



# CRAIG EMERSON MP

## Carbon Pricing

### Assistance for pensioners

Pensioners will receive assistance through a Clean Energy Advance and a Clean Energy Supplement connected to their pension. Part-rate pensioners who pay tax may also be eligible for tax assistance.

#### **Pension increases**

Pensioners will be eligible to receive household assistance that should cover all of their expected average price rises under a carbon price.

Pensioners will receive an increase of up to \$338 for singles, and \$255 for each eligible member of a couple a year.

The increase will be delivered as a new, permanent and tax exempt **Clean Energy Supplement**, which will be paid in line with pensioners' regular payment cycles from 20 March 2013. The **Clean Energy Supplement** will be indexed by the Consumer Price Index.

Pensioners will also receive a separate **Clean Energy Advance**, which will be paid as an up-front and tax exempt lump sum payment of up to \$250 for a single and \$190 for each eligible member of a couple in May-June 2012.

Pensioners who will receive this increase under household assistance include recipients of the Age Pension, Disability Support Pension, Carer Payment, Service Pension and Wife Pension. The payments will be automatic and pensioners don't need to lodge a special application.

#### **Assistance through the personal tax system - tax cuts**

All taxpayers with income up to \$80,000 will get a tax cut, with most getting a cut of at least \$300. Further tax cuts will be provided when Australia moves to an emissions trading scheme in 2015-16.

The Pensioner Tax Offset will also be rolled in to the more generous Senior Australians Tax Offset, with the new offset called the Seniors and Pensioners Tax Offset. For more information, see the fact sheet on reforms to the personal tax system.

**For further information, go to the Clean Energy Future website at [www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au](http://www.cleanenergyfuture.gov.au),**