

REPS (SA) - Northmore Gordon

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REPS (SA)

REPS (SA) stands for Retailer Energy Productivity Scheme in South Australia. It is a government energy scheme referenced alongside other Australian regulatory frameworks for energy efficiency and renewable energy. Like other state-based schemes such as Victorian Energy Upgrades and the NSW Energy Savings Scheme, REPS (SA) establishes requirements for eligible energy-saving activities and environmental certificates. Understanding which scheme applies to a project depends on the jurisdiction where the site operates. Our knowledge library covers multiple state schemes to help clients identify the correct regulatory pathway for their energy improvement projects.

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What does REPS (SA) stand for?

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How does REPS (SA) relate to other Australian energy schemes?

REPS (SA) is one of several state-based energy efficiency schemes operating across Australia. Other comparable schemes include Victorian Energy Upgrades in Victoria and the NSW Energy Savings Scheme in New South Wales. Each scheme has its own eligibility requirements, certificate mechanisms and measurement methodologies. The Renewable Energy Target operates at the national level alongside these state schemes. Selecting the correct scheme depends on the project location and the type of activity proposed. Our capability includes assessing scheme applicability and supporting project registration and certificate creation across multiple jurisdictions.

What types of activities might be eligible under REPS (SA)?

REPS (SA) supports eligible energy-saving activities through an environmental certificate mechanism, similar to other Australian state schemes. Typical eligible activities may include industrial efficiency

improvements, commercial building upgrades and renewable energy installations, though exact eligibility depends on the specific scheme requirements and activity specifications. The scheme's rules define prescribed activities with standard requirements as well as project-based pathways for more complex assessments. Before proposing an activity, the jurisdiction, equipment specifications and implementation timing should be verified against current REPS (SA) requirements. We assess activity eligibility and support project registration and evidence gathering for certificate schemes.

How should a project assess its eligibility for REPS (SA) support?

Assessing REPS (SA) eligibility requires identifying the site location in South Australia, describing the proposed activity and equipment, confirming the project stage and establishing available baseline energy data. Like other Australian schemes, REPS (SA) typically requires documentation of what equipment or systems are being changed, how the installation will be conducted and what evidence will be gathered to demonstrate the improvement. The exact eligibility pathway depends on whether the activity uses a prescribed method with standard requirements or a project-based approach requiring measurement and verification. We recommend preparing a project brief that documents the site, decision required and evidence available, then seeking a proportionate initial assessment of scheme suitability.

What role does measurement and verification play in REPS (SA) projects?

Measurement and verification establishes the energy savings or performance improvement achieved by an eligible activity. For REPS (SA) projects, the applicable scheme rules determine whether prescribed calculation methods or detailed monitoring and verification are required. Like other Australian schemes, this assessment distinguishes between engineering estimates made during design and verified results based on actual operating data. The measurement boundary, baseline conditions and operating variables must be defined before implementation so that relevant pre-project data can be captured. We provide measurement and verification services including baseline modelling, data collection planning and savings calculation to establish credible evidence for certificate applications.

What information should be included in an initial REPS (SA) project assessment?

An initial assessment should identify the South Australian site location, describe the existing and proposed equipment or systems, state the business problem or decision being addressed and indicate what energy data is available. The project stage matters—whether feasibility is being explored, equipment has been quoted, installation is contracted or work has already begun can affect pathway eligibility. Any prior applications for certificates or environmental attribute ownership should be disclosed. Following our project brief guidance, the site operator should gather available electricity and fuel bills, production records if applicable and equipment specifications. This information allows an adviser to screen scheme applicability and identify what additional evidence or assessment work is needed before a formal application.

Can REPS (SA) certificate proceeds be relied upon in an investment case?

Certificate proceeds should be treated as a separate component of the investment case, not assumed until eligibility and commercial terms are confirmed. The quantity of certificates created depends on the verified savings, the activity method and the applicable scheme rules. The certificate price is market-dependent and changes over time; a historical transaction price does not establish a guaranteed payment. Before including certificate revenue in a business case, confirm the activity eligibility with the relevant scheme administrator, establish the calculation basis and identify any charges or conditions affecting the customer's net receipt. We recommend presenting the project economics with and without conditional certificate proceeds so that management understands both the project merit and the funding uncertainty.

How does REPS (SA) fit into a broader energy management strategy?

REPS (SA) supports individual energy improvement projects, but a comprehensive strategy considers energy management across multiple sites and systems. An organisation-wide approach typically begins with energy audits to identify opportunities, then prioritises upgrades based on operating impact, capital availability and funding eligibility. Some projects may qualify for REPS (SA) certificates; others may be justified by operating savings or maintenance benefits alone. Energy management systems track performance across sites and support ongoing identification of new opportunities. Our six-stage approach—Assess, Build the Case, Capture Value, Deliver, Procure and Perform—integrates scheme assessment with broader performance management, helping organisations move from individual projects toward sustained operational improvement.