

## The Hon Ray Williams MP

Member for Castle Hill Minister for Multiculturalism and Minister for Disability Services

## MEDIA RELEASE

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## POWER SAVINGS TO BENEFIT HOMES AND BUSINESSES IN CASTLE HILL

Households and businesses in the Castle Hill area will be rewarded for modifying their power consumption this summer through demand management.

Minister for Energy and Utilities Don Harwin today announced four pilots are being cofunded with the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) to free up electricity supply during peak periods.

"Our Government's \$7.2 million investment in this initiative is another step to ensuring a reliable electricity supply for the people of NSW," Mr Harwin said.

"This program will deliver 61 MW of spare capacity for NSW this summer and ramp up to 80 MW by year three of the pilot."

Member for Castle Hill Ray Williams said the program rewards participating households and businesses that voluntarily reduce their consumption through batteries and smart appliances.

"These initiatives will see advanced technologies introduced to thousands of NSW homes and businesses to help them save energy and money," Mr Williams said.

"The NSW Government is acting to minimise the risk of disruption to household electricity supply during high demand periods this summer."

Energy retailers AGL, Energy Australia, Flow Power and demand response aggregator Enernoc are the successful NSW applicants.

The demand response trial is being jointly run with the Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) across NSW, Victoria and South Australia, with a total of 200 MW of electricity to be available by 2020.

More information on the demand response trial can be found at https://arena.gov.au/funding/programs/advancing-renewables-program/demandresponse/

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