



Marion Scrymgour

MINISTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE

February 26 2006

NT GOVERNMENT UNVEILS GREENHOUSE STRATEGY

Climate change is the most significant environmental challenge facing the global community, Environment Minister Marion Scrymgour said today as she unveiled the Northern Territory's Greenhouse Strategy.

"Territorians must share responsibility, along with all other global citizens, for reducing global greenhouse gas emissions," Ms Scrymgour said.

"The Strategy's vision is for Territorians to work together to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and limit the negative impacts of climate change."

Ms Scrymgour said in 2002 the Territory produced 3.3% of total national greenhouse gas emissions, with almost half of these emissions produced from bushfires.

But she added that as the Northern Territory economy continues to develop through major gas projects, greenhouse gas emissions are expected to rise in the area of energy use.

"The measures put forward in the strategy will minimise the Northern Territory's greenhouse emissions as we continue to develop a strong base for our economy and provide a foundation for further reductions in the long term," Ms Scrymgour said.

Ms Scrymgour said practical and achievable greenhouse initiatives set out in the Strategy encourage behavioural change and support research.

"For example, by 2011 Government will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from electricity consumption in Government buildings by 10%.

"Other initiatives include reducing greenhouse gas emissions from bushfires, including greenhouse gas emission information on power bills, and encouraging people to make greenhouse friendly travel choices."

Ms Scrymgour said that through the Strategy the NT Government is demonstrating that it is committed to sustainable development, and that it is willing to lead the challenge to reduce the Territory's greenhouse emissions.

The Strategy can be accessed at www.nt.gov.au/nreta/environment

Contact: Maria Billias 0401 119 746