

The Sydney Morning Herald

Message from the Minister for Climate Change and the Environment

The threat of climate change is the greatest environmental challenge the world faces today, which is why it is absolutely essential that we act now on emissions reduction by using our scarce resources wisely.

Meeting the challenge climate change presents will require innovative approaches in policy, technology and business.

The Green Globe Awards bring together people who are leading the way through water, waste and energy savings projects and broader sustainability initiatives.

This year's Green Globe winners came from an outstanding field of nominees. I congratulate each and every one of them.

Across 14 categories there were 105 nominations from businesses and government who have integrated sustainability into business operations to reduce their carbon footprint and manage natural resources more efficiently.

The scope and calibre of projects inspires confidence in the capacity of NSW to successfully respond to the challenges of climate change and, indeed, take advantage of the opportunities ahead.

Their achievements also show that sound environmental management can go hand in hand with business success.

It is only through the combined efforts of business, government and the community that we will successfully rise to the challenge of climate change, slow the progress of global warming and adapt our economy and lifestyle to a climate-friendly future.

I am proud of to be part of a Government that was the first to introduce a carbon trading scheme.

Now as the Commonwealth takes the lead in emissions trading, the focus in NSW will be on implementing emissions reduction measures, and on helping families and businesses deal with the consequences of climate change through measures such as the Energy Efficiency Strategy and the \$340 million Climate Change Fund.

Hon. Verity Firth MP



Right: Minister Firth presenting the Premier's Sustainability Excellence Award to Instyle Contract Textiles.

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