

Holland, Teresa

Sent: Wednesday, 7 September 2011 10:40 PM
To: DCCEE - Residential Disclosure
Subject: Residential Building Mandatory Disclosure Proposed Measure

I am soon to become a pensioner and expect to downsize our home soon. After a long struggle, we have owned our home outright for 2 years. Our daily water usage has been about 110 litres over that time. Electricity has been about 8 kWh daily.

Our 10 year old home is situated on a rise, is partially above ground, the long axis is east -west and the elevated deck catches the dappled morning sun while the garage is on the western end. We chose our home mainly for these reasons. Being born and having spent many years in South and Central Australia we are well aware of the need to conserve water and energy.

We recently investigated solar energy and found that, even with Government assistance, it would take at least 20 years to recoup our investment, even if the panels etc last that long. Given our 60 odd years of conserving energy, we should not be penalised for this, particularly when younger generations were encouraged to buy their macmansions with no regard for energy and water efficiency. We should instead be rewarded for our decades of conservation.

Our record of water and electricity use, disclosed to potential purchasers or lessees should be sufficient to indicate the potential of our home in terms of energy and water conservation.

As a footnote, I have just read Noel Pearson's column in the Weekend Australian of 3-4 September in which he refers to job creation projects being "money for jam" for those administering and overseeing the programs funded from public budgets. Options 1 and 2 look like such projects and while I don't have a problem with having more employment, this scenario does not seem to benefit many Australians.