

Media Release

Moreland Energy Foundation Ltd (MEFL)

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Moreland Energy Foundation is giving away new Hot Water Systems.

Moreland Energy Foundation wants to give away and install Hot Water Systems to people living in flats, units and apartments. Moreland Energy Foundation needs three blocks to be part of the 'Take Action' project. They must have an existing electrical hot water system.

If you are an owner of a block of flats/units/apartments, or a member of a body corporate and can get approximately eight residents/dwellings involved, Kevin Fregon, from Moreland Energy Foundation wants to talk to you. If you are a tenant and believe you can get support from the owner/s and other tenants, we also want to hear from you.

Moreland Energy Foundation will be trialling a variety of hot water technologies including Solar and Heat pumps, as well as trialling other energy saving techniques.

Kevin Fregon is the Project Coordinator for the 'Take Action on the Electric Hot Water' project. He estimates there are 400,000 dwellings of this type in the area of Melbourne and the surrounding suburbs. "In the Melbourne area 20% of all hot water units are electric". This figure includes all housing types. "I believe that in the medium density sector we will find a much higher proportion," Kevin said. "Many of these hot water systems are an inefficient use of resources"

"The project is targeting electric hot water in the medium density sector to gain an understanding of the decisions made in choosing the hot water unit and what barriers exist in changing to efficient technologies," Kevin said. "We will monitor the use of hot water and the energy associated with it, before and after the changeover."

Research shows hot water is by far the largest user of energy within the household, accounting for about 27% of the total energy used (AGO1999). "Even modest improvements in hot water efficiency could have significant benefits for Victorians, reducing greenhouse gas emission and saving households money," said Kevin.

Kevin responded to questions about the project. "Take Action on Hot Water is concentrating on medium density dwellings." Flats/units/apartments. "I believe the outcome will have benefits across all building types. The aim is to identify ways of reducing the reliance on the types of energy associated with greenhouse gas emissions."

Recent news reports indicate the average wholesale electrical price is on the rise. "Hot water accounts for more than a quarter of a household's energy consumption, efficient hot water systems are an obvious way to save money".

Kevin believes that those that can least afford high energy bills are often the ones with the most inefficient appliances. "There's the issue of where our energy comes from and the greenhouse gases associated with it. There's also a social justice issue, everybody should have access to affordable and reliable hot water".

Moreland Energy Foundation wants two or three blocks to participate. To be eligible the properties must have an existing electric hot water system. You can contact the Moreland Energy Foundation. 03 9381 1722 or visit them at www.mefl.com.au

Take Action on Electric Hot Water is part of a larger project including air-conditioning. Take Action is supported by the Sustainability Fund. The Sustainability Fund is managed by Sustainability Victoria and supports projects that help Victorians to take action on Sustainability.



Moreland Energy Foundation Ltd (MEFL) is a not for profit organisation established by the Moreland City Council to develop and implement energy efficiency and renewable energy projects to reduce greenhouse emissions. The organisation provides a range of advice, training and services to business, residential and community sectors.

For further information or information on photo opportunities please contact

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