

Air Conditioning Program

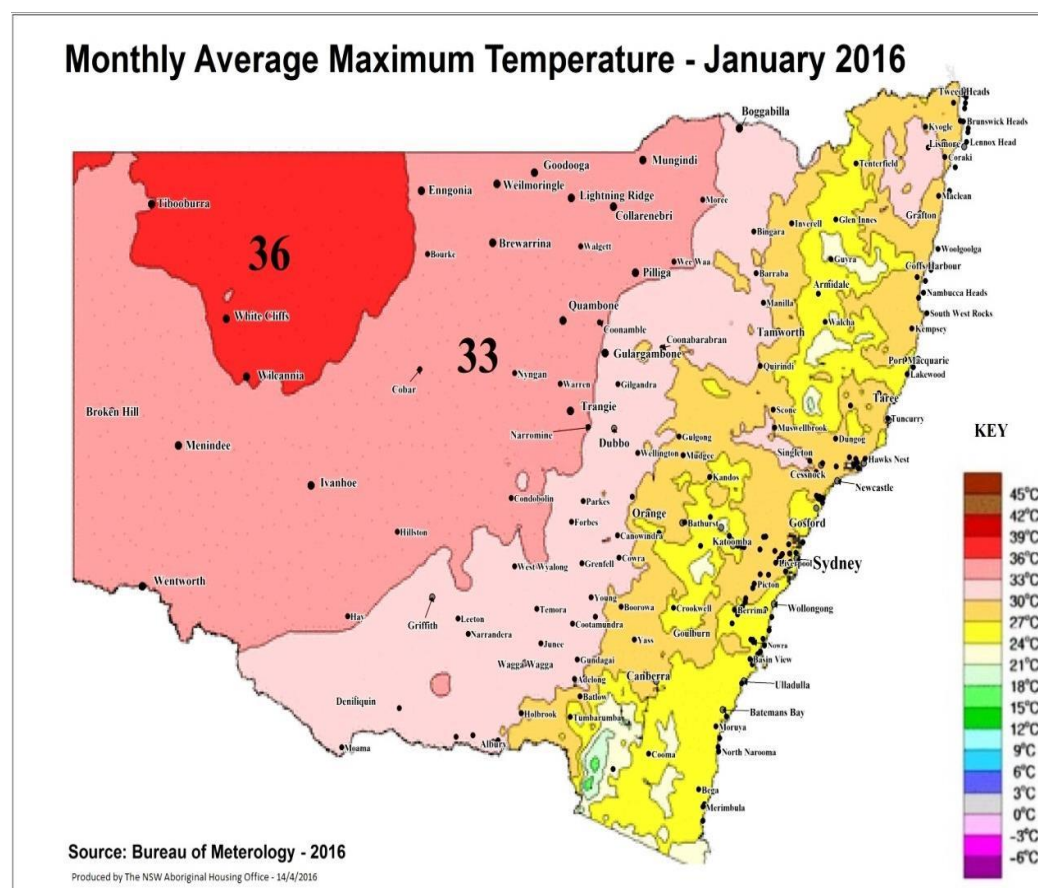
The Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO) is installing air-conditioning systems in AHO owned houses in parts of NSW that experience high summer temperatures.

Why is the AHO doing this?

Feedback from our tenants tells us that your homes get very hot during the summer. We have listened to your concerns and put together a plan to address them.

How did you decide which houses get air-conditioning?

