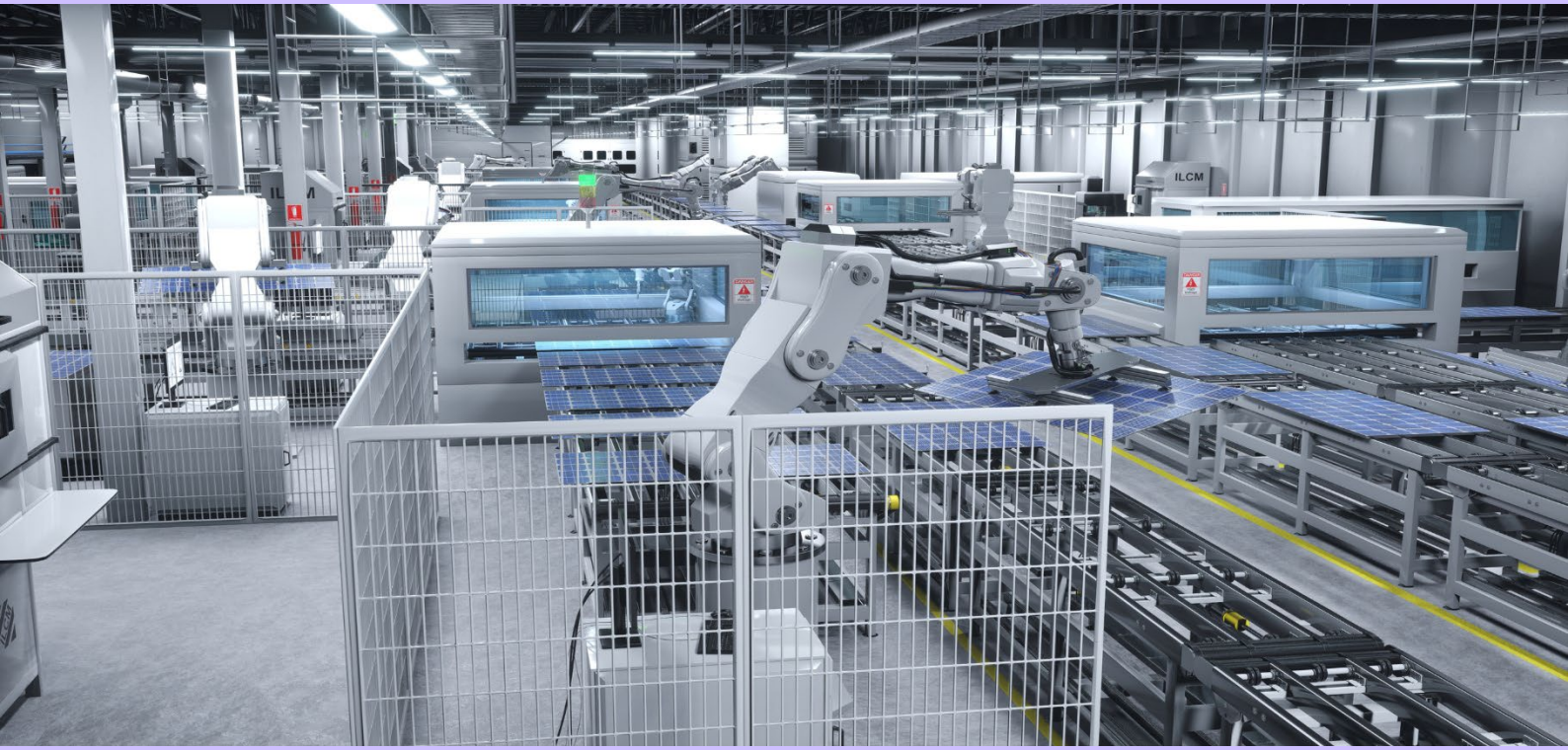
Department of Climate Change,
Energy, the Environment and Water

Renewable Manufacturing Grant



Funding guidelines

June 2026

NSW GOVERNMENT

Acknowledgment of Country

Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land and pays respect to Elders past, present and future.

We recognise Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to place and their rich contribution to society.

Artist and designer Nikita Ridgeway from Aboriginal design agency – Boss Lady Creative Designs, created the People and Community symbol.

