

Victorian Energy Efficiency Target (VEET)



Have you recently had a phone call or knock on your door from someone offering to install environmental products in your home for free?

They can do this because of the Victorian State Government's **Victorian Energy Efficiency Target (VEET) Scheme**.

What is VEET?

VEET is designed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from households in Victoria by 10% by 2010.

Under the Scheme, all electricity and gas retailers are required to purchase a set number of certificates each year, or pay a fine.

When a 'prescribed activity' is undertaken, a number of **Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates (VEECs)** are generated. One certificate represents one tonne of greenhouse gas abated by that activity.

The installation company then takes the certificates generated from the new environmental product in your home, and sells them to energy retailers to cover the cost of the installation. This is how they are able to install energy efficiency products without charging you!

For maximum environmental benefit you can choose to keep your VEECs, however it means you will pay more on the installation of the product. For more information on this issue visit:

> www.mefl.com.au/bigpicture/project/46/#k

What is a 'prescribed activity'?

There are six categories of activities under VEET that will help reduce greenhouse gases from your home. These include:

1. Water heating

Replacing low efficiency water heating products with high efficiency water heating products. Also includes the installation of solar pre-heaters or solar retrofit kits.

2. Space heating

Replacing low efficiency ducted heating products with high efficiency ducted heating products, and the installation of high efficiency space heating products.

3. Space conditioning

Installation of floor insulation, thermally efficient windows and weather sealing products.

4. Lighting

Installation of low-energy light bulbs.

5. Shower heads

Installation of low-flow shower heads.

6. Refrigerators/freezers

Purchase of high efficiency refrigerator or freezer and destruction of pre-1996 refrigerator or freezer.

VEET does not apply to activities undertaken before 1st January 2009 and the first round will finish on 31st December 2011.

How do I make sure I'm using the right installation company?

The first thing to do is ask a lot of questions. Find out:

- Is the purchase and installation of this product going to cost me anything?
- If I don't want to sell my VEECs, is this possible and will it cost me?
- If there are any problems with the running of the products, is the company responsible for fixing this, and will I have to pay?

And most importantly,

- Is your company publically listed as a registered participating business or accredited person under the VEET scheme?

You can check registered businesses and accredited persons online at:

> www.esc.vic.gov.au/public/VEET/Registers.htm

It is important to note that some companies may not be listed as they are installing products on behalf of an accredited business. Ask if they are working for a separate accredited business.

Government rebates are also available for other environmental products and services not included in the VEET Scheme, such as ceiling insulation. For more information on other rebates, see MEFL's rebate factsheet.

> www.mefl.com.au/documents/MEFL_FACT_SHEET-rebates.pdf

For further information visit the Essential Services Commission at

www.esc.vic.gov.au/public/VEET
Or phone 1300 664 969