



Customers urged to Switch Off in searing heat

18 February 2001

AGL has urged customers to use electricity wisely on Monday (19/2) and Tuesday (20/2) as the Bureau of Meteorology forecast temperatures in the mid to high thirties for both South Australia and Victoria.

AGL General Manager, Mr Sandro Canale, said it was likely that extreme demands would again be placed on the electricity system.

"We are heading into another week of searing temperatures, so AGL is asking customers to participate in the Switch Off program and pull the plug on non-essential appliances," he said.

"It's important that everyone makes an extra effort to ease the pressure on the electricity system."

Mr Canale added that the community response to the Switch Off program had been marvellous, with demand being reduced by around eight per cent on extremely hot days.

"I'd like to thank customers for voluntarily supporting the Switch Off program and ask them to keep up the good work," he said.

Mr Canale also reminded customers not to expose themselves to health risk or discomfort during the heat.

"We request 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 to reduce power consumption and save money include:

- Air condition only occupied rooms and seal off those rooms not in use
- Switch off electrical items when leaving the home
- Wash full loads of clothes in cold water
- Use the economy cycle on dishwashers
- Clean filters on electrical appliances to remove build up of dust.

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

Residential customers can telephone AGL on 131 245 for more tips on how save energy.

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