

Govt submission

My name is Laine McLaren I am a certified home sustainability assessor, ass no: HO58771.

I became involved in sustainability as I believe that we need to be responsible for our carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions on our planet and was interested in being a part of a future industry in this field in partnership with our government.

I completed my training with Advantage Energy to conduct home sustainability assessments, registered with the governing body, ABSA, and paid for insurance to operate a business as an individual and purchased a laptop to operate software to do assessments. An investment of approx. \$3700.

I then applied for a contract with the governments green loans program. To date I have received no information from the government on my application.

I am now faced with the decision on how to move forward in this field. I could purchase software which would enable me to perform home sustainability assessments however I would be in direct competition with assessors which are offering the same service for free with the governments green loans program.

I could apply to work with the governments green start program due to start in 2011. However there seems to be a lack of information on how to register interest. The same issues are surrounding this government program as faced the green loans program. ie; what will the limit be on the number of assessors chosen to work the program, how will the government prevent big business from exploiting the program to raise their own profits.

In closing I look forward to strong leadership from our government in relation to our responsibility on a local and global scale in regards to living in a sustainable future.

Kind Regards
Home Sustainability Assessor
Laine McLaren