



BULLETIN

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RETAILER FILE VALIDATION SYSTEM (REES-R)

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The Essential Services Commission of South Australia (the Commission) has established a web-hosted data checking facility, the “Retailer File Validation System” or “REES Retailer (REES-R)”.

REES-R was developed in 2010 to improve the operational efficiency of REES for both obliged retailers and the Commission. REES-R allows obliged retailers to undertake the initial validation of the format and content of Energy Efficiency Activity and Energy Efficiency Audit data files prior to submitting a file to the Commission.

This functionality ensures that obliged retailers’ data files are automatically matched against the data format requirements of the Commission’s REES Data Management System, including the provision of address validation through the same database as is utilised by the Commission for its REES assessment purposes. As a result, it is anticipated that there will be little or no need for on-going manual data format verification processes between the Commission and obliged retailers, which had been identified by both the Commission and obliged retailers as an area of potential inefficiency during the 2009 REES year.

In late 2012, the Commission expanded the REES-R to provide ‘real time’ information on the compliance of REES activities and audits against the specifications in the REES Code.

The REES-R application is designed to allow for the:

- ▲ validation of the data format and address format of Energy Efficiency Activity and Energy Audit files that are to be submitted to the Commission;
- ▲ provision of a flexible error capture method that allows the user to examine and correct file errors prior to submission of files to the Commission;
- ▲ capability to locate a recognisable postal address file (PAF) reference for addresses that have failed to pass through the validation process; and
- ▲ provision of ‘real time’ information on the compliance of REES activities and audits against the specifications.

The REES-R does not provide assurance that any individual Energy Efficiency Activity or Energy Audit contained within a file which has been validated for data format and address format will be accepted as compliant for the purposes of achieving overall REES Energy Audits and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets.

Retailers have been assigned user names and passwords to access the REES-R application. Third party providers can utilise the REES-R by contacting the appropriate retailer. A Retailer Instruction Manual for the REES-R is available within the application. For further information on accessing the REES-R, contact the Commission.

### **Summary:**

- ▲ In 2010 the Commission established a web hosted data checking facility which allows retailers to undertake the initial validation of the format and content of Energy Efficiency Activity and Energy Efficiency Audit data files before submitting them to the Commission.
- ▲ In late 2012, the Commission expanded the REES-R to provide 'real time' information on the compliance of REES activities and audits against the specifications in the REES Code.
- ▲ The REES-R does not provide assurance that any individual Energy Efficiency Activity or Energy Audit contained within a file which has been validated for data format and address format will be accepted as compliant for the purposes of achieving overall REES Energy Audits and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Targets.

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