

Timaru Herald

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Ecobulb's Chris Mardon holds a new LED bulb as Grant Eames, Peter Blins, Sara Carter and Karen McCrostie look on.

PHOTO: MYTCHALL BRANGROVE/STUFF

Bulbs giveaway switches on power savings

AL WILLIAMS

A \$300,000 project is set to light up South Canterbury with household savings.

About 18,600 homes are set to receive letters from LineTrust South Canterbury with vouchers for five free generation Ecobulb LED energy saving light bulbs valued at up to \$200.

LineTrust is working alongside

Alpine Energy, Christchurch-based Energy Mad and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority (EECA) in the roll out of 45,000 bulbs.

LineTrust chairman Grant Eames said the 10 watt bulbs had a 30 year lifespan and provided the same energy as 100 watt conventional bulbs. The estimated annual power cost of each bulb was \$2.73.

"The average South Canterbury home could save up to \$900 on their

power bills over the next 10 years simply by swapping five of their most frequently used inefficient light bulbs to Ecobulb LEDs.

"In addition to helping our beneficiaries save on their power bills, this project is 10 times more cost effective than building new power poles and wires."

Alpine Energy commercial and regulatory manager Sara Carter said the project was about reducing cost and pressure in terms of

the region's electricity network. "This means we reduce costs as we can avoid having to build more assets."

Ecobulb managing director Chris Mardon said there were an estimated 31 million inefficient light bulbs in New Zealand homes.

Vouchers can be redeemed at:

- Timaru: Southern Trust Events Centre, Morgans Rd, April 27-28, 9am-5pm.
- Fairlie: Heartlands Resource

Centre, 67 Main St, April 27 and 30, 10am-4pm.

■ Geraldine: Community Resource Centre, 5a Peel St, April 27 and 30, 9am-4pm.

■ Temuka: PGG Wrightson, 3 Wood St, April 27 and 30, 8am-5pm.

■ Twizel: Twizel Community Care Centre, Mt Cook St, April 27 and 30, 9am-2pm.

■ Waimate: St John rooms, 39 Shearman St, April 27 and 30, 9am-5pm.

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