

GETTING STARTED WITH #REPOWER

IN YOUR #REPOWER ACTION KIT:

1. **This booklet, "Getting Started with #Repower"**
2. **2 x A4 handouts, "Sample Survey Questions" and "Recording Sheet"**
3. **1 x #Repower flyer**
4. **1 x #Repower Victoria sticker**

This kit contains information about the #Repower campaign, plus some sample resources for getting started and joining in with the Repower Victoria Community Survey action.

There are more copies of the flyer and stickers available today for people who are keen to get their local #Repower campaign started straight away.

WHAT IS #REPOWER?

We can't keep powering our lives with polluting fuels from the last century. It's time to repower our communities with clean, renewable energy from the sun, wind and water. So let's get on with it!

Repower is a new national campaign calling for Australia to transition fairly from dirty coal and gas to 100% renewable electricity by 2030. It recognises that climate change is already here, and that we can't wait for our federal government and the big polluting energy companies to lead. It's up to us, right now.

We want the transition to be fast and fair. Together, we can make it happen.

The challenge

By digging up and burning coal and gas, big polluting energy companies are damaging our climate and our lungs.

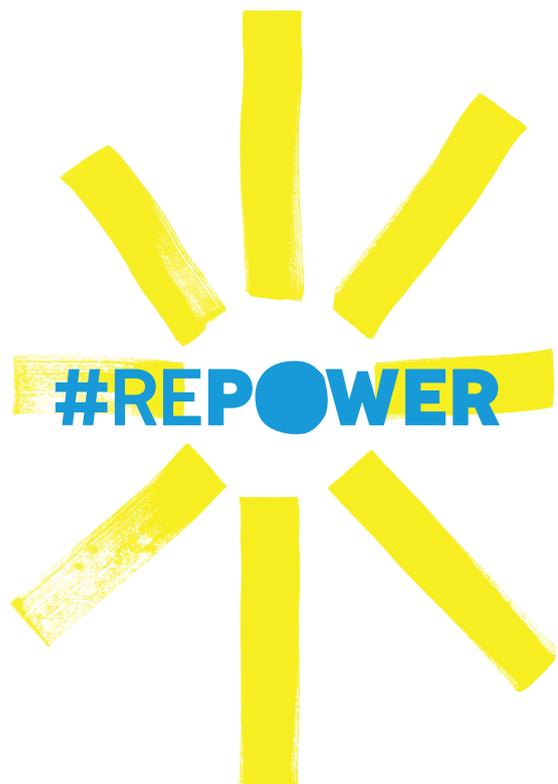
Coal and gas pollute the air we breathe and the water we drink. They overwhelm our planet's physical systems, threaten our reefs and harm our communities. It's time to move on from these dirty and dangerous fuels.

The solution - clean energy

Just as people invented antibiotics and the internet, we're always discovering better ways to meet our needs. We can repower Australia with energy that doesn't harm our planet or our communities. We can completely transform how we use and generate energy. We've done it before. We're doing it now.

Rooftop by rooftop, communities across our country have taken the lead. Today, one in five households are capturing energy from the sun on their rooftops. Some 23 million solar panels are harvesting sunshine. That's a panel for every single person in the country.

And yet more than 85 percent of Australia's energy still comes from burning dirty fuels like coal and gas. Why?



The barrier

For too long, big polluting companies have had too much power over our elected representatives. They've been spreading misinformation and corrupting our democracy, trying to keep us handcuffed to the energy sources of the past. In turn, some politicians have joined them, running scare campaigns to sabotage the transition to clean energy.

Our federal government is refusing to lead and make a national plan to manage the transition to clean energy.

And here in Victoria the state opposition is also trying to block the transition to clean energy. They've promised if elected to roll back efforts to grow clean energy and lock us into another decade or more of polluting coal.

People power creates change in Australia. On issue after issue, we've seen how grassroots campaigns and organised communities can change the political debate from the ground up.

Renewable energy has overwhelming popular support across the country. It's time for everyone, everywhere to demand our elected representatives listen to the people.

