



JOINT MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Peter Garrett MP
Minister for the Environment, Water,
Heritage and the Arts

The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP
Minister for Housing

ENV03

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REBATES FOR LANDLORDS, ENERGY COST SAVINGS FOR RENTERS

Renters will save money on energy costs and landlords will be entitled to a rebate of up to \$500 to install insulation under a new program announced today by the Minister for the Environment, Peter Garrett, and Minister for Housing, Tanya Plibersek.

Mr Garrett and Ms Plibersek said the initiative will help working families save on energy bills by making their homes warmer in winter and cooler in summer, in turn lowering greenhouse gas emissions.

“Good insulation can slash more than \$300 off annual energy bills. This important budget measure will help working families save cash and energy, while at the same time helping the environment by reducing greenhouse emissions,” Ms Plibersek said.

Mr Garrett said the average home uses 38 per cent of its energy for heating and cooling, significantly higher in un-insulated buildings.

“The amount of insulation to be installed with this rebate is expected to cut a total of \$90.0 million per year from Australian families’ energy bills,” Mr Garrett said.

“Once fully implemented, greenhouse gas emissions from the scheme could also be reduced by around 500,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent per year.”

The Australian Bureau of Statistics estimates around 40 per cent of Australian dwellings were un-insulated in 2005. The typical cost of house ceiling insulation is around \$1000.

The rebate is calculated on 30 per cent of the cost in existing under-insulated rental homes.