



Mark Speakman
Minister for the Environment

MEDIA RELEASE

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NSW IS INCREASING RECYCLING AND REDUCING LITTER

The 2015 NSW State of the Environment report shows littering is reducing, recycling is increasing and renewable energy is on the rise.

The number of items of litter has dropped by 16 per cent in 2014-15 compared to 2013-14 – this is four times the national reduction rate of just four per cent.

Environment Minister Mark Speakman said the report showed NSW was managing waste better than ever, particularly through increased recycling and litter reduction.

“In 2012-13 NSW recycled 10.5 million tonnes compared with 5.3 million tonnes in 2002-03, despite an increase in population,” Mr Speakman said.

Electricity generated from renewables has increased from 6.1 per cent in 2008 to almost 11 per cent in 2014, and in the same time electricity from coal has reduced from 91 per cent to 82 per cent.

“These changes have helped reduce NSW greenhouse gas emissions to about 19.6 tonnes per person, compared to the national average of 23.2 tonnes per person. This shows that the government’s energy efficiency and renewable action plans are working,” Mr Speakman said.

“The report highlights the government’s achievements in working for a healthy future but also shows there is room for improvement and challenges ahead. Recognising these challenges and acknowledging the opportunities they present is a core function of responsible government,” Mr Speakman said.

“We have a rising population, increasing urbanisation and an ageing population, which leads to greater demand for housing, energy and water. Ensuring our environment can cope with these pressures is a government priority.”

To view the report visit: www.epa.nsw.gov.au/soe/20150817soe-2015.htm.

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