

How Government Energy Grants typically work. - Northmore Gordon

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Certificates Our Environmental Attribute Certificate services help businesses accelerate technology adoption, improve project ROI, and manage claims of renewable energy, energy efficiency and carbon offset 1 carbon offset = 1 tonne of CO₂-e avoided or removed from the atmosphere. Avoided emissions covers activities that alter behaviour that would have otherwise caused emissions such as energy efficiency improvements or avoided deforestation. Removal covers activities that permanently remove CO₂ from the atmosphere such as new forestry plantations, soil carbon improvement or carbon capture and storage.

Live Certificate Prices The value of certificates change day-to-day, check today's prices Solar VEECs (VEU PBA) VEU PBA for Large-scale Solar Measurement & Verification (VEU & ESS) M&V; for Large C&I; Efficiency Projects (VEU PBA & ESS PIAM&V;) BESS Calculator Estimate the Peak Reduction Certificate revenue available to your NSW battery project in minutes ERF & Carbon Credit Registration ACCUs for Emission Reduction Projects Boiler Upgrades (VEU & ESS) NSW & VIC Boiler Rebates REC Registration (I-RECs & LGCs) Register renewable assets for I-RECs and LGCs Trade RECs & Carbon with us Trade Local & International Environmental Attribute Certificates moREnewable100 (RECs & Offsets) Reach Global Sustainability Goals with Certificates and Offsets Deemed Certificates (VEU & ESS) NSW & VIC Rebates Global Certificates Environmental Attribute Certificates Australian Programs Australian EAC Programs Case Studies Sectors Articles Team More Close More Open More Northmore Gordon Learn more about Northmore Gordon with the latest news and insights, were to find us, and the extensive terminology used in emissions reductions About Us Who we are & what we do in energy efficiency & decarbonization. Locations Find our offices near you. Contact Us Get in touch with our team. Careers Join our team making a sustainability difference Articles Learn about energy efficiency & carbon reduction. Latest News Stay informed on industry developments. Government Updates Track policy changes impacting your energy use. Accreditations See our certifications for trusted service. Glossary Define key terms in emissions reduction. How Government Energy Grants typically work. Danielle O'Reilly February 27, 2026 Articles Share this article Government energy grants can significantly reduce the capital cost of energy efficiency, electrification and decarbonisation projects. However, many organisations are unsure how these grants actually work — how they are structured, how competitive they are, and what is required to secure funding. This article explains how government energy grants in Australia typically operate, what to expect during the process, and what makes applications successful. What Is a Government Grant? A government energy grant is financial support provided by federal or state governments to encourage investment in: Energy efficiency upgrades Fuel switching and electrification Renewable energy systems Emissions reduction initiatives Industrial process improvements Unlike loans, grants do not need to be repaid. However, they are almost always competitive and subject to strict eligibility and assessment criteria. Most energy efficiency grants are designed to accelerate projects that would otherwise be delayed due to capital constraints or competing investment priorities. How Are Government Grants Structured? While every program is different, most government energy grants follow a similar structure. 1. Defined Objectives Each grant program has a clear policy objective. For example: Reduce industrial emissions Improve manufacturing competitiveness Support regional industry Accelerate electrification Increase renewable energy uptake Projects that strongly align with these objectives are more likely to succeed. 2. Co-Funding Requirement Most capital grants funding requires co-investment from the applicant. Typical structures include: 50% government funding / 50% applicant contribution Tiered funding caps (e.g. up to \$500,000 or \$5 million) Matched funding requirements This means organisations must demonstrate they have the financial capacity to complete the project. 3. Competitive Assessment Energy grants are rarely automatic. Applications are usually assessed against: Project merit Emissions reduction impact Energy savings Electricity or gas savings or both. Commercial viability Deliverability and timeline Value for money In many programs, funding is awarded to the highest-scoring projects rather than on a first-come basis. 4. Detailed Application Requirements Applications typically require: Technical project scope Engineering design or feasibility analysis Energy modelling or baseline data Financial modelling Quotes or cost breakdowns Risk assessment Implementation timeline For larger industrial projects, applications can be substantial and require coordination across engineering, finance and executive teams. Common Types of Energy Efficiency Grants in Australia Across Australia, government energy grants commonly support: Boiler upgrades and fuel switching Process heat electrification Compressed

