
SME Business interview questions

Section 1: Understanding business' current electricity position

How does your business procure its electricity needs?

What percentage of input costs does electricity represent?

Does your business have a smart meter? If not, have you been approached to install a smart meter?

Over which months of the year is your energy consumption at its highest?

Over which time of the day do you think your energy consumption is at its highest? I.e. 12pm – 4pm 4pm – 9pm 9pm – 7am 7am – 12pm

Do you think your energy consumption will be increasing or decreasing over the next 3 years?

Section 2: Understanding the possible impact of tariff reforms on business'

Where you aware of SA Power Networks proposed transition to cost-reflective tariffs prior to this program?

What do you think of SA Power Networks proposed cost-reflective tariffs?

What issues does your business face in moving to a cost-reflective tariff?

Do you think the proposed transition peak-demand period is appropriate for your industry sector?

What price would your business be willing to pay for the installation of a smart meter to better understand their electricity costs prior to transitioning to cost-reflective tariffs?

Would your business be prepared to opt-in to a cost-reflective tariff without first installing a smart meter to better understand your energy use?

By how much do you think these tariff reforms will either increase or decrease the cost of your electricity bills?

Do you have access to the appropriate amount of information to determine what kind of impact these reforms may have on your electricity bills?

Section 3: Understanding the ability for the business to adapt to tariff reforms

What options are there for your business to manage the move the move to cost-reflective tariffs in order to offset rising costs?

Does your business have solar PV installed? If solar is installed, does it have storage to offset consumption outside of daylight hours? if no storage is installed why not? If solar is not installed, would your business consider solar (with or without storage) to offset grid electricity consumption?

If the move to cost-reflective tariffs leaves you with a higher overall electricity cost are you able to pass this cost onto your customers?

How long do you think it would take the business to make the appropriate changes to its operations in order to manage the move to cost-reflective tariffs?

Section 4: What assistance might businesses require

What assistance would be of most help to businesses in each sector in transitioning to cost-reflective tariffs?(i.e. expert advice on improving load factors and shifting loads or installing peak shaving equipment.)

Who would the business prefer to go to for advice on managing move to cost-reflective tariffs? (i.e. private consultant, SA Power Networks, Business SA or industry association such as SA Wine Industry Association, State Government, Federal Government etc.)
