



Campaign Opposing Unflued Gas Heating
www.cough.org.au

Media Release

28th February 2012

Government announcement on unflued gas heaters in schools provides more questions than answers

The Campaign Opposing Unflued Gas Heaters (COUGH) today welcomed the announcement by the NSW Government that unflued gas heaters poisoning our children across the state would be removed over time, but said the Government has left too much wriggle room and that the process could still take decades.

COUGH spokesperson Jo Keown said today that the public school children of the state and their parents deserved an expedited retrofit.

"Our concern is that whilst the Government is making positive noises, retrofitting could well proceed at a glacial pace."

"We need a meaningful definition of what the Government means when it says that the heaters will be replaced at the 'end of their useful life'."

"We would urge P&Cs around the state to audit how old the heaters in their schools are."

"We would further urge parents to keep an eye on their children's health throughout the coming winter and report any issues linked to unflued gas heaters to relevant school authorities, and similarly that teachers, support staff and volunteers in schools also report any issues to DET authorities, their union rep and their workplace health and safety committee."

Comment: Jo Keown on 0425 207 380.

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