Communities everywhere are already showing the way. Households, businesses and local institutions like schools and hospitals are installing solar. Climate and environment groups are drawing attention to the damage pollution causes and the need for clean renewable energy. Repower isn't trying to replicate this work, but amplify it under a shared banner, and turn it into unstoppable political pressure.

Together, we are more powerful. So the campaign

#REPOWER IS CALLING FOR AUSTRALIA TO TRANSITION FAIRLY FROM DIRTY ENERGY TO 100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY BY 2030.



has one big shared goal: #Repower is calling for Australia to transition fairly from dirty energy to 100% renewable electricity by 2030.

What's happening in Victoria?

Victoria has abundant wind and sun, plus a target to power our state with 40 percent renewable energy by the year 2025, with 5400 megawatts of new wind and solar (that's the equivalent of 3 and a half Hazelwood power stations).

To reach that goal, the Andrews government needs to get on with passing legislation and committing to build large-scale wind and solar farms. Meanwhile, the Coalition must stop their attacks on renewable energy jobs and investment, and support the state's renewable energy target. Local Repower campaigns can build community pressure for these things in the lead-up to the 2018 state election.



HOW #REPOWER WORKS - THE BIG PICTURE

Repower builds from the grassroots up to the state and national level. It's focused, coordinated and disciplined, but decentralised. No single group or organisation owns or controls the campaign, but it presents a united front (the most recent example of this kind of campaign in Australia is #StopAdani). Here's an overview of how it works at each level.

#Repower your town / suburb



What does it mean?

Local communities and institutions increase the visibility of local action to switch to 100% renewable energy and call on their state and federal MPs to support #Repower.

How will we achieve it?

Local people working together in their towns and suburbs to:

- celebrate local Repower Champions,
- push for more local institutions to take the Pledge to Repower,
- show their support for clean energy to federal and state MPs.

#Repower Victoria



What does it mean?

Victoria plays our part to ensure we achieve the national switch to 100% renewable electricity, starting with passing the Victorian Renewable Energy Target legislation for 40% renewable energy by the year 2025, with 5400 megawatts of new wind and solar.

How will we achieve it?

Active local Repower campaigns in key areas and across the state putting pressure on Victorian MPs to support #Repower.

Victorian movement coordination to join forces at key moments.

#Repower Australia



What does it mean?

Australia transitions fairly from dirty energy to 100% renewable electricity by 2030.

How will we achieve it?

Diverse campaigns and actions from organisations and grassroots groups across the country putting pressure on federal politicians to support #Repower.

National movement coordination to join forces at key moments.

HOW #REPOWER WORKS - YOUR LOCAL CAMPAIGN

Solar panels can power a building, but it takes communities to power change. When enough of us stand up for clean energy to cut climate pollution, our elected representatives have to support it.

The ultimate goal of Repower isn't just to get more solar panels installed – although that's an awesome side-benefit. The ultimate goal is to influence your state and federal MPs to support Australia transitioning fairly to 100% renewable electricity by 2030.

KEY DEFINITIONS...

Local Repower campaign team



A team of people working in their local area to call on their state and federal MPs to support getting Australia to 100% renewable electricity by 2030.

Repower Community Survey



A survey that engages the community to draw out local people and institutions who have already installed solar or switched to a 100% renewable electricity provider. It also collects results and personal messages to present to state and federal MPs.

Pledge to Repower



A statement by a local institution pledging two things:

1. Support for Australia transitioning fairly to 100% renewable electricity.
2. Commitment to switch to a 100% renewable electricity provider or install renewable energy, like solar panels, to meet their electricity needs.

Local institution



An organisation or business that is prominent in your local area and has links to a constituency of local people. Examples include sporting clubs, RSLs, bowls clubs, shopping centres, schools, childcare centres, churches and hospitals...but you choose who to approach!

Repower Champion



A local institution that will champion clean energy in the community. To become a Repower Champion, the institution needs to meet these criteria:

1. It has already switched to a 100% renewable electricity provider or installed solar panels OR it has Pledged to Repower AND
2. It signs up to support the goal of Australia transitioning fairly to 100% renewable electricity.

