

Smart Energy Savings Program



A comparison of mandatory energy efficiency programs (Australia)

	Queensland	Commonwealth	Commonwealth	Victoria	New South Wales
Name	Smart Energy Savings Program	National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting	Energy Efficiency Opportunities	Environment and Resource Efficiency Plans (EREP)	Energy Savings Action Plans (ESAP)
Legislated (mandatory) Program	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Legislation	<i>Clean Energy Act (Qld) 2008</i>	<i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007</i> <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008</i> <i>National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (Measurement) Determination 2008</i>	<i>Energy Efficiency Opportunities Act (Cth) 2006</i>	<i>Environment Protection Act (Vic) 1970 and Environment Protection (Environment and Resource Efficiency Plans) Regulations 2007</i>	<i>Energy and Utilities Administration Act (NSW) 1987</i>
Timelines	Fiscal year timelines	Fiscal year timelines	Fiscal year timelines (with some flexibility)	Default fiscal year reporting (or business may nominate another reporting year)	Baseline year chosen by business Annual reporting – 12 months after or business chooses a quarter

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Energy unit of measurement	Terajoules (TJ)	Terajoules (TJ) for energy and carbon dioxide equivalent (CO ₂ -e) for greenhouse gas emissions	Petajoules (PJ)	Terajoules (TJ)	Most appropriate measurement
Thresholds	Level 1 sites: ≤100TJ – 500TJ/year ¹	Facility level threshold of ≥100TJ, or 25 kt CO ₂ -e; corporation level threshold of ≥500TJ/year, or 125kt CO ₂ -e ²	Corporate groups > 500TJ/year	Sites ≥100TJ/year	Businesses and Government agencies using above 10GWh of stationary energy Local councils – people greater than 50,000
Data reported	Energy consumption	Energy consumption energy production greenhouse gas emissions	Energy consumption	Resources (energy, water and waste)	Energy consumption
12-month baseline data collected	✓ (site)	N/A	✓ (corporate group)	✓ (site)	✓ (site)
Registration deadline	30 September	31 August following the trigger year in which a threshold was met	31 March	30 September each year for sites that trigger EREP thresholds for 2007-08 financial year and onwards	No registration required
Mandatory implementation of savings measures required	X	X	X	✓ 3 yr or better payback	✓ implementation of cost-effective projects

¹ reduced to sites ≤10 TJ over time

² for 2008-2009 reporting year; ≥350 TJ or 87.5 kt CO₂-e for 2009-2010; and ≥200TJ or 50 kt CO₂-e from 2010-2011 and beyond.

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Implementation Plans submitted to Regulator	✓	N/A	✓	✓	✓
Implementation Plans reviewed by government	✓ (year 3)	N/A	✓	✓	✓ (possibly year 4) ³
Government approval of plans required	X	N/A	✓	✓	✓
Participants required to report to government	✓ (annual)	N/A	✓ (mid- and end-cycle report)	✓ (annual and final report upon expiry of plan)	✓ (annual)
Annual public reporting required	✓ (progress of implementation)	✓ Company level data will be published by 28 February following a trigger year First publication of data on 28 February 2010	✓	✓ (Aggregate data for all participating companies reported publicly)	X

³ Depending on if the program is expanded to require businesses to produce another 4 year plan.