



Energy Saver Study



Australian Government
Department of Industry

A research project to help the community reduce their energy consumption, save money and improve their wellbeing

What is the Energy Saver Study?

The Energy Saver Study is a two-year research project that aims to identify the most effective way for householders to increase their household energy efficiency and support their ongoing health and wellbeing while reducing their energy use. It seeks to identify the barriers to energy efficiency and the best interventions to overcome them.

The Study is being delivered by the South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA), with funding from the Commonwealth Department of Industry as part of the Low Carbon Communities initiative.

What are the objectives?

The Study has been designed to enable the careful comparison of a range of interventions and factors, ultimately to test the following:

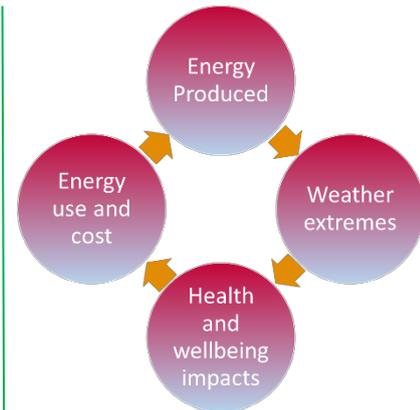
- Will home retrofits, energy action programs or various combinations of both achieve the best results?
- Is there a correlation between the level of investment in technology and energy savings, and if so what is the optimum level?
- Are local Councils an effective channel to deliver energy efficiency programs?

The overall goal is to develop an evidence-based best practice model for the implementation of energy efficiency programs to inform future government programs and/or investment.

Who is involved?

A total of 320 households have been identified and recruited through the Home and Community Care services provided by six of SECCCA member councils: Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Bayside, Cardinia, Casey and Mornington Peninsula.

The project is also supported by the CSIRO which will be storing and analysing all the de-identified energy usage data throughout the study. In addition, a RMIT PhD student is working with a subset of householders to monitor their health and wellbeing.



- ✓ Reduce household energy consumption
- ✓ Protect health and wellbeing during extreme weather
- ✓ Reduce household energy bills

Further information

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How is the study conducted?

The key stages of the study are outlined in the diagram to the right. In order to test the effectiveness of each of the energy efficiency interventions, the households are broken up into four groups, each receiving different interventions to enable comparison.

These may include draught identification and sealing, installation or topping up of ceiling insulation and replacement of inefficient heaters, coolers and hot water services.

Other interventions may include in-home energy monitoring equipment and one-on-one support to develop an Energy Action Plan. All participating households will receive a home retrofit by the end of the project.

The energy consumption data will then be compared and analysed to generate key insights.

When will the results be available and how will they be used?

Results will be available by mid-2016 and reported to the Australian Government to inform future programs and/or investment.

About SECCCA

The South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) supports communities, businesses and industries in the south east region to respond and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

We are a network of eight councils committed to delivering high-quality, innovative projects and research programs at a regional level.

Member Councils include Bass Coast, Baw Baw, Cardinia, Mornington Peninsula, Bayside, Casey, Dandenong and Kingston. Find out more at www.seccca.org.au

SECCCA: Energy Saver Study

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