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1. Introduction

1.1 About this grant opportunity

Under the Renewable Manufacturing grant, up to $100 million in grant funding is available to support NSW's renewable energy generation, storage and transmission projects by stimulating local manufacturing for the renewable energy sector.

We will invest between $5 million to $30 million per project, for up to 50% of the eligible project costs. Funding may only be used towards eligible costs as outlined in Section 4.5 of these guidelines.

Funding is targeted at projects which will manufacture eligible renewable energy products at a commercial scale. These eligible products include:

- components suitable for grid-scale renewable energy generation, storage, and transmission such as, but not limited to, wind towers, solar panels, batteries and transmission cables.

This opportunity is a competitive grant with a single-stage application and assessment process. Projects must be completed within 4 years after the execution of a funding deed, and no later than 2032.

The objectives of this grant opportunity are to:

- drive economic growth across NSW
- grow NSW's renewable energy supply chain capacity and capability
- alleviate supply chain risk and secure supply for the NSW renewable energy sector.

Applicants with projects based in the Hunter and Illawarra regions are encouraged to apply as these are areas of strategic interest for the NSW Government.

1.2 Purpose of these guidelines

These guidelines provide important information for applicants, including:

- key dates and timeframes
- how to apply
- critical information required to support your application
- eligibility and merit criteria

- the types of projects and costs that we will fund.

These guidelines must be read in conjunction with the Renewable Manufacturing grant supplementary guidance published on our website and frequently asked questions.

We also recommend you use the eligibility checker tool on our website to help determine which grant stream is right for you.

This grant opportunity is part of the Net Zero Manufacturing Initiative (the initiative) and is administered by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department). If you have any questions about these guidelines or this grant opportunity, visit our website or email us at netzeromanufacturing@environment.nsw.gov.au.

1.3 Delivering net zero manufacturing

The NSW Government is committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050 and supporting industry to decarbonise. The Net Zero Manufacturing Initiative aims to build local manufacturing capacity and capability to deliver critical components for NSW's emerging renewable energy sector and new low carbon products.

This supports the Net Zero Plan to fast-track emissions reductions over the next decade, combat climate change, grow the economy, create jobs and attract investment.

The NSW Government is also committed to supporting jobs and ensuring NSW has affordable, clean and reliable electricity. The Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap (Roadmap) sets out the government's plan to replace the state's aging energy infrastructure with a modern grid and new, low carbon energy sources.

We have allocated up to $225 million in funding in this round for 3 grant streams:

- Low Carbon Product Manufacturing
- Renewable Manufacturing
- Clean Technology Innovation.

2. Key stages and timeframes

This grant follows a single-stage application and assessment process.

Table 1 shows the indicative timeframes for the Renewable Manufacturing grant. These are subject to change at the discretion of the department.

Table 1: Key stages and timeframes

Stage	Timeframe
Applications open	2 June 2026
Applications close	25 August 2026 at 12:00 pm (AEST)
Notification of outcomes	After February 2027, or as soon as the department has finalised decisions. Successful applicants will need to sign a confidentiality and conflict of interest document and funding deed.
Agreement and project commencement	Agreement formation can commence once an applicant has signed and returned their confidentiality and conflict of interest document. The project will begin once both parties have signed a funding deed.
Project announcement	As led by the department. A public announcement may occur any time after the signing of a funding deed.
Project monitoring	Throughout the life of the grant. This includes monitoring data on key project activities, achievements, expenditure and progress. The frequency of reporting and requirements will be outlined in the funding deed.
Project completion	Fully delivered and operational within 4 years of executing a funding deed and no later than 30 June 2032.
Project evaluation	Successful applicants will be required to participate in an evaluation after project completion. This may occur within 2 years after your project's completion and requires you to provide evidence of how your project has delivered measurable benefits consistent with the objectives of the Renewable Manufacturing grant.

3. Application and assessment process

This grant involves a single-stage application and assessment process. You must submit a detailed application that explains your project and addresses the eligibility and merit criteria outlined in these guidelines.