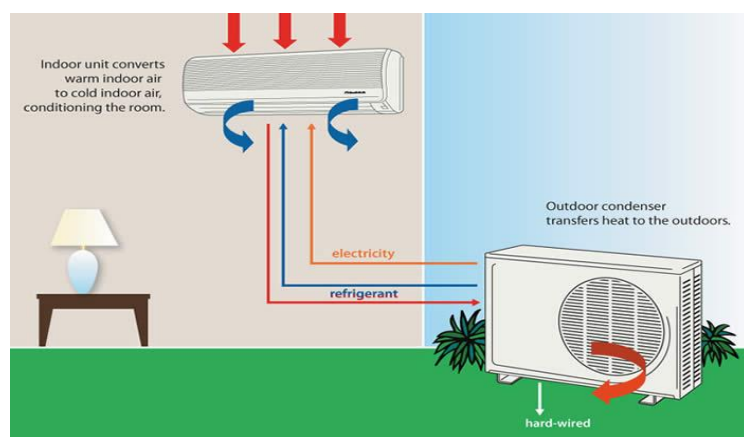
The AHO is using Bureau of Meteorology information to identify the hottest parts of the State. All houses located within the Isotherm 33°C or higher area of NSW is eligible for air conditioning to be installed.



What type of air-conditioning will be installed?

A refrigerated, reverse cycle split system air-conditioner will be installed in your living area. This system will air-condition the living area only – it is not a whole of house air-conditioner.

If your house is large and has more than one living area, a second split system air-conditioner may be installed.



Is Split System the best choice?

Split system air-conditioning was chosen for this program because it:

- is easy to run and maintain
- performs well in humid and/or hot weather
- provides efficient heating in winter

Will it be expensive to operate?

As a guideline, set your unit at about 24°C during summer and 20°C in winter. For every degree of heating or cooling you do without, you save on energy consumption.

Make sure your doors and windows are closed to ensure the unit operates as efficiently as possible. If you leave the house or don't need heating or cooling, switch your unit off. By switching your unit off, you could save you money on your electricity account.

A full set of operating instructions will be provided once the unit is installed in the homes.

What happens if a house already has an existing cooling system?

There are a number of scenarios:

- If a property has an existing whole of house Evaporative system, the current system will be retained.
- If a property has an existing Split System in the living area, the current system will be retained.
- If a property has window rattlers or split systems in bedrooms – if deemed safe will be retained. If deemed unsafe a duty of care letter will be issued to the tenant by the Provider to make safe or decommission/remove. A split system will be installed in the living area.
- If a property has window rattlers in living areas these are to be removed by the AHO and replaced with the more efficient split system.
- If a property has Single room evaporative cooler in the living area these are to be removed by the AHO and replaced with the more efficient split system.

When will installations be completed?

The project has been broken down into 5 implementation zones based on location. The targeted dates for installation are listed below:

Install Zone	Towns	Install Period
Zone 1	Broken Hill, Menindee, Wilcannia	Oct 2016 – Dec 2016
Zone 2	Bourke, Brewarrina, Walgett, Lightning Ridge	Jan 2017 – June 2017
Zone 3	Wentworth, Hay, Hillston, Balranald, Buronga, Dareton, Euston, Gol Gol, Lake Cargelligo	Jan 2017 – March 2017
Zone 4	Cobar, Nyngan, Warren, Narromine, Coonamble, Gulargambone, Condobolin, Gwabegar, Peak Hill, Ravenswood	April 2017 – Sept 2017
Zone 5	Moree, Wee Waa, Pilliga, Mungindi, Collarenebri	August 2017 – May 2018

What support materials will be provided once installations are completed?

The AHO is planning to provide a number of support materials to ensure the end user knows how to efficiently operate the system.

- The installation contractor will be required to show the tenant how to operate the system efficiently. This will be a requirement written into the installation contract(s).
- An operating instructions wall chart will be installed in all properties that receive a new air conditioning unit.
- The AHO will provide training to management providers on operating and maintenance of the Air Conditioning units. Specific requirements will be stipulated in terms of ongoing maintenance that the Provider must adhere to.
- A post installation follow up survey/interview will be conducted to ensure tenants have received the appropriate support to operate the Air Conditioning system

Any further questions?

Please contact the AHO Project Manager on chris.brick@facs.nsw.gov.au if you have further questions not covered in this Factsheet.