

Alinta Sales

Media Update – All Media

12 June 2008, 3:00pm WST



SUBJECT: DOMESTIC GAS SUPPLY

Due to the loss of gas supply from Varanus Island, energy supply in Western Australia is under pressure. This situation is also impacted by the availability of alternative sources of energy, including distillate and coal fired power.

Indications are that, with the arrival of colder weather, energy demand, and gas demand specifically, may increase significantly. This increase would place additional pressure on businesses currently most affected by the energy shortage.

A reduction in the overall energy demand will help provide a minimum of energy supply required to ensure businesses most affected by the incident at Varanus Island can continue to operate.

It is critically important the whole community limits energy usage to essential demand.

What can residential customers do to reduce energy demand?

Heating

- Use heating at essential times only or not at all
- So rug up with extra clothing or blankets
- Only heat one room at the time you need it
- Close windows and doors to contain heat

Hot Water

- Reduce thermostat settings - 60 degrees for storage and 50 degrees for instantaneous
- Reduce shower duration to 3 to 4 minutes
- Wash clothes in cold water

What can small business do to reduce energy demand?

- Consider what's essential – stop using gas where it is not critical to your business
- Shift your production cycle to off-peak: weekdays between 10pm and 8am and weekends
- Bring forward any scheduled maintenance shut-downs

We are in daily communication with businesses most affected by this outage to keep them informed of energy availability. Energy availability varies daily according to a number of factors, including the weather and residential demand.

The Government has established the principles and schedule for priority energy allocation and Alinta is working to ensure the impact of the Varanus Island incident is minimised.

Alinta urges the whole community to support industry by limiting non-essential energy use.

Victor Browner

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