

## **Government releases EITE assistance guidance paper**

The Department of Climate Change has released a guidance paper for the assessment of activities for the purposes of the emissions-intensive trade-exposed assistance program under the Federal Government's Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme.

"The Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme will start reducing Australia's emissions from next year while at the same time supporting business and industry through our comprehensive assistance measures," Climate Change Minister Penny Wong says.

"We are very mindful of the potential impact the scheme may have on industry, which is why we have already set aside over \$9 billion to assist a range of businesses and industries under the Scheme out to 2012."

The guidance paper outlines the assessment process and provides guidance to industry on the requirements for this assessment. This is the next step in implementing the decisions made in the Government's White Paper.

The assessment process will inform the Government's decision on which activities in the economy are eligible to receive EITE assistance, the rates of assistance that will apply to eligible activities and the basis for allocations to these eligible activities.

The Government will make final decisions taking into consideration the policy framework outlined in the White Paper and the information provided in this assessment process. The Government's final decisions will be reflected in the scheme regulations.

"The assessment timeframe outlined in the paper will ensure that certainty is provided to as many eligible EITE activities as possible by mid-year in draft regulations," Senator Wong says.

"This will give businesses the certainty they need to invest for the long-term, supporting jobs in key industries as we move to a low pollution economy."

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