

\$100 million renewable energy program to fast-track grid-ready solar and battery projects - Northmore Gordon

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Removal covers activities that permanently remove CO₂ from the atmosphere such as new forestry plantations, soil carbon improvement or carbon capture and storage. certificates Live Certificate Prices The value of certificates change day-to-day, check todays 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. 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What has been announced The Clean Energy Finance Corporation, or CEFC, is working with infrastructure debt manager Infradebt to establish the Distribution Connected Accelerator Program. The program will provide concessional senior debt to eligible renewable energy projects, with applicants to be selected by Infradebt through a competitive process. The government said the initiative is intended to address the financing challenges faced by smaller renewable energy projects. While these projects may be technically viable, traditional project finance is often structured around larger developments. Projects supported through the program are expected to progress towards construction in 2027. Which projects will the program support? The program will primarily target projects with capacity of up to 5 MW, although larger projects may also be considered where appropriate. Potential projects include: hybrid solar and battery developments standalone battery energy storage projects battery retrofits for existing renewable energy projects. These projects occupy what the government describes as the “missing middle” between household rooftop solar and major utility-scale renewable energy developments. They may be large enough to supply renewable electricity or grid services to local businesses and communities, while remaining small enough to connect to existing electricity distribution infrastructure. Why distribution-connected projects matter Connecting renewable energy projects to existing distribution networks can, in some circumstances, allow them to be developed more quickly than projects that depend on major new transmission infrastructure. The government says the program will help make better use of existing poles, wires and network capacity, allowing additional renewable generation and storage to connect at a potentially lower cost and within a shorter timeframe. The projects may also strengthen local electricity networks by adding generation and storage closer to the businesses and communities that use the energy. Actual connection costs, timeframes and project viability will continue to depend on factors including local network capacity, technical requirements, approvals and individual project

economics. What the funding means for renewable energy developers For developers, sponsors and investors, the program may provide a new debt-financing pathway for projects that are ready to proceed but are considered too small for conventional project finance. Access to concessional senior debt could help eligible projects address funding gaps, reach financial close and move into construction. However, the announcement does not mean that every distribution-connected renewable energy project will receive funding. Applicants will need to participate in Infradebt's competitive selection process and demonstrate that their projects satisfy the relevant technical, commercial and delivery requirements. The new \$100 million program builds on an earlier \$150 million CEFC commitment to Infradebt. According to the government, Infradebt has financed more than 80 infrastructure projects over the past 13 years, including more than 40 distribution-connected renewable energy projects.

How certificates and incentives may affect project economics Debt finance is only one component of a renewable energy project's business case. Depending on the project's technology, location, size and operating model, environmental certificates or government incentive schemes may also contribute to project revenue or reduce the effective capital cost. For battery developers and asset owners, Northmore Gordon's Battery Storage Certificates guide outlines certificate opportunities that may be available for eligible battery energy storage systems. In New South Wales, eligible battery projects may be able to create Peak Reduction Certificates under the Peak Demand Reduction Scheme. The applicable pathway depends on factors including the battery's capacity, installation date, site type, network area, solar configuration and the relevant BESS activity. The new NSW BESS3 BESS3: battery systems for eligible apartment buildings , BESS4 BESS4: battery systems for eligible small and medium business sites and BESS5 BESS5: larger battery systems for eligible commercial and industrial sites activities are due to commence on 1 September 2026, covering eligible apartment, small and medium business, and larger commercial and industrial battery projects. In addition, the Federal Government has announced that solar systems up to 1MW will be eligible for STCs Small-scale Technology Certificate under the Australian Renewable Energy Target. More (small-technology certificates) under the SRET, further strengthening the economics for these mid-scale renewable energy projects. Developers should assess certificate eligibility before finalising equipment, project design or funding arrangements, as these decisions may affect the number and type of certificates a project can create. It is also important to distinguish the federal financing program from state-based certificate schemes. Receiving finance through the Distribution Connected Accelerator Program would not automatically make a project eligible for certificates or rebates. Opportunities for commercial solar projects Victorian commercial solar developers may also need to consider whether their projects qualify under the Victorian Energy Upgrades program. Northmore Gordon's article, Earn More from C&I; Solar – What Activity 47 Means for You , explains the certificate pathway for eligible commercial and industrial solar installations. Activity 47 enables upfront deemed Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates to be created for eligible solar photovoltaic systems between 30 kW and 200 kW. Larger Victorian solar systems may be able to access other measurement and verification pathways, depending on their size and circumstances. These certificate pathways are separate from the new federal financing program, but they may be relevant when developers assess the overall economics of eligible solar and hybrid projects.

