Helping businesses manage energy costs

The Victorian Government is committed to delivering real benefits to Victorian businesses and creating sustainable jobs. This include actions to help businesses deliver energy efficiency to lift economic productivity, create sustainable jobs and put downward pressure on energy costs.

The Victorian Government’s Energy Efficiency and Productivity Strategy details our $55 million plan to improve energy productivity across the state. The strategy’s programs aimed to support businesses to address energy cost pressures include:

**Victorian Energy Upgrades**

The program, formerly known as the Victorian Energy Efficiency Target scheme, provides industries and businesses with discounts on a range of energy efficient products and services, $8.1 million over four years will be invested in the Victorian Energy Upgrades program.

These investments are creating jobs for Victorians – over the period from 2016 to 2050, Victorian Energy Upgrades is modelled to create 2,000 jobs and have a net benefit to Victoria of between $1.3 and $3.2 billion dollars.

[Link to Victorian Energy Upgrades website](victorianenergysaver.vic.gov.au/victorian-energy-upgrades)

**Boosting Business Productivity**

The $6.1 million Boosting Business Productivity program will help more than 1,000 Victorian businesses to reduce their energy costs through energy efficiency assessments and grants to implement upgrades. The program also provides a sustainable finance service for businesses and various training, events and information resources.

Grants are available for businesses seeking advice on energy efficiency improvements (Energy Assessment Grants), capital support to reduce gas costs (Gas Efficiency Grants), and for manufacturers to reduce waste (Material Efficiency Grants).

In addition, six projects have been funded to build energy efficiency knowledge and skills among businesses. This funding is supporting a range of learning activities including benchmarking, training and mentoring.

This program is expected to help businesses save approximately $84 million over 15 years.

[Link to Sustainability grants page](sustainability.vic.gov.au/grants)
**Energy Productivity and Skills Pathways**

The Energy Productivity and Skills Pathways program commits $2 million over four years to develop energy productivity strategies for five industry sectors. In addition, we will work with industry, the education sector and non-government organisations to help grow energy efficiency skills in industry.

**Better Commercial Buildings**

The Better Commercial Buildings program invests $1.8 million over four years to deliver energy efficiency improvements to 50 targeted poorly performing commercial buildings. The program includes finance facilitation services for businesses and promotes industry capacity building by providing an approved panel of service providers for building energy audits, implementation and measurement verification.

The program is projected to save participating businesses $18 million over 10 years.

[Link to Better Commercial Buildings information](sustainability.vic.gov.au/betterbuildings)

**Unlocking Innovative Financing**

The $1.7 million Unlocking Innovative Financing program will expand finance options available to Victorian businesses and leverage innovative financing for Victorian energy efficiency and renewable energy projects. The program will also provide businesses that need it most with education and information about financing products available.

[Link to Unlocking Innovative Financing information](sustainability.vic.gov.au/betterbuildings)

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For questions or to share your thoughts on energy efficiency and productivity, email [energy.efficiency@delwp.vic.gov.au](mailto:energy.efficiency@delwp.vic.gov.au)

To see what energy-saving upgrades are available and to find an accredited provider in your area, head to [victorianenergysaver.vic.gov.au](http://victorianenergysaver.vic.gov.au) or call (03) 9032 1310

**Find out more**

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**Local Government Switchboard**

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