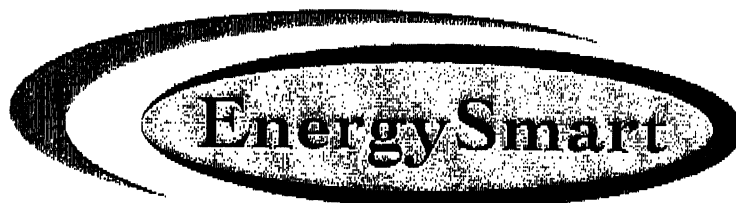


URGENT



Helping to save natural resources for New Zealand's future

## FACSIMILE MESSAGE

**To:** Baz Kaufman

**Organisation:** Wellington City Council

**Fax:** 04 801 3681

**From:**

**Fax:** 04 232 8245

EnergySmart Ltd  
PO Box 51 200  
Tawa  
Wellington

Page 1 of: 3

**Reference:** speech notes to EnergySmart submission

**Date:** 29 May 2007

**Message:**

Hello Mr Kaufman,

EnergySmart Capital City Healthy Homes Project submission, 3.00pm, 30 May 2007

Unfortunately, due to sickness Emma Walker, North Island Project Manager, is unable to attend the above hearing. Please find her speech notes attached.

Apologies for the late notice.

Regards

Rochelle Davis

Project Administration and Coordination

EnergySmart Ltd

0800 777 111

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

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## Speech Notes

Although EnergySmart has operated several projects in the Greater Wellington region over the last ten years, the Capital City Healthy Homes project is the first project specifically targeting Wellington City and South Wellington particularly Kilbirnie, Miramar, Rongotai and Strathmore.

The project targets low income families (identified through community services card) offering heavily subsidised rates for insulation measures.

New Zealand homes are predominantly cold, damp and draughty and there are significant benefits to be gained from insulation both fiscally and through improvements in health which has been demonstrated through the results of the Wellington School of Medicine Study. The study concluded that *'insulating existing houses makes the indoor environment significantly warmer and drier, while lowering energy use. Fitting insulation significantly improved occupants' self rated health, self reported wheezing, days off school or work and visits to general practitioners, and results in fewer hospital admissions for respiratory conditions.'*

Client feedback from a similar project already running in the Greater Wellington Region can indicate the expected feedback results for the Capital City Healthy Homes project. As part of a similar project running in 2006/07, EnergySmart conducted a survey on behalf of Contact Energy, who is one of the project funders. Results of the feedback survey showed that of the homes surveyed in the Hutt Valley;

- 91 per cent felt their homes were warmer
- 81 per cent said their homes were drier
- 89 per cent reported improvements in comfort
- 84 per cent reported improvements in quality of life
- 40 per cent reported health benefits
- 59 per cent reported savings on their power bills

\*It should be noted that the majority of homes received the insulation measures in the financial year 2005/06 which covered the winter of 2006 (winter is the busiest period for insulating homes). Information from NIWA shows that this was an extreme winter in parts of New Zealand with a national average winter temperature of 8.1oC which is the lowest since 1997 with June being the coldest month of the winter.

Another component of the project is the workshops which are run by EnergySmart and held for local referring organisations i.e. WINZ, the District Health Board (DHB) and Primary Health Organisation (PHO) staff and members of the general public. The purpose of these workshops is to educate people on how their energy is used within the home. Components of the workshops include; how to read your meter, understanding your power

bill, understanding kilowatt hours, how different heaters work, how to work out how much an appliance costs to run, condensation and mould.

Educating people on points such as these allow them to make informed choices on how they use their energy and where improvements can be made.

Involvement of Wellington City Council would provide other funding parties evidence of local community support and assist in securing the ongoing funding necessary for the project to succeed.

EECA confirmed on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May their funding of 38% of the total project costs.

The Capital and Coast District Health Board have indicated they will support the project at 25% of the total cost.

Contact Energy has supported our Healthy Homes projects over the last 3 years and has indicated they will support a Wellington project.

If the Wellington City Council would commit \$20, 000, only 5% of the total cost to this project, this would contribute to 200 more homes becoming warmer, drier and healthier in Wellington City and South Wellington.