



## Greyhound helps customer go greener

**9 July 2009**

[Greyhound Australia](#) has rewarded its customers for “going green” by giving away a \$12,000 solar panel system.

Brisbane resident and Greyhound customer Angela White is now the proud owner of the 1 kW solar panel system, as part of the company’s Green Dollar competition in conjunction with its carbon offset partner [Cleaner Climate](#) and sponsored by one of Australia’s leading solar companies, [Energy Matters](#).

Greyhound Australia Chief Executive Officer Robert Thomas said Australians were becoming increasingly aware of their impact on the environment and were seeking ways to reduce their carbon footprint.

“Whether it’s by installing energy efficient lightbulbs in their homes or through innovative carbon offset schemes such as the one we’re offering, people are taking note of how their actions will impact the environment,” Mr Thomas said.

“I understand Angela is a deserving winner who is very mindful of her family’s carbon footprint so it’s great the solar panel system will go to such an environmentally conscious household.”

Angela has four daughters who regularly travel on Greyhound between Brisbane and Toowoomba and she always offsets their carbon emissions.

“The girls have cousins in Toowoomba, so I’m quite happy sending them out there on Greyhound,” Mrs White said.

“They’re all still at school, so at least I know that when I drop them off at Roma Street they are going to get there safely.

“As a family we are extremely environmentally conscious. We always offset our carbon emissions, whether it’s when travelling with Greyhound or flying.

“We’ve also just renovated our home, which we’ve tried to make as green as possible. It’s very exciting for us to win the solar panel system because it will add to our environmental efforts and will also help to add value to our house.”

The 1 kW system is valued at over \$12,000 before subsidies and can save an average house over \$200 per year in electricity bills. Energy Matters spokesperson Andrew Scarlett said rising energy costs and a new round of subsidies meant more concerned Australians were using solar to reduce their impact on the environment.

In a first for Australia’s coach industry, Greyhound teamed up with Cleaner Climate and Energy Matters last year to give customers the opportunity to reduce the impact their travel has on the environment through Kyoto compliant carbon offset projects.

Mr Thomas said for just \$1 extra per trip travellers could feel confident their journey was having a reduced impact on the environment.

“Our scheme isn’t just for private travel, commercial and charter service clients also have the opportunity to offset their carbon emissions,” he said.



'Green Dollars' will be invested in Cleaner Climate's international renewable energy and energy efficiency projects.

As part of Greyhound's Travel Green initiative, Cleaner Climate is working on establishing a Carbon Action Plan which includes the identification of energy efficient design and technology improvements throughout Greyhound's offices and terminals.

Cleaner Climate's analysis has shown, if one in three Greyhound Australia customers choose to travel green, over 15,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent can be offset annually through carbon reduction projects. These projects not only benefit the environment but also contribute to the introduction of cleaner technology and employment in local communities within the developing world.

Mr Thomas said the scheme further boosts the green credentials of coach travel.

"When compared to jet aircraft, studies have shown one full coach has almost eight times less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per passenger per kilometre on the same route. In addition, just one full Greyhound coach is equivalent to taking 16 cars off the road," he said.

"In April this year we were rewarded for our green initiatives by achieving the QBIC Environmental Innovation award."

**For more information, please contact:**

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**About Greyhound Australia**

*Greyhound Australia travels to more than 1,100 destinations 365 days per year.*

*Greyhound Australia's luxury coaches are fully air-conditioned and feature large panoramic glare-free tinted windows, a restroom, filtered water and LCD screens.*

*The company continues to look for ways to diversify its business by offering hassle-free, flexible freight and commercial services to its clients.*

*For more information visit the Greyhound website at [www.greyhound.com.au](http://www.greyhound.com.au) or call 1300GREYHOUND (1300 473 946).*

*For further Greyhound Australia news please visit [www.greyhound.com.au/news](http://www.greyhound.com.au/news)*

**About Cleaner Climate**

*Cleaner Climate is a global, integrated carbon solutions provider which assists companies in their reduction of carbon emissions by identifying and developing emission reduction projects, and creating carbon management strategies to minimise risk and identify opportunities in a carbon constrained world.*

*Cleaner Climate was founded on the recognition that a carbon-constrained world is an imminent reality for global businesses, and that in order to combat climate change companies and individuals must reduce emissions and support products and services that are inherently more socially and environmentally friendly.*



*Cleaner Climate develops projects which follow the United Nations' Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) framework requirements to offset its clients' emissions.*

*For more information visit the Cleaner Climate website at [www.cleanerclimate.com](http://www.cleanerclimate.com)*

***About Energy Matters:***

*Energy Matters is an Australian-owned renewable energy business that brings solar power to households, schools and businesses.*

*Australia's environment is unique and fragile. By driving renewable technologies, Energy Matters strives to preserve it for future generations. One rooftop at a time, we help make Australian communities part of the solution to the problem of climate change. And with every system we install, we move one step closer to our ultimate vision of a country powered entirely by renewable energy.*

*With tough, precision components and expert technical advice, we've helped thousands of Australians make the switch. For more information, visit [www.energymatters.com.au](http://www.energymatters.com.au)*