



Robyn Parker MP

Minister for the Environment

Minister for Heritage

MEDIA RELEASE

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SOLARIA DISPOSAL SCHEME STARTS FROM JULY 1

Environment Minister Robyn Parker today announced that the solaria disposal scheme to assist with the safe and responsible removal of tanning units will begin from tomorrow.

Administered by the Environment Protection Authority, the scheme offers a rebate of \$1,000 to registered solaria operators for each unit they dispose of by December 2014.

“In addition the EPA will also cover the costs of the transport and disposal of the unwanted units,” Ms Parker said.

“From December 2014 it will be an offence to offer a cosmetic tanning service in NSW.

“We are the first Government in Australia and the second in the world to ban commercial tanning units – with many other jurisdictions since following our lead.

“There is no such thing as a safe tan and the most effective way to reduce the potential for developing melanoma is banning tanning units.

“The ban will commence from the end of next year and the lead up gives industry time to adjust to the changes by offering a rebate which will help businesses to transition their operations.

“There are 79 solaria businesses and 211 tanning units eligible for this disposal scheme in NSW.

“All registered solaria operators will be contacted from July 1 by the EPA with information about how to access the scheme.

“Sadly, Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, but hopefully through this ban we can prevent these dangerous machines being resold into the private market and causing unnecessary pain to the community.”

From 31 December 2014 penalties for the illegal operation of commercial solaria will be up to \$44,000 for a corporation and \$22,000 for an individual.

More information about the solaria disposal scheme is available at www.epa.nsw.gov.au/radiation/Solaria.htm