry, saving business costs as well as reducing greenhouse emissions; and
- a scheme to use cattle manure to generate energy for a feedlot and abattoir;

Mr Tripodi said the 28 projects represented cutting-edge change.

“These projects are diverse and exciting and have the potential to save industrial, commercial and residential energy across the State,” Mr Tripodi said.

“These projects will also reduce electricity costs for business, freeing up capital for new investments.”

..12

The Energy Savings Fund was introduced last year and will provide \$40 million a year over five years to support energy savings across NSW.

The successful projects announced today were assessed by an independent evaluation panel and Government energy experts.

A summary of the projects is available on the Department of Energy, Utilities and Sustainability website at [www.deus.nsw.gov.au/waterandenergysavings](http://www.deus.nsw.gov.au/waterandenergysavings)