All applications are assessed for eligibility and endorsed by the Program Director. Only eligible projects will proceed to be merit assessed by an Independent Assessment Team. A Review Panel will then convene to finalise the results of the assessment and make recommendations on suitable projects for funding. The Program Sponsor will make the final decision on the projects to be funded.

The department will then notify applicants of the outcome of their application. Successful applicants will be sent a written offer and must sign a confidentiality and conflict of interest document. Successful applicants will also be subject to a media embargo unless notified by the department.

Table 2 identifies the key roles and responsibilities for key steps in the assessment process.

Table 2: Assessment roles and responsibilities

Role	Responsibility
Department Program Team	• Conducts eligibility assessment • Review Panel secretariat • Notifies applicants of the outcome of assessment
Program Director	• Endorses eligible applications • Chairs Review Panel meeting(s)
Independent Assessment Team	• Conducts merit assessment and due diligence
Review Panel	• Recommends projects for funding
Program Sponsor – Deputy Secretary, Energy, Climate Change and Sustainability	• Final approver of projects for funding

The following is an overview of what to expect as part of the application process.

Step 1: Identify which grant is right for you

Before applying:

- visit our website to read up to date information about this grant opportunity
- use the eligibility checker tool on our website to help identify which Net Zero Manufacturing Initiative grant your project may be best suited for
- read the Renewable Manufacturing grant supplementary guidance on our website
- register for our Information and Q&A session on our website.

If you have any questions about your project's eligibility, read our frequently asked questions or email us at netzeromanufacturing@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Step 2: Complete and submit your application

All NSW Government grant opportunities can be found on the NSW Grants and Funding website. You must submit your application using the NSW Government's Grant Management System (GMS) before the application closing date and time.

The following outlines the list of activities all applicants must complete to submit a completed application.

Create your application

Once you create your application via the GMS, you can edit it at any stage before you submit it by the application closing date.

Prepare the required information

As part of the application process, we require information about you and your project. The information you provide will be assessed, and includes:

- details about you (and any partner organisations[1] if relevant)
- details about your project, including:

[1] Partner Organisations are groups that support the project but are not formally responsible for the application. They may provide services, resources, or help with implementation. They are not accountable for the overall delivery or reporting of the project.

  - where in NSW your project is based
  - the total project cost and amount of funding being requested
  - the proposed timeframes for your project
  - any background and proposed outcomes
  - details of the facility's operational control post commissioning.
- a completed **Merit Criteria Response** which provides evidence to support any claims or aspects of your application. This proposal should clearly address each item within the Merit Criteria outlined in Section 5 of these guidelines
- a completed workbook identifying:
  - the key project milestones
  - the project budget
  - any key contractors
  - a list of project assets
  - a risk management plan.

Review the funding deed template

If your application is successful, you will be required to sign a funding deed before your project can commence. The funding deed will capture key information about your project and the terms associated with the funding (see Section 6.1 in these guidelines for more information).

A copy of the funding deed will be available to review as part of the application process.

If you have any requests for departures from the funding deed, you must submit them with your application. The department is the final authority on whether your request will be considered.

Declare and submit your application

You must review your application carefully to make sure you have provided all the required information and must also complete a declaration and authorisation.

All applications must be submitted before the application close date. If you do not receive an email confirming receipt of your application, please email us at netzeromanufacturing@environment.nsw.gov.au.

Step 3: Application assessment

The department will oversee the assessment process which will involve the following components:

- Eligibility assessment: your application will be reviewed against the eligibility criteria identified in Section 4 of these guidelines. Applications deemed as ineligible will not be considered for further assessment.
- Merit assessment: an independent assessment team will assess eligible applications against the merit criteria identified in Section 5 of these guidelines. A ranking report will be generated through the comparative assessment of applications against the merit criteria.
- Review and recommendation: an independent review panel will recommend projects for funding by reviewing the results of the assessment and ensure they align with the portfolio and policy objectives of the NSW Government.
- Due diligence: we will undertake a comprehensive check on your (and any partner) organisation, such as background and legal checks, financial capacity, and corporate structures.
- Approval of projects for funding: the Program Sponsor will make the final decision on the projects approved for funding.

An independent probity advisor will oversee the entire process to ensure assessments are undertaken in a fair, honest and transparent manner.

