

# HOW TO HOLD A #REPOWER HOUR

## Thank you for putting your hand up to be part of #Repower Hour!

For one week in November, Victorians will gather in cafes, parks, living rooms, and community centres to plan the actions we need to support renewable energy over the summer.

This summer is crucial because it's the first since Hazelwood power station closed and state governments installed big batteries like the one Tesla is building in South Australia. The coal and gas lobby want government funds to build more dirty power stations, so they're getting ready to blame any blackouts or price spikes on wind and solar – no matter what the true cause.

We need to show that the community sees through these myths and continues to support clean, renewable energy.

#Repower Hours will be held during the Repower Week of Action over November 20-26, across Victoria and New South Wales. By taking part you'll be joining the rising tide of community action to support the transition to clean energy.

Hosting your very own #Repower Hour is easy – this simple guide will walk you through the steps to make yours a success!

## What's involved?

Hosting a #Repower Hour involves bringing together members of your community to begin plans for an action-packed summer. Most of the time will be spent getting to know each other, creating your first plans, and deciding on your first action. Here's an example of how it could run.

*Agenda at a glance:*

Time	Activity
30mins before start time	Attendees arrive, get a cuppa or share some food
10 mins	Welcome, introductions & show the Repower video
20 mins	Attendee story sharing
25 mins	Planning Summer actions for your #Repower campaign
5 mins	Take a group photo

At the end of the #Repower Hour, you should have the beginnings of a local team or network committed to taking action to stand up for renewable energy this summer. Using our materials and ideas or creating your own, you'll have a clear action planned to spread the love for clean energy in your community.

# TIPS FOR ORGANISING YOUR REPOWER HOUR

## Reach out to existing community groups

- Many areas have community groups already working on building or supporting renewable energy. They might be like-minded and would love to hear from you. They might also be happy to give you a hand. By working together to build and demonstrate community support for clean energy, our movement becomes much stronger.
- You might want to check out if there's an existing community energy group or other active climate or sustainability group in your area so that you can work together, or simply invite them to your #Repower Hour.

## Set a date and choose your event

Set a time and date in the week of Monday 20th - Sunday 26th November.

Your #Repower Hour event can be anything you choose to do. Here's some ideas

- A get together with a few friends at a local cafe
- A gathering of neighbours in your living room
- A larger event at your local community centre
- A BBQ at the local park
- Morning tea at your workplace
- A meeting with your faith group

## Register your #Repower Hour

- To help us record how many events are held, and to amplify your impact, make sure to register your #Repower Hour at:  
<https://environmentvictoria.org.au/get-involved-repower-hour>
- If you would like your event to be public, we can help promote it by listing your event on our Repower Events page, and sending an email to Repower supporters in your area. Email [repower@environmentvictoria.org.au](mailto:repower@environmentvictoria.org.au) if you're interested.

## Promote & invite people to your event

Invite everyone you know – your friends, colleagues, neighbours, community members, and family. You'd be surprised at how many people in your area care about clean energy. The more you spread the word, the more people will come along. Here are some promotion ideas:

- Set up a Facebook event and invite, email, call or text your friends and ask them to come along.
- You could drop invitations in the letterboxes of your town, or print them larger and post it up at your local community centres or shops.
- Don't forget to also send a reminder to folks you've invited or who have RSVP'd to your event a few days before your event is scheduled to take place. Reminders are crucial for people to get off the couch and actually come.

## Gather your resources and materials

Don't forget to pull together anything you might need at the event to make sure it runs smoothly. This could include:

- Some #Repower flyers for people who want extra information
- A #Repower campaign signup sheet
- A laptop, projector, and speakers for audio if you want to show slides or videos
- Some tea, coffee, and nibbles.

## AT YOUR #REPOWER HOUR

### Introduce yourself and the Repower Victoria campaign (5-10 minutes)

Take a few minutes to open the event by welcoming everyone and introducing yourself. You could explain:

- Why you believe in a fast and fair transition to 100% renewable energy
- What the #Repower Victoria campaign is – you can check out the website for ideas, and we'll share suggested talking points with all hosts before the week of #Repower Hours.
- Why this summer is an important time for renewable energy
- If you've got a laptop, tablet, or even a projector handy, you can show the 2 minute **#Repower video** that will be launched shortly before the week of Repower Hours. Once launched, it will be available on Environment Victoria's #Repower campaign page.

