



**Carmel Tebbutt MP**

**Deputy Premier**

Minister for Climate Change and the Environment | Minister for Commerce

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## **NSW Government to reward excellence in addressing climate change**

The NSW Government will reward ground-breaking responses and outstanding research in climate change through sponsorship of two of this year's Australian Museum Eureka Prizes.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, Carmel Tebbutt, said the more than \$50,000 in sponsorship of the Eureka Science Awards would focus on innovative solutions to climate change and research into its potential health impacts on society.

"Climate change and global warming will have impacts on a number of areas of society," Ms Tebbutt said.

"For example, we expect a significant increase in heat related illnesses and health effects from air pollution as well as an increase in extreme events like bushfires, drought, floods and coastal storms."

"It is critical that we forge practical answers and conduct forward-looking research into this impending reality so that we are well prepared to deal with any consequences.

"That is why we are offering two separate \$10,000 climate-change research prizes as part of the 2009 Eureka Prizes, one for outstanding research into the health impacts of climate change and one for innovative solutions to challenges posed by climate change.

"Work entered for the innovation prize may include research; development of new technologies or practices; new markets, products or services; or advocacy that addresses the challenges of climate change.

"This is a fantastic opportunity to recognise the important role our top scientists and engineers will play in helping us address the significant health, social and environmental challenges of climate change, and in leading the search for solutions at a state and national level," Ms Tebbutt said

Minister for Science and Medical Research Jodi McKay said the Eureka Awards are held annually and 2009 will see 18 prizes awarded across four categories — Research and Innovation, Leadership, School Science, and Science Journalism and Communication.

"The Eureka Prizes are presented each year by the Australian Museum to champion and reward excellence in science, and are regarded as Australia's most comprehensive national science awards," Ms McKay said.

"I congratulate the Australian Museum on this year celebrating the 20th anniversary of bringing together government agencies, the private sector, institutions and individuals to reward excellence in science.

"I strongly encourage medical researchers and environmental professionals from all disciplines to look at entering the awards."

Entries close May 1, 2009. For further information on the Eureka Awards visit [www.amonline.net.au/eureka](http://www.amonline.net.au/eureka) or phone 02 9320 6483 or [eureka@austmus.gov.au](mailto:eureka@austmus.gov.au)

**Media Contact: Patrick Keneally 0431 743 212**