

Replaces all previous versions

Effective 1st December 2004



3 December 2004

Spacepac Industries Pty Limited  
39 Ellen St  
Wollongong NSW 2500

Dear Sir/Madam

As you may be aware, Sydney Water is currently offering a rebate to its customers who purchase and install a rainwater tank on a property serviced by Sydney Water.

In October this year, the NSW Government released its long-term water plan for greater Sydney, called *Meeting the challenges – securing Sydney's water future*. One of the initiatives of the plan is the extension of Sydney Water's Rainwater Tank Rebate Program until July 2008. However homes and units that are required to install a tank to achieve a 40 per cent water efficiency through BASIX will not be eligible for a rebate.

This month Sydney Water will amend the terms and conditions for the Rainwater Tank Rebate Program to extend it to July 2008 and exclude any homes or units required to have a rainwater tank to comply with a BASIX certificate after 31 December 2004.

Sydney Water will advertise these changes in the metropolitan newspapers, and on our website. We also plan to advise Councils and key building and development industry associations.

We also seek the assistance of your firm by advising your customers of these changes where appropriate. Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



Geoff Watson  
Manager, Residential Program Delivery  
Water Conservation & Recycling

**Sydney Water Corporation** ABN 49 776 225 038  
115-123 Bathurst Street Sydney NSW 2000 Australia PO Box A53 Sydney South NSW 1232 Australia  
Telephone 132 092 Facsimile (02) 9350 6814 DX 14 Sydney Internet [www.sydneywater.com.au](http://www.sydneywater.com.au)

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## What is BASIX?

BASIX is a web-based planning tool designed to assess the water and energy efficiency of new residential developments. It has been developed by DIPNR in association with other government agencies, local government and utilities.

On 1 July 2004, the NSW Government introduced BASIX into the development approval system to make sure our homes use less water and energy. The requirements for a BASIX Certificate with development proposals will be introduced in stages from that date.

## When do applicants need a BASIX Certificate?

1 July 2004	New houses and dual occupancy developments in Sydney, unless a development applicant entered into a building agreement before 1 July 2004 or an agreement on or after 1 July as a consequence of an offer made or deposit paid before 1 July 2004.
1 February 2005	All new residential dwellings in Sydney including new houses, dual occupancy developments and apartment buildings.
1 July 2005	All new residential dwellings anywhere in NSW.
1 October 2005	All alterations and additions requiring a development application anywhere in NSW.

Note: BASIX does not apply:

- if a development application or an application for a complying development certificate for that development was lodged with council before 1 July 2004; or
- if a development applicant entered into a building agreement before 1 July 2004; or
- if a development applicant entered into an agreement on or after 1 July as a consequence of an offer made or deposit paid before 1 July 2004.

BASIX Certificates are not yet required for commercial, retail or industrial developments.

To get a certificate, development applicants must complete an online assessment using the BASIX tool. Details are at [www.basix.nsw.gov.au](http://www.basix.nsw.gov.au).

See a demonstration of [BASIX](#).