SUGGESTED #REPOWER CAMPAIGN PHASES

Repower is local and grassroots, so every campaign will be different. The following timeline is just a guide to help your team plan its activities. Having said that, we're more powerful when we work together, so the timeline includes a few big shared moments – such as the **Repower Day of Action on July 15**.



Getting Started

Form your #Repower campaign team

Suggested activities

Decide the scale of your campaign – e.g. are you focused on repowering your town or suburb, your local government area, or will you use your state electorate name to get the attention of your MP?

Choose an appropriate name e.g. Repower Ringwood or Repower Frankston.

Hold a kick-off planning meeting with people in your area or group keen to join in with Repower.

Survey the community

Suggested activities

Survey local people via street stalls, doorknocking or at events in your community.

MP contact

Write to your MPs or ask to meet with them to share your Repower survey results. Tell them how many conversations you've had, how much support there is for renewables, and how many people want them to help speed up the transition to clean energy.



Credit: Rodney Dekker

Next steps

Identify and celebrate local #Repower Champions

Suggested activities

Reach out to institutions in your area that have already switched to renewable energy - congratulate them, give them a certificate to put up in a shopfront or somewhere public, and ask them to sign up to be a Repower Champion.

Celebrate local Repower Champions through an event inviting them to tell their story of why and how they switched to renewable electricity.

MP contact

Ask local Repower Champions to contact their MP, explain the action they've taken and ask them to help speed up the transition to clean energy.

Invite your local MPs to come to your event celebrating Repower champions.

Support and influence more local institutions to Pledge to #Repower

Suggested activities

Reach out to local institutions that you and your community think would be great to Repower. Ask them to Pledge to Repower to show their commitment to renewable energy.

Design your campaign to get key local institutions to Pledge to Repower - these campaigns will be different depending on the institution you choose and what barriers they face in deciding to switch to renewable energy.

MP contact

Celebrate any institutional Pledges to Repower by letting your local community, local media and your MPs know about them.

Ask institutions that Pledge to Repower to contact your MP, explain the pledge they've made and ask them to help speed up the transition to clean energy.



**REPOWER
DAY OF ACTION
JULY 15!**

**Support the Victorian
Renewable Energy Target.**

Join Repower groups across
Victoria in a blitz of surveys
and activities.

WHAT SUPPORT CAN ENVIRONMENT VICTORIA PROVIDE?

#Repower campaign materials available as of 27 May 2017 at

environmentvictoria.org.au/repower-resources-hub

- Stickers, Tshirts, flyers, Repower sample surveys, templates for Repower Champions database.
- Repower Campaign Resource Kit = 10 x stickers, 100 x flyers, survey copies.

There's a limit of 1 campaign resource kit per Repower campaign group. If you are ready to get your local campaign cranking you can pick one up today.

Materials COMING SOON

- Repower Champions Poster/Certificates (with space to write the name of the local institution on it).
- Institution 'Pledge to Repower' support kit.

Promoting local #Repower events or meetings to Environment Victoria supporters

- If you want to connect with others in your area to share your Repower ambitions let us know.
- If you have a local Repower campaign event that you'd like help to promote we can email supporters in your area.

Contact us at:

repower@environmentvictoria.org.au

Skills Training

- We know many of you are highly skilled community campaigners already but there's always more to learn! We are running skills sessions today and holding a dedicated training day tomorrow, Sunday 28 May – free for Convergence attendees!
- We will be creating more training opportunities especially in community organising and campaign strategy skills. If you're keen for a certain type of training, please let us know.



Network support teams

The Network Support Teams (NEST) exist to support local campaigns connected to the Repower Victoria Network. NEST can provide guidance, resources, and support for things like recruitment, data management, and group building, as well as ongoing mentorship during your campaign.

To become a volunteer with NEST, or to seek support from NEST, please email Emma at repower@environmentvictoria.org.au

HOW TO STAY IN TOUCH

Read more about Environment Victoria's part in the national collaborative Repower campaign at environmentvictoria.org.au/repower

Contact Environment Victoria's Repower Team on repower@environmentvictoria.org.au



The Environment Victoria Repower team, Taegen, Adele, Emma and Cat.

