



2 July 2009

Out of work Australians get new green job opportunities

Agreements signed today with the National Employment Services Association, the Australian Government and housing industry unions and employers will see many thousands of out of work Australians get jobs improving the energy efficiency of homes.

CEO of the National Employment Services Association, the peak body for all providers of employment services, Sally Sinclair, today signed *Memorandums of Understanding for Energy Efficient Homes and related initiatives* with the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, the Housing Industry Association, the CFMEU the Master Builders, and the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts.

The MOU will result in employment service providers identifying and supporting out of work Australians so that they can access new employment opportunities in the building and construction industry arising out of the Federal Government's Energy Efficient Homes program.

"Importantly this initiative will focus on helping job seekers to find work in the growing green collar jobs arena," Sally said.

"Working in the green collar economy gives job seekers the opportunity of developing much needed and wanted employment skills and it also enables participants to work in a very fulfilling and socially relevant area," Sally said.

Energy Efficient Homes is part of the Australian Government's Nation Building and Jobs Plan. Under the plan the Government is funding the installation of free ceiling insulation in some 2.9 million homes. The plan supports the jobs of tradespeople and workers employed in the manufacturing, distribution and installation of ceiling insulation.

Sally said the focus of the program will be on providing real employment opportunities for disadvantaged job seekers. It will see participants provided with the relevant training and skills development that is necessary for them to take advantage of jobs in the building and construction industry arising as part of the Energy Efficient Homes plan and to help link employers with suitable recruits.

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Links: www.nesa.com.au