

## MEDIA RELEASE

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# Make our buildings cleaner quicker

The Prime Minister's plan to accelerate the retrofitting of existing commercial buildings to improve their energy efficiency is an important step to cut waste and pollution, the Australian Conservation Foundation said.

"Most commercial buildings in Australia have low star ratings and guzzle energy and water," said ACF executive director Don Henry.

"This initiative should give building owners an incentive to invest in good quality upgrades.

"The Coalition has previously been in favour of such measures and I would hope all parties will support this plan.

"Buildings generally have long lives, so it's important all new buildings are built to world's best standards for energy efficiency now.

"The minimum Building Code of Australia standards that apply to new buildings should be raised from the current 3 to 3.5 star to a minimum of 5 stars to make the buildings our children will work in cleaner and healthier.

"With a price tag on pollution we'd get a more rapid uptake of these policies and initiatives and make our workplaces cleaner quicker."

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