

SA Aims To Be Leading Green Energy State

The South Australian Government says it wants to be Australia's leading user of renewable energy with up to 20 per cent of public sector energy use coming from green power by January 2008. "Our commitment to 20 per cent is double the next highest in Australia and will again put South Australia in an international leadership position," says SA Premier Mike Rann. Government sites including hospitals, schools, police stations and departmental buildings will now source green power. Rann says the purchase of green power, which will add about \$1.9 million a year to the State's power bill, will reduce the Government's greenhouse gas emissions by 21 per cent or 107,741 tonnes a year. South Australia has a whole-of-Government power contract which is negotiated with retailers. South Australia's Labor Government recently set a greenhouse target of 60 per cent of 1990 levels by 2050, and introduced legislation for a renewable energy target of 20 per cent by 2014. "We are giving these targets the force of law. No other government in Australia is doing this," says Rann. "I am now challenging local councils and business to commit to buying Green Power."

[Source esaa news]