

## Significant household savings in S.A. when using natural gas to fuel appliances

A South Australian household can save as much as \$1100 a year simply by using natural gas instead of electricity to fuel hot water service systems, new figures reveal.

Australian Gas Networks – the country's largest gas distribution business – has undertaken the cost comparisons to provide some clarity to consumers ahead of price increases which came into force from 1 July 2017.

From 1 July 2017, retail electricity prices increase by an average of 17.5%, while retail prices for natural gas are increasing by seven per cent.

Using only the costs associated with running a household hot water service, AGN's new figures reveal:

- For a large family already using natural gas for cooking or heating, a yearly saving of as much as \$1100 can be made by converting an existing electric hot water system to a natural gas appliance.
- For a couple in the same situation, the saving is about \$405 a year.
- For a large family with no existing natural gas appliances, an annual saving of about \$870 is achievable simply by swapping its existing electric hot water system for a natural gas system.
- For a couple in the same situation, the saving is about \$120.

The savings become even greater when a range of available rebates/discounts are used when converting to natural gas

Using natural gas also helps the environment.

In South Australia, using natural gas to fuel a household hot water service will reduce the emissions by 63% compared to grid electricity of which a lot comes from Victoria's coal fired power stations.

"Never has there been a better time for South Australian families and businesses to turn to natural gas to help reduce their household bills," Australian Gas Networks Chief Operating Officer, Mr Andrew Staniford, said today.

"With the traditional cold winter months still to hit, the argument to switch to natural gas for your household and/or business appliances has never been more compelling," he said.

"The price gap between using natural gas and electricity for everyday household appliances is widening – making it easier for families to recognise exactly where they can take the pressure off their bills.

## Gas Energy Australia (GEA) - Annual General Meeting and Call for Nominations of Directors

In accordance with the Association's Constitution and in preparation for its AGM on Wednesday 16 August, the GEA Secretariat has called for nominations from Advisory Council Members and Executive Associates for appointment to the Board of Directors. If any GAMAA members are interested they should contact Mr Dhammith Abeysuriya via email <a href="mailto:dabeysuriya@gasenergyaustralia.asn.au">dabeysuriya@gasenergyaustralia.asn.au</a> or on (02) 6176 3102.

## Gas NZ Industry Forum 2017

The Gas NZ Industry Forum is returning for 2017 on the 7, 8 and 9 of November, at Wairakei resort in Taupo.

Confirmed speakers include John Kidd, head of research for Woodward Partners and Andrew Caseley, the new CE of Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA). A spokesperson from the Gas Industry Company (GIC), will discuss LPG networks and bulk facilities. Read more