



Bulletin

REES Bulletin No. 11

Mandatory Training Requirements

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Key Messages:

- ▶ This Bulletin outlines the mandatory training requirements for REES energy audits and energy efficiency activities.
- ▶ Either relevant industry recognised training units or in-house training schemes will satisfy the requirements. In house training must be of comparable quality to recognised external training units and be relevant to the performance of REES energy audits and efficiency activities.

The Retailer Energy Efficiency Scheme Code (REES Code) imposes mandatory safety requirements on retailers in respect of the provision of REES energy efficiency activities. The Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy sets the training requirements for energy audits. This Bulletin discusses both of these requirements.

1.1 REES code safety training requirements

Clause 5.1.3(d) requires that a REES-obliged retailer compliance plan include:

*a description of the systems and processes in place to ensure that persons undertaking activities in a **customer's premises**, where training requirements are identified in the specification for that activity (as gazetted by the **Minister**), have fulfilled the mandatory training requirements outlined in chapter 7 of this Retailer Energy Efficiency Scheme Code.*

Clause 7.5 of the REES Code sets out mandatory safety training requirements as follows:¹

7.5. Mandatory Safety Requirements

- 7.5.1. *By no later than 31 March of each REES year, an **obliged retailer** must ensure that all persons conducting **energy audits** or **energy efficiency activities** on behalf of that **obliged retailer** at a **premises** have undertaken all necessary training (including, without limitation, occupational health, safety and welfare training) to provide those **energy audits** or **energy efficiency activities** in accordance with the specifications of this Retailer Energy Efficiency Scheme Code and other legislative requirements.*
- 7.5.2. *At the request of the **Commission**, an **obliged retailer** must provide evidence (in the manner and form specified by the **Commission**) of the matters specified under clause 7.5.1.*

The assurance that all installers have completed the required training is to be provided in the Chief Executive Officer Statement required under clause 5.1.2(a) (iii).

In addition, the minimum specifications for the energy efficiency activities of installing an efficient showerhead, building sealing activities (various), and installing a CFL or LED general purpose lamp (refer minimum specifications gazetted by the Minister) require that:

The person undertaking this activity must satisfy the REES Code mandatory safety training requirements. Registered Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Electricians and Building Work Supervisors are exempt from this requirement.

¹ A copy the REES Code is available at: <http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/residential-energy-efficiency-scheme-rees/rees-code.aspx>

1.2 REES energy audits training requirements

The Minister's specification for REES energy audits² describes the competencies required of a person conducting a REES energy audit.

For the purposes of demonstrating a person has the necessary competencies, it must be shown that:

- (a) The person has received a qualification commensurate with the Statement of Attainment for the following three units of the Certificate IV in Home Sustainability Assessment;
 - CPPHSA4001A *Assess Household Energy Use; and*
 - CPPHSA4005A *Minimise health, safety and security risks when assessing home sustainability; and*
 - CPPHSA4007A *Promote the adoption of home sustainability practices by residents; or*
- (b) The person has received a Statement of Attainment for the units CPPHSA4001A and CPPHSA4005A, described above, and these units were delivered in a way that has embedded the core principles of unit CPPHSA4007A to the satisfaction of the Department for State Development.

As indicated above, the Certificate IV in Home Sustainability Assessment includes a unit dealing with necessary elements of occupational health, safety and welfare training.³

A person undertaking energy audits under the REES scheme who meets the minimum requirements in the Minister's specifications will have met the REES Code mandatory safety training requirements (clause 7.5).

1.3 REES energy efficiency activities training requirements

The key concern of the Commission in implementing mandatory training requirements is to ensure REES activities are undertaken safely and that customers can be confident that people installing devices in their premises have received a basic level of training, particularly in areas such as Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare.

Registered Plumbers, Gas Fitters, Electricians⁴ and Building Work Supervisors⁵ are exempt from the REES Code mandatory safety requirements because in order to gain registration they have undertaken an appropriate level of safety training. As a result, it has also not been necessary to include the mandatory safety training requirement in the specifications for the REES activities where those activities are only permitted by law to be undertaken by registered tradespersons.

The install standby power controller (SPC) REES activity requires that the Commission must approve the manner of installation and the form and manner of training that must be provided to a residential customer, prior to the activity being undertaken. The SPC specification does not state the requirement for a SPC installer to satisfy the REES Code mandatory safety training requirements, as this is assessed as part of the Commission's approval process for the manner of installation. Refer to REES Bulletin No.10 for further information on the SPC approval process.⁶

² An energy audit undertaken by an obliged retailer for the purposes of REES must comply with the specification as published by the Minister from time to time; a copy of the most recent version is available at: http://www.sa.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/135913/REES-energy-audit-specification.pdf.

³ A number of registered training organisations are accredited to deliver these modules of the Certificate IV in Home Sustainable Assessment. To obtain a list of these organisations:

- Enter the following link into a web browser; <http://training.gov.au/Home/Tga>
- Go to bottom of page and enter code **CPP41110** in the Quick Search Box under **Nationally Recognised Training**
- You can then select **Find RTOs approved to deliver this qualification** - under **Delivery**.

⁴ Under the *Plumbers, Gas Fitters and Electricians Act 1995*.

⁵ Under the *Building Work Contractors Act 1995*.

⁶ Available at: <http://www.escosa.sa.gov.au/residential-energy-efficiency-scheme-rees/rees-bulletins.aspx>.

Mandatory safety requirements have not been specified for REES activities that do not require installation of a product to be a valid REES activity.⁷

For those retailers and/or third party providers developing their own in-house training, the adequacy of such training in meeting the REES mandatory safety requirements will be assessed by the Commission when reviewing REES-obliged retailer compliance plans. In undertaking this task, the Commission will verify that any in-house training schemes have been developed to a standard of comparable quality to recognised external training units as relevant to the performance of REES activities.

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⁷ For example, the purchase of high efficiency appliances and installation of high efficiency pool pump activities are aimed at encouraging a householder to select a more energy efficiency device at the time of purchase and as such the activity is promotional.