

PBA - Northmore Gordon

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PBA

PBA stands for Project Based Activities, as defined in the Northmore Gordon glossary. Project-based activities are more complex activities that warrant investigation beyond prescribed standards in the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme. Unlike prescribed activities with defined equipment requirements, project-based activities require custom assessment and evidence gathering. They are particularly relevant for organisations undertaking energy efficiency improvements that do not fit neatly into standardised pathways, allowing for tailored technical and commercial evaluation.

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What does PBA stand for?

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How do Project Based Activities differ from prescribed activities in Victorian Energy Upgrades?

Prescribed activities in Victorian Energy Upgrades have standardised equipment requirements and defined assessment pathways, making them straightforward to evaluate. In contrast, Project Based Activities are more complex and warrant investigation beyond these prescribed standards. This means PBAs require custom assessment, individual eligibility determination, and tailored evidence gathering. Organisations considering energy upgrades that fall outside standard categories should discuss whether their project qualifies as a PBA, as this classification affects the assessment process, evidence requirements and certificate pathway.

What role does Northmore Gordon play in assessing Project Based Activities?

Our knowledge library covers the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme, including guidance on project-based activities and their requirements. We provide consulting and assessment services to help organisations determine whether their energy projects qualify as PBAs and, if so, what evidence and validation steps are required. We can assist in scoping the investigation, establishing measurement

boundaries, and preparing the project documentation necessary for PBA eligibility and certificate claim support within the Victorian scheme.

Where can PBA be found on the Northmore Gordon website?

PBA is listed under the Glossary section of the Northmore Gordon website, accessible via Home » Glossary » PBA. The glossary provides plain-language definitions of energy, emissions and project-related terms for use in project teams and scheme-specific contexts. As part of this practical reference resource, the PBA definition supports organisations working on energy efficiency projects to understand scheme terminology and assessment pathways relevant to the Victorian Energy Upgrades programme.

What company published the PBA glossary definition?

The PBA glossary definition was published by Northmore Gordon, a consulting firm specialising in energy performance, carbon management and environmental certificates for industrial businesses and the built environment. We operate in Australia and Singapore, offering energy auditing, measurement and verification, and energy management assessments. Our glossary supports project teams in distinguishing physical performance, financial outcomes and environmental instruments across energy and carbon projects.

Why is understanding the difference between prescribed and project-based activities important for energy projects?

Understanding this distinction directly affects project planning, evidence requirements and funding timelines. Prescribed activities follow a faster, standardised pathway with predictable assessment criteria, while project-based activities require more detailed investigation and custom evidence gathering. Misclassifying a project as prescribed when it is actually project-based can lead to missed deadlines, incomplete documentation or ineligibility. Organisations should clarify their project's status early to preserve evidence collection opportunities, plan appropriate resourcing and avoid timing delays that could affect scheme eligibility or certificate claim viability.

What evidence and documentation are typically required for Project Based Activity assessment?

Project-based activities require custom assessment, meaning evidence requirements are tailored to the specific project rather than following a standard checklist. Generally, organisations should prepare site locations, operating constraints, equipment details, baseline energy data, proposed intervention scope, implementation timeline and measurement boundaries. The exact requirements depend on the activity type and the Victorian scheme's current guidelines. We recommend submitting a project brief describing the decision, site characteristics and available evidence, allowing the firm to identify the proportionate investigation scope and next steps for PBA assessment and certificate support.

How should organisations approach determining whether their energy project qualifies as a PBA?

The first step is to prepare a project brief describing the site's actual problem, available evidence and desired decision, as recommended in our guidance. This should include the business problem, site and location, equipment specifications, project stage and relevant chronology. Organisations should then engage with a qualified adviser or Northmore Gordon directly to assess whether the project meets prescribed activity criteria or requires project-based assessment. Early clarification preserves measurement and funding options and prevents assumptions about scheme eligibility from becoming unsupported commitments in the project investment case.