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Lighting Council Australia welcomes Government's announcement to phase out incandescent lamps

Australia's peak body for the lighting industry welcomed today's announcement to phase-out inefficient incandescent lamps.

Lighting Council Australia looks forward to working closely with the Australian Government during the phase-in period lasting to 2009-2010.

Incandescent lamps consume up to five times more electricity than compact fluorescent lamps (CFLs). CFLs last up to 15,000 hours, whereas an incandescent bulb has an operational life of around 1,000 hours. It has been estimated that phasing-out incandescent lamps in Australia will eventually save four million tonnes of greenhouse gases a year, or the equivalent of taking one million cars off the road.

"While there are compelling reasons to embrace CFLs, there are technical issues which need to be resolved in the phase-in period before incandescent lamps are banned", Lighting Council's Chairman, Russell Loane, said.

These issues include dimming CFLs, adapting CFLs to some light fittings and determining appropriate exemptions.

"These technical matters mean that it will be important for the Government to work closely with industry during the phase-in period", Mr Loane said.

Lighting Council Australia is currently co-operating with the Australian Government and other international governments and standards setting organisations on a standard for CFLs. When completed this standard will overcome some of the technical and performance issues associated with mandating CFL technology.

Lighting Council Australia

Lighting Council Australia is the peak body representing Australia's lighting industry. Its key goal is to encourage the use of appropriately designed and manufactured high-quality lighting systems and components in the commercial, outdoor and industrial sectors. Lighting Council Australia is a forum of the Australian Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association (AEEMA).

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