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IPA LAUNCHES CARBON TAX CALCULATOR FOR SMALL BUSINESS & HOUSEHOLDS TO ESTIMATE CARBON TAX HIT ON ELECTRICITY BILLS

'In response to the passage of the carbon tax the IPA has launched a carbon tax calculator that households and small businesses can use to calculate how much their electricity prices will rise', said Tim Wilson, Director of Climate Change Policy at the Institute of Public Affairs.

Mr Wilson's comments follow the launch of the IPA's carbon tax calculator, available at www.carbontaxcalc.com, and a promotional postcard which will be sent to small businesses around Australia to encourage people to visit the website.

'Australians don't know how much the carbon tax will force up electricity prices, but the IPA's carbon tax calculator will allow small business and households to calculate it for themselves.

'Based on industry data, the average increase for most Australian small businesses will be around \$3,051 annually.

'The costs for households are also very significant, with some experiencing increases of at least \$220 annually.

'The calculator's conservative estimates are based on industry and government data. Households and small businesses will only need their electricity bill to calculate the likely carbon tax increase to their bill.

'With the carbon tax pushing up electricity bills across the country, households will need to start budgeting and the IPA's carbon tax calculator will help them with that purpose', said Mr Wilson.

The IPA's carbon tax calculator is available at www.carbontaxcalc.com.

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