

## Submission to the Department of Resources, Energy & Tourism

# **Energy Efficiency Opportunities Program New Developments Regulations**

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#### **Total Environment Centre's National Electricity Market Advocacy**

Established in 1972 by pioneers of the Australian environmental movement, Total Environment Centre (TEC) is a veteran of more than 100 successful campaigns. For nearly 40 years, we have been working to protect this country's natural and urban environment, flagging the issues, driving debate, supporting community activism and pushing for better environmental policy and practice.

TEC has been involved in National Electricity Market (NEM) advocacy for eight years, arguing above all for greater utilisation of demand side participation — energy conservation and efficiency, demand management and decentralised generation — to meet Australia's electricity needs. By reforming the NEM we are working to contribute to climate change mitigation and improve other environmental outcomes of Australia's energy sector, while also constraining retail prices and improving the economic efficiency of the NEM — all in the long term interest of consumers, pursuant to the National Electricity Objective (NEO).

#### **EEO - New Developments Regulations**

TEC appreciates the opportunity to make a submission to Department of Resources, Energy & Tourism (DRET) regarding the proposed extension of the Energy Efficiency Opportunities program (EEO) to new developments and major expansion projects. TEC acknowledges the extensive investigation already conducted to assess the options for extension. We therefore write this short submission to express our support for extension.

### **Support for Extension**

Identifying opportunities for energy efficiency is an important first step on the path to an energy efficient economy. The EEO program should cover as wide a base as is practically possible and efficient in order to ensure that the Australian economy can benefit from the widest range of energy efficiency opportunities.

Given that modelling and trials have indicated that the benefits of extending the EEO program are likely to exceed the cost, TEC wholeheartedly supports this expansion. This work further suggests that the greatest energy savings can be delivered under an alternative EEO framework, whereby the design phase of projects is aligned with the EEO program. Again, TEC supports the implementation of this option.

Jeff Angel

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