### Help attendees get to know each other (20 minutes)

It's important for the attendees to get to know each other at your #Repower Hour. We suggest using the following activity:

'Speed networking' is a great way for attendees to get to know each other - it's also a great way to break the ice and have some fun!

- Organise participants into two lines facing each other, and ask everyone to spend two minutes telling the person across from them why they're here (or a silly question like do you prefer cats or dogs?).
- When the two minutes is up, one line takes a step to the left so that everyone is facing a new partner, and they answer the same/different question.

Get in touch at [repower@environmentvictoria.org.au](mailto:repower@environmentvictoria.org.au) if you would like more ideas on helping attendees get to know each other.

## Plan actions on clean energy for summer (25 minutes)

Now that everyone knows each other better, now is the time to start planning your summer. Here are some suggestions:

- Read out our four examples of community actions (below)
- Elect someone to take notes
- Do a group brainstorm to think of more creative ways to support clean energy in your community this summer. Try to make sure that everybody gets a chance to contribute, and that you get out a wide range of ideas. To help with discussion, you could ask questions like:
  - *What can be done in our community this summer to show support for renewable energy?*
  - *What should we do if renewables come under attack this summer? Are there creative ways we could respond?*
  - *Should we form a local #Repower action group?*
  - *Are there existing groups that we could work with?*
- As a group, decide on what your first action should be. Commit to what next steps need to be taken to make your action happen. You might also like to decide on a next meeting date.

### Example community actions:

- Print out 20 Repower posters and ask businesses along the busiest local shopping strips to put them in their windows.
- Everyone commits to having a conversation with 10 friends to sign them up to be Repower supporters.
- Group holds a stall at the local markets to talk to people about the Repower campaign.
- Start a letter to the editor writing group of people who will snap into action and write to the paper whenever there is an article about renewable energy.

To ensure you're able to stay in touch with everyone, you might want to pass around the [group sign up sheet](#) available from our resources hub.

### LETTING YOUR MP KNOW

Not only is it important to be out in the community talking to people about renewable energy and a fair transition, we want your MP to know that you're doing this. Closer to the week of Repower Hours, we will release Environment Victoria's election policy platform, which will call for a fast and fair transition to 100% renewables by 2030.

To let your local MP know that you're out in the community spreading the facts, ask your attendees to sign a joint letter to your MP to be delivered along with the policy document. You can organise to deliver it, either yourself or with other attendees, to the MP's office one week later. Ask them to read it and respond to all of the local signatories to your letter.

## Take a photo and send it to us! (5 mins)

With such amazing efforts taking place right across the state, we are keen to show Australia what this incredible movement for clean energy looks like. Get your group together and take some photos. You could capture people taking action or include the #Repower poster for a bit of colour.

Make sure someone emails the photo straight away to [repower@environmentvictoria.org.au](mailto:repower@environmentvictoria.org.au) with information on your Repower Hour so we can start sharing your photos to the thousands of #Repower supporters throughout the week.



## AFTER YOUR REPOWER HOUR

### Let us know how it went

After your event is over – and before you come down from the buzz! – let us know how you went. This will be incredibly useful so we can track how much action is being taken, how many people are getting involved, and get feedback to improve future events. Email us at <mailto:repower@environmentvictoria.org.au>

### Follow up with attendees to say thanks

A couple of days after your event, send an email around to all attendees to thank them for attending. You could also share the group photo with them, and any notes that were taken during the group brainstorm, and the date and place of the next meetup.

### Got questions? Want some help?

At our #Repower Resources Hub you'll find lots of helpful resources, including:

- How to organise a #Repower action
- How to use social media for your event
- Repower flyers and posters

You can download all these materials on our website: <https://environmentvictoria.org.au/repower-resources/>.

If you've got further questions or would like extra support, please email the Network Support Team at [repower@environmentvictoria.org.au](mailto:repower@environmentvictoria.org.au).