What prospective applicants should do next Developers, sponsors and investors with grid-ready renewable energy projects should monitor the detailed application and eligibility requirements released by Infradebt. Before applying, project proponents should be prepared to demonstrate: the project's technical and commercial viability its connection status and available network capacity its proposed construction timetable the amount and structure of the required finance the project team's delivery capability the availability of equity and any additional funding any relevant certificate, rebate or incentive opportunities. Certificate eligibility and government funding should be assessed early in the development process. Project proponents should also confirm whether accepting one form of government support could affect access to another program. The Distribution Connected Accelerator Program creates a potential new financing pathway for grid-ready solar, battery and hybrid renewable energy projects. Developers and asset owners should consider the financing program alongside available environmental certificates, state-based incentives and other project revenue streams. Northmore Gordon can assist with assessing renewable energy and battery projects, identifying applicable certificate opportunities and incorporating available incentives into the project

business case. Official source: Australian Government – Minister for Climate Change and Energy: \$100 million to fast track grid-ready renewable energy projects, published 3 August 2026. You may also like: ASRS Group 3: are you in scope and don't know it? Welcome to our August & September 2026 Compliance Update. Australian Certificate Markets – August 2026 Update Latest Updates ASRS Group 3: are you in scope and don't know it? Correct as at 13 September 2026. If your company is a large proprietary company, you may be legally required to report under Australia's mandatory climate Read More » Welcome to our August & September 2026 Compliance Update. This edition confirms Northmore Gordon's accreditation for three new PDRS battery activities, tracks the VEUVictorian Energy Upgrades is a Victorian government energy efficiency program that Read More » Australian Certificate Markets – August 2026 Update Price Summary Certificate Open Close Range Effective cap Movement / Reason PRC \$2.70 \$3.35 \$2.70 – \$3.35 \$3.80 ▲ Rallied from 14 August on the Read More » Where's the value in renewable heat? Most renewable heat conversations start with a technology question: heat pump, biomass, biogas, or electrify the whole boiler? It's the wrong starting point. The full Read More » Beyond annual matching: The evolution of time-stamped RECs For more than a decade, Renewable Energy Certificates (RECSl-RECs, GOs, TIGRs Tradeable Instrument for Global Renewables (TIGR) Registry is an online platform for tracking and transferring renewable energy certificates (RECS), enabling developers to generate,verify and sell RECs. The registry is run by APX, a US company that provides infrastructure for environmental markets around the world. , LGCs, ZNECs, J-Credits) have underpinned global renewable electricity procurement. By purchasing RECs equivalent to Read More » Solar irrigation upgrades: Don't let certificate funding go unclaimed Irrigation pumps are one of the biggest hidden costs on an Australian farm. In particular, if they run on diesel, they're exposed to fuel price swings, need constant Read More » Get in touch Australia 1300 854 561 (Advisory) 1300 878 500 (Certificates) Melbourne Suite 1, Level 4 607 Bourke Street Melbourne VIC 3000 Singapore +65 6690 2480 Singapore 1 Keong Saik Road, Singapore 089109 Stay up to date Alternatively, complete the form and we will be in touch with you. First Name Last Name Email Phone Number Country Australia Singapore Subject Message Send Services Energy Audit Services M&V; Services EEO Assessments Corporate Energy and Carbon Management Grants and Program Strategic Energy Sourcing Virtual Energy Manager Climate Active Certification Sectors Animal Processing Chemical Processing Commercial Buildings Food & Beverage Manufacturing Mining Oil & Gas Pharmaceutical & Health Products Public Sector Waste & Wastewater Wood, Paper & Cardboard Processing Upgrades Boiler Upgrades Commercial Lighting Hot Water Systems Mid Scale Solar NABERS Public Lighting Refrigerated Display Cabinets Solar PV Small Scale UPS Certificates Live Certificate Prices International Renewable Energy Certificates Tradable Instrument for Global Renewables Australian Carbon Credit Units Energy Savings Certificates Large-scale Generation Certificates Small-scale Technology Certificates Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates Government Schemes Emissions Reduction Fund Energy Savings Scheme Renewable Energy Target Victorian Energy Upgrades Helpful Links About us Meet the Team Careers Contact us Articles News Glossary Privacy Policy Complaints