MEDIA RELEASE

Energy efficiency funds for community groups

19 February 2012

ESCOSA has approved energy efficiency funding for Uniting Care Wesley Country SA, Normanville Natural Resource Centre and Orana Inc.

"We are pleased to able to assist not-for-profit organisations in improving the energy efficiency of their clients" said Paul Kerin, Chief Executive Officer of ESCOSA.

"We are excited that the funding is to be used in country areas and for disabled housing as these groups are often neglected in energy efficiency programs" said Mr Kerin.

Country areas will receive funding for the distribution of 5000 energy efficient light globes and targeted grants to purchase energy efficient products. The area around Yankalilla will also receive funding to conduct energy audits (including the installation of simple energy saving devices and courses on energy efficiency for volunteers and householders).

Orana Inc will receive funding to install solar power units for its newly renovated housing complexes. The solar units will help to provide permanent and sustainable housing for adults with a disability and reduce the amount the occupants spend on energy bills.

The funding became available through energy retailer fines for failing to meet the SA Government's Residential Energy Efficiency Scheme targets.

ESCOSA will make further funding available later in 2013.

Further information about the Residential Energy Efficiency Scheme and Energy Efficiency Funding Initiative can be found at www.escosa.sa.gov.au.

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The Essential Services Commission is the independent economic regulator of essential services in South Australia. The Essential Services Commission's primary objective is the protection of the long-term interests of South Australian consumers.

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