South Australian Chamber Of Mines & Energy

9 June 2026

SACOME Submission
Exposure Draft National Environmental Standard (Environmental Offsets) 2026

The South Australian Chamber of Mines and Energy (SACOME) welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Exposure Draft National Environmental Standard (Environmental Offsets) 2026.

SACOME supports the development of a nationally consistent framework for environmental offsets and the objective of ensuring offset activities appropriately compensate for residual significant impacts and contribute to improved environmental outcomes.

SACOME welcomes subsection 12(3), which recognises approved State and Territory offsets may satisfy the requirement for additionality where they relate to the same action and affected protected matter. This is a practical recognition of the role State and Territory offset frameworks already play in environmental assessment processes and has the potential to reduce unnecessary duplication while maintaining environmental outcomes.

SACOME also notes that subsection 7(4)(a)(ii) provides for consistency with the standard through the payment of a restoration contribution charge. As outlined in DCCEEW's accompanying Policy Position Paper, the practical operation of the restoration contribution pathway will depend on methodologies, calculators and implementation arrangements that are still being developed.

Given the importance of these elements to the broader offsets framework, SACOME encourages the Australian Government to continue engaging with stakeholders as the restoration contribution framework and associated guidance are developed.

Overall, SACOME supports the direction of the draft standard and looks forward to continued engagement as the broader offsets framework is implemented.

Yours sincerely

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