air optimisation Industrial refrigeration upgrades Solar PV Solar Photovoltaic and battery systems Energy monitoring and optimisation systems Programs may be delivered at: Federal level State government level Industry-specific initiatives Regional development programs Each program has different eligibility rules and funding limits. What Makes a Strong Grant Application? Successful applications typically demonstrate three things clearly. 1. Measurable Energy and Emissions Impact Quantified energy savings and emissions reduction are critical. Strong applications include clear baseline data and transparent modelling assumptions. 2. A Well-Defined, Deliverable Project Assessors look for projects that are: Technically feasible Properly scoped Supported by supplier quotes Ready to proceed Projects that are too conceptual or poorly defined often struggle in competitive rounds. 3. Strategic Alignment The application should clearly show how the project supports: Government policy objectives Industry decarbonisation pathways Productivity and competitiveness improvements Grants are policy tools — alignment matters as much as technical merit. Typical Grant Process Timeline While timelines vary, most government energy grants follow this pattern: Program announced Guidelines released Application window opens (often 4–12 weeks) Submission and compliance check Assessment period (often several months) Funding agreements issued Project delivery and milestone reporting It is common for 3–6 months to pass between submission and funding approval. Organisations considering energy efficiency grants should plan accordingly and avoid assuming immediate funding confirmation. Key Risks and Misconceptions There are several common misunderstandings about government energy grants. “If we’re eligible, we’ll get funded.” Eligibility does not guarantee success. Most programs are oversubscribed. “We can design the project after approval.” Most grants require a well-developed scope at the time of application. “The grant will fund the entire project.” Most programs require significant co-investment. Understanding these realities early helps avoid wasted effort. Why Early Preparation Matters Because government energy grants are competitive and time-bound, preparation before a program opens can make a material difference. This may include: Conducting feasibility studies Developing preliminary engineering design Gathering baseline energy data Preparing financial models Identifying suitable funding programs Organisations that prepare early are typically better positioned to submit complete, competitive applications. Where Northmore Gordon Can Assist Many organisations manage grant applications internally, particularly where internal engineering and finance capability is strong. However, for complex industrial energy projects, the strength of the technical case often determines how competitive an application will be. Northmore Gordon’s approach is engineer-led. Applications are built from a robust technical foundation — including energy baselines, system modelling, feasibility analysis and realistic delivery planning — rather than being treated primarily as an administrative submission. This matters. Funding bodies assess risk, credibility and deliverability. When assumptions are unclear, modelling is weak, or scope is underdeveloped, projects lose competitive ground. An engineer-led process strengthens: The technical integrity of the project The credibility of savings and emissions claims The financial justification The confidence that the project can be delivered as proposed While organisations can apply internally, many choose specialist support to improve competitiveness, reduce internal workload and increase the likelihood of approval. Support can range from targeted technical input through to end-to-end application management and post-approval reporting. Decarbonisation , electrification , Energy Grants , Grants & Funding , Northmore Gordon You may also like: Australian Certificate Markets – August 2026 Update The Power of Big Battery Storage: BESS Unlocking the Future of Renewable Energy for Business Australian Certificate Markets – June 2026 Update. Latest Updates ASRS Group 3: are you in scope and don’t know it? September 18, 2026 Correct as at 13 September 2026. If your company is a large proprietary company, you Read More » Welcome to our August & September 2026 Compliance Update. September 1, 2026 This edition confirms Northmore Gordon’s accreditation for three new PDRS battery activities, tracks the VEUVictorian Read More » Where’s the value in renewable heat? 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