



Media Release

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**Phase-out of traditional lighting technologies good for environment,
good for community**

Canberra, Australia – The peak body for Australia's lighting industry has welcomed the Government's announcement today to focus on lighting as a priority area under the Equipment Energy Efficiency (E3) Program.

The E3 Program is engaged in significant work in lighting and has prepared a number of detailed options.

These options include the phasing-out of a range of some existing lighting technologies in favour of solid state lighting – or LEDs.

'LEDs can deliver significant environmental and other benefits compared to traditional halogen lamps and gas discharge technologies such as fluorescent lamps', Lighting Council Australia's CEO Bryan Douglas said.

LEDs are inherently energy efficient – around five times more so than halogen lamps.

LEDs do not contain the toxic element mercury. Hence transitioning to LEDs will reduce the amount of mercury entering landfill – a goal consistent with the Minamata Agreement and FluoroCycle, Lighting Council Australia's own voluntary lamp recycling program (www.fluorocycle.org.au).

Other benefits of LEDs include longevity, durability, controllability and reduced maintenance costs.

'While there have been quality problems with LEDs, particularly in the early stages of their development, there are excellent products now available for the vast majority of applications', Mr Douglas said.

He said that the E3 Program options include introducing mandatory performance standards for LEDs and added that Lighting Council Australia has published a detailed guide to choosing LEDs and their suppliers.

Lighting Council Australia

Lighting Council Australia is the peak body representing Australia's lighting industry. Its goal is to encourage the use of environmentally appropriate, energy efficient, quality lighting systems.

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