



**CATHOLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
NEW SOUTH WALES**

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12 July 2010

Ms Teresa McMichael
Principal Council Officer
NSW Legislative Council Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

RECEIVED
14 JUL 2010
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
GP 10/90

Dear Ms McMichael,

Inquiry into the Building the Education Revolution Program

I refer to Mr William Walsh's letter of 2 July 2010 responding to questions arising from his appearance before General Purpose Standing Committee No. 2 on 18 June 2010. The letter and attachment explained that the questions relating to unflued gas heaters would be answered in a second response.

This letter answers questions 1 and 2 raised by Hon Robyn Parker MLC.

1. Have any unflued gas heaters been installed in NSW Catholic Schools with BER funds?

As stated in Mr Walsh's letter, the Catholic schools system in NSW is decentralised, with schools and diocesan education offices making local decisions. There is no centralised policy on the installation of gas heaters. However, the Commission has regularly brought attention to the research and recommendations on the use of unflued gas heaters.

A survey has been conducted of all BER projects on this question and has identified unflued gas heaters installed with BER funds at two schools.

School 1: Four new unflued gas heaters were installed with National School Pride (NSP) funding. The NSP project was for the 'refurbishment of school facilities' and the heaters were purchased to replace existing gas heaters. The model selected by the school (Rinnai Avenger 25) features low emissions technology which is less than half the Australian Standard (source http://www.rinnai.com.au/index.php?option=com_products&task=product&Itemid=2&id=193).

School 2: Six new unflued gas heaters are due to be installed in a new multi-purpose hall funded by the Primary Schools for the 21st Century (P21) program. The heaters (Aira

Super Ray) are certified by the Australian Gas Association for internal use only and are compliant with Australian Standard AS4565 (www.agasn.au page 53). The hall will be continually vented by the use of eight roof mounted wind vents.

2. *If yes to (1), how many heaters have been installed and in how many NSW Catholic schools?*

Please refer to answer above.

Please direct any further questions to Mrs Wendy O'Connor, Personal Assistant to Director Resources Policy and Capital Programs, on 9287 1572 or wendy.oconnor@cecnsw.catholic.edu.au.

Yours sincerely



Kevin Morrison
Coordinator – Capital Programs