

NSW Government to Provide Rebate for Low-Income LPG Customers

The NSW Government recently announced that will be extending their Gas Rebate program to include household users of reticulated or delivered LPG. This program will now provide a \$90 rebate to vulnerable, low income customers of LPG in addition to those using natural gas.

Gas Energy Australia (GEA) had engaged with the NSW Government to advocate for the benefits of including LPG in the Gas Rebate program during 2015/16. We emphasised the need to also allow access to social programs for the many low-income households not connected to gas networks. In addition, we informed the NSW Government of the capability of GEA members to meet the energy needs of these households.

This development will improve the awareness of about the benefits and applications of LPG for household use including water heating, cooking and space heating and cooling. GEA will continue to work on other initiatives to increase the uptake of gaseous fuels and improve environmental, economic and social outcomes.

Eligible customers will be able to apply for the rebate from 1 July 2016.

More details about the NSW Gas Rebate program can be viewed here

GEA 2016-18 Business Plan to Guide Work into the Future

GEA recently completed its 2016-18 Business Plan. This Plan will guide the work of the Association to position gaseous fuels in a prominent role in Australia's energy mix as domestic and international government policies continue to impact on the industry.

Over the next 2 years, GEA will also focus on improving community awareness of the benefits and applications of gaseous fuels to increase their uptake. In addition, GEA will continue our technical policy development work to maintain the currency of the specifications and safety standards of equipment and fuels in the industry.

For more details on the specific projects and deliverables, the Business Plan can be viewed **here**.

Gas Speak 2016 – Please consider nominating a staff member

The Australian Gas Industry Trust (AGIT) will be conducting the Gas Speak Colloquium for 2016 at The National Portrait Gallery, Canberra from Monday 29 August to Wednesday 31 August 2016.

The event continues the tradition of successful Gas Speak events held since 1982. This is an extremely well regarded educational event and gas businesses are encouraged to nominate young up-and-coming staff members to apply.

Gas Speak's objective is:

"To encourage an awareness and knowledge of the gas industry in Australia by Delegates providing a forum for young people to present papers, chair sessions, conduct syndicate discussions and develop the art of self-expression and communication."

There are 30 delegate places available for applicants aged 40 years or under; older applicants are welcome to apply. Applicants will be drawn from all areas of the natural gas industry. There is equal opportunity for applicants from exploration/production, transmission, distribution, retail and appliance sectors.

GAMAA requests all its members to consider nominating one of their staff to participate in this year's event. This unique experience should be seen as investing in our next generation of gas industry leaders.

Special note: AS/NZS 5263.0 - public comment closes on 15th June.