

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Energy Efficient Demonstration Home - Open for Tours

Canberra residents and visitors can find out how to make their home more energy efficient this winter by taking a guided tour of the new Energy Efficient Demonstration Home in Strathnairn at Ginninderry.

The home's owner and Director of Commonsense Sustainability Solutions, Mr Paul Nagle, said he's opening his home up to visitors to share tips and tricks about how you too can conserve energy throughout the year and save money on your power bills.

"Whether you're buying a new home or renovating an existing home, it is important to look at ways to save energy and make your home more comfortable to live in, and many of these simple solutions are demonstrated in this sustainable home," Mr Nagle said.

"We are providing free guided tours of the home on weekends, to give visitors the opportunity to ask questions about how they too can incorporate energy saving solutions into their new home build or renovation project."

"This home demonstrates how easy it can be to achieve a more energy efficient and sustainable home, that requires very little heating in winter or cooling in the summer, resulting in a more comfortable home that is cheaper to run."

"The home also includes a few more unique sustainability features that I think most visitors will love, including a grass driveway and a green roof over the backyard studio."

The home is located at the edge of the Ginninderry's GX Display Village, but has been built with a different motivation to the other homes on display.

"Our aim in building this home on the edge of the display village is not to sell homes," said Mr Nagle.

"The purpose of this build was to provide an educational resource, which shows visitors firsthand how they can easily achieve energy efficient, sustainable solutions in their own homes."

"We are open for guided tours at 11am, 1pm and 3pm on most Saturdays and Sundays from 13 August until the end of the year. Please visit [www.commonsss.com.au](http://www.commonsss.com.au) to confirm opening times."

The Ginninderry Sustainable Home was officially opened on Sunday 7 August by the ACT Minister for Housing and Suburban Development, Yvette Berry; the Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, Shane Rattenbury; the Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Building and Construction, Rebecca Vassarotti; and Federal Senator for the ACT, David Pocock.

"The *Your New Home Buyer's Guide* free booklet has also been developed to complement this home," Mr Nagle said. "It takes the reader through the steps involved with choosing a home and what to look for in terms of energy efficiency."

## Commonsense Sustainability Solutions

“You can download the Your New Home Buyer’s Guide from the website [www.commonsss.com.au](http://www.commonsss.com.au) and download the original floor plan used as the basis for this home for free from the Commonwealth Government website [www.yourhome.gov.au](http://www.yourhome.gov.au).”

Commonsense Sustainability Solutions is a consultancy company focused on how to support people to make informed decisions that are better for their comfort, wallet and the environment. They have collaborated on aspects of the project with various organisations, including [SEE-Change](#), a community, not-for-profit group focused on local grass roots action in Canberra.

For more information about the Energy Efficient Demonstration Home visit [www.commonsss.com.au](http://www.commonsss.com.au).

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