

Appliance Energy Efficiency

- Mandatory Minimum Energy Performance Standards (MEPS) and mandatory Energy Rating Labels have been the main policy tools used to improve the energy efficiency of appliances and equipment in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors since 1986.
- MEPS and labelling improves energy productivity, reduces energy consumed thereby saving businesses and households money from their energy bills, and reduces greenhouse emissions. Nationally consistent regulation for MEPS and labelling is delivered under the Commonwealth Greenhouse and Energy Minimum Standards (GEMS) Act, 2012.
- MEPS have been set for 22 commonly used appliance lines, and energy rating labels now appear on more than 7 million commonly used appliances sold in Australia. A detailed review of the GEMS intergovernmental agreement and an evaluation of the success of the equipment energy efficiency programme was completed on 16 June 2015 and will be presented for consideration to the COAG Energy Council at its meeting in mid-July. The review found that the programme is delivering significant savings for energy consumers, and in a cost effective manner.
- The GEMS 2015/16 equipment energy efficiency work program will also be considered by the Energy Council in July 2015.