



## **Electricity customers save energy in searing heat**

11 January 2001

Electricity customers saved almost five per cent against today's forecast electricity demand. This is equivalent to approximately 6,600 standard homes switching off power entirely for the day.

AGL General Manager South Australia, Mr Sandro Canale, said the searing temperatures over the last two days had the potential to place severe pressure on the State's electricity system.

"The community's responsible attitude to electricity conservation has contributed to the continuous supply of power for the State," he said.

"AGL would like to thank the community for their voluntary response and ask that customers keep up the good work."

AGL has no direct control over the capacity or reliability of South Australia's electricity supply.

Mr Canale said AGL would also like to remind customers not to expose themselves to health risk during the hot weather conditions.

"We ask that customers Switch Off non-essential appliances and refrain from running air-conditioners at the strongest setting."

AGL suggests customers set air-conditioner thermostats between 24 and 27 degrees Celsius.

Other tips include:

- Draw blinds and curtains to protect the home from the sun's heat
- Air condition only occupied rooms and seal off those rooms not in use
- Clean air conditioners or coolers to keep coils and fans free from dust
- Switch off appliances and lights that are not in use
- Run dishwashers and washing machines only with full loads. Do not over-load.

Customers saved four per cent against yesterday's forecast electricity demand.

The Bureau of Meteorology has forecast a temperature of 36 degrees Celsius for tomorrow and expects the State to have temperatures in the low forties over the weekend.

Customers can telephone AGL on 131 245 for more tips on how save energy and participate in the Switch Off campaign.

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