



3rd May 2010

Secretariat to the Task Group on Energy Efficiency
c/- Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency
GPO Box 854
Canberra
ACT 2600
Via e-mail energyefficiency@climatechange.gov.au

Dear Sir,

Re: Prime Minister's task group on energy efficiency issues paper.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a response on the consultation paper.

The Australian Institute of Refrigeration Air Conditioning and Heating (AIRAH) is a peak body for the air conditioning and refrigeration industry in Australia focusing on the improvement of technical professionalism in our industry. It is from this perspective we provide our response.

HVAC HESS as a model for all industry sectors:

The Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning High Efficiency System Strategy (HVAC HESS) framework provides an advanced starting point on which to model a whole range of industries when considering step improvements in energy efficiency.

The HVAC HESS is a series of 23 proposed measures over a ten year time frame to deliver annual greenhouse emissions reductions of as much as 4 million tonnes and energy cost savings of around \$350 million per annum.

In the early stages of the development of the HVAC HESS (2005) it was quickly determined that energy efficient technology alone cannot deliver step changes in energy efficiency. That equipment has be designed to be part of an energy efficient system, that is installed, commissioned, operated and maintained in such a way as to ensure the ongoing optimum operation of that piece of equipment.

The basis of the HVAC HESS is *people, systems and practices*. All three need to be addressed in a complementary manner to ensure the energy efficiency outcomes of the HVAC HESS are achieved. The task force will need to consider the same three in combination when developing other energy efficiency measures.

The HVAC HESS was developed through an integrated review and engagement process with all stakeholders in the delivery of non residential buildings.

Unfortunately the implementation of the HVAC HESS has not started well.

AIRAH is a member of the Climate Control Industry Alliance (CCIA), which coordinates the peak heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) industry organisations, representing researchers, designers, installers, servicers, equipment operators and suppliers of HVAC

systems. The CCIA was established to partner NFEE (then NSEE) to formulate and deliver solutions that are outlined in the HVAC HESS.

Since the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency was released there has been a disconnection between NFEE and the CCIA in delivering the HVAC HESS. This disconnection is putting successful outcomes of the HVAC HESS at risk.

AIRAH strongly supports the CCIA re-affirming its commitment to the Commonwealth Government and the National Strategy in supporting the ongoing programs of the HVAC HESS and the commencement of the remaining projects before the end of the 2009-10 financial year.

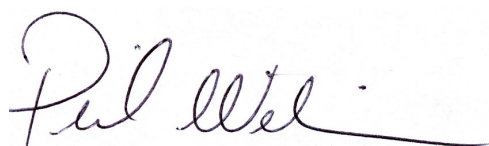
The air conditioning and refrigeration sector has a strong history of delivering on outcomes most recently demonstrated by the compliance with the Montreal protocol to reduce ozone depleting synthetic refrigerant gases.

Recommendations:

1. HVAC HESS is an excellent model for the HVAC industry and other industries;
2. The implementation of HVAC HESS has **not** been satisfactory; and
3. The unsatisfactory implementation of HVAC HESS must be rectified if its goals are to be reached.

As discussed the HVAC HESS has the potential to be used as a model for other industries so it is important the outcomes are realised in a collaborative manner between industry and government.

Yours sincerely,



Phil Wilkinson
AIRAH Engineering manger
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About AIRAH

The Australian Institute of Refrigeration Air Conditioning and Heating (AIRAH) has a long and proud history of representing an industry of professionals who are of fundamental, and increasing, importance to the comfort, health and safety of the community.

Formed in 1920, AIRAH is recognised by government and industry bodies for its expertise across a wide range of issues in the area of engineering services for the built environment.

AIRAH encourages world's best practice within the building industry. As a registered training organisation and through continuing professional development, accreditation programs and a wide range of technical publications, AIRAH has earned a reputation for developing the



competence and skills of industry practitioners so that they can better meet society's evolving health, safety and environmental demands.

As the leading specialist membership association for air conditioning, refrigeration, heating and ventilation professionals, AIRAH represents over 10,000 professionals across Australia.

In operation for over 80 years, AIRAH's longevity stems from the successful delivery of key industry benefits including education and training, representation, dissemination of information, networking and member recognition.

AIRAH has worked with a number of local, state and commonwealth government bodies including the Department of Climate Change, Sustainability Victoria, City of Melbourne, City of Sydney, Australian Greenhouse Office and Environment Australia (development of the Refrigerant Selection Guide, a scoping project for best practice programs to support the introduction of commercial refrigeration minimum energy performance), AIRAH has worked on projects in partnership with the Australian Fluorocarbon Council (AFC), Facility Management Association of Australia (FMA Australia), Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA), The Air Conditioning and Mechanical Contractors Association (AMCA) and the Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Equipment Manufacturers Association (AREMA).