



NEW SOUTH WALES

1 July 2006

MEDIA RELEASE

The Hon Frank Sartor MP

Minister for Planning

Minister for Redfern Waterloo

Minister for Science and Medical Research

Minister Assisting the Minister for Health (Cancer)

NEXT STAGE OF BASIX NOW IN PLACE

Planning Minister Frank Sartor said today, July 1, marks the start of the next stage of the NSW Government's BASIX scheme to improve energy and water efficiency in new homes.

From today, new development applications for freestanding homes will be required to meet a new 40 per cent energy reduction target.

"The NSW Government's Building Sustainability Index has been widely praised for delivering long term environmental benefits and ongoing savings for home owners," Mr Sartor said.

"Independent research shows complying with BASIX can slash household water and power bills by up to \$600 a year on average.

"BASIX is forecast to save more than eight million tonnes of carbon dioxide and 287 billion litres of water over the next decade," he said.

"The changes which come into effect today ensure the energy targets are appropriate to a new home's type and location, and remain flexible and cost-effective."

Changes to the Building Sustainability Index (BASIX) from 1 July 2006 include:

- BASIX energy target increases for most new homes – meaning all new homes in NSW will use up to 40% less potable water and produce up to 40% fewer greenhouse gas emissions than the average home.
- The BASIX energy target will vary according to building type and location – with the maximum targets applying to more than 80% of all new homes.
- The BASIX Completion Receipt comes into effect – a new user-friendly system that will identify completed and occupied BASIX-compliant homes.

The Completion Receipt will be a mandatory component of the reporting process for all principal certifying authorities – both local councils and accredited private certifiers – once an occupation certificate has been issued.

The BASIX Energy targets will be reviewed in 2008.

More information can be found at www.basix.nsw.gov.au

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