

**ESIA Media Release, 25 March 2019**

## **National energy savings scheme to spearhead emissions reductions with 10% target, saving 4.5 times Liddell's annual electricity output**

[Analysis](#) released today indicates that a National Energy Savings Scheme (NESS) could deliver energy savings from both electricity and gas equivalent in electricity terms to 4.5 times the annual output of the Liddell coal-fired power station scheduled to close in 2022. This is based on a NESS target saving 10% of electricity and gas consumption by 2030 which will deliver 39,415GWh energy savings a year by 2030 and based on Liddell's average electricity output of 8,680GWh over the past two years. Analysis was undertaken by the Energy Savings Industry Association (ESIA).

### **Federal policies must support a NESS**

"There is no more time to waste: a NESS needs full support from all parties and candidates leading into the Federal election and beyond. A NESS is the most cost-effective way of reducing greenhouse gas emissions - even more attractive than renewables. A NESS also addresses the other energy trilemma issues: reducing energy costs and improving energy security," said ESIA President Mr Rod Woolley.

### **NESS is nothing new - it's slipped through the cracks**

The Climate Change Authority recommended a NESS to the Government in 2017 *just seven days prior* to the Finkel review's release which recommended that 'governments accelerate the rollout of energy efficiency measures'. A NESS is the most powerful lever. A NESS will:

- **accelerate rollout** of energy upgrades with a significant national energy savings target increase from 2021 to 2030 providing a strong signal to the market to deliver sooner.
- **build on success** of proven existing energy savings schemes in Victoria, NSW, SA and the ACT, all with uncommitted targets from 2020 except for NSW.
- **reduce energy bills** of participating consumers.
- **provide certainty to industry** for the next decade to innovate and invest capital to open up opportunities rather than relying on piece-meal government grants funded by taxpayers.
- **provide access for more Australians** to participate in upgrades.
- **spearhead a suite of complementary measures** that are essential but take longer to mobilise including minimum energy performance standards for products and buildings at point-of-sale and rental, and regulations to phase-out inefficient products.

"We know that readily identifiable energy upgrades with quick paybacks would save Australians almost \$8billion in reduced energy bills and create more than 120,000 jobs, with more than one-third of these jobs to be created with a NESS. And that's just the entree," said Mr Woolley.

A NESS would provide upfront financial incentives to residential and business energy customers to rapidly increase installation of more energy efficiency products and processes including: lighting, air conditioning, hot water, building weather sealing, industrial fan and motor upgrades and better energy monitoring systems to turn off energy-hungry services when they aren't needed.

### [NESS analysis](#)

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