During the assessment process, we may request clarifications from you via email or through the GMS. This is not an opportunity to add to or improve your application and any new information will not be considered. Confidentiality will be maintained throughout this assessment process.

Step 4: Notification of assessment

Following a final decision, we will notify all applicants of the outcome of assessment. If your application is successful, we will send you a written offer and a funding deed.

If your application is unsuccessful, we will notify you of the outcome via email and give you an opportunity to request feedback.

Step 5: Project commencement

Your project can commence once you and the department have signed and executed a funding deed.

Variations to your project

If there are any changes to your project after the execution of a funding deed, you must notify us as soon as possible.

In some cases, a formal variation may be required. A variation is a formal change made to the funding deed (for example scope, timeframe, budget) and must be agreed to in writing by all parties.

If required, you must submit a variation for the department's consideration. We will determine whether to reject or accept the proposed change as a variation. Your project's eligibility must remain unaffected otherwise it may no longer be eligible to receive grant funding.

4. Eligibility criteria

To be eligible for funding, you must satisfy all the eligibility criteria outlined below. Eligibility applies throughout assessment and the life of the grant, including after a funding deed has been signed.

If there is a change to your project, you must notify us as soon as possible as your project's eligibility may be impacted. If we find you have provided misleading or inaccurate information, your project may be deemed ineligible. If you or your project is deemed ineligible your application may not progress any further or have its funding withdrawn.

We will only enter into a funding deed with the applicant that was assessed during the application process. Any changes to the applicant must be approved by the department in writing. The department reserves the right to determine eligibility based on the newly proposed applicant's ability to satisfy the eligibility criteria.

For more information on the requirements for each eligibility criterion, read the Renewable Manufacturing grant supplementary guidance on our website.

4.1 Eligible applicants

Applicants can be based internationally, interstate or in NSW. To be eligible for funding, you as the applicant must:

- hold or be willing to obtain an Australian Business Number (ABN) prior to executing a funding deed
- be or will become an entity type listed below prior to executing a funding deed:
  - a company incorporated in Australia
  - a company limited by guarantee
  - an incorporated trustee on behalf of a trust
  - an incorporated association or co-operative
  - an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Corporation registered under the Corporations (Aboriginal and /or Torres Strait Islander) Act 2006
- be or will become registered for goods and services tax (GST) prior to signing a funding deed
- hold or obtain all insurances required by law including $20 million public liability insurance and current worker's compensation policy, prior to executing a funding deed

- be solvent, of going concern, able to pay debts when they fall due and not be subject to any insolvency event including the subject of an order or resolution for winding up or dissolution (other than for the purposes of reconstruction or amalgamation) or the appointment of a receiver, liquidator, administrator or similar.
- not be listed on the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade sanctions list
- disclose any legal proceedings or investigations including litigation, arbitration, mediation or conciliation that are taking place, pending or (to the best of the applicant's knowledge, after having made proper enquiry) threatened against the applicant or a related body corporate (as defined in the Corporations Act) that may adversely impact your ability to fulfil your obligations under the funding deed
- disclose all Australian Government and/or Australian state or territory grants applied for in relation to your proposed project including a history of any grant funding over the last 5 years (including both successful and unsuccessful applications)
- declare you materially comply with all:
  - obligations under employment contracts, industrial agreements and awards
  - codes of conduct and practice relevant to conditions of service and to the relations between the applicants and the employees employed by the applicant
  - applicable Workplace Health and Safety legislation
- achieve Foreign Investment Review Board (FIRB) approval before the commencement of your project, should it be required.

4.2 Ineligible applicants

You are an ineligible applicant if you are:

- an Australian or NSW Government agency, state owned corporation or statutory authority
- a local government authority or their Section 355 committees
- an organisation that does not have an ABN and is unable to obtain an ABN prior to executing a funding deed
- an unincorporated association
- any other unincorporated organisation
- an individual (including sole traders)
- a business which is insolvent.

4.3 Eligible projects

To be eligible for funding, you must confirm that your proposed project:

- will deliver new or expanded industrial facilities located in NSW
- will manufacture eligible renewable energy products at commercial scale[2]. This includes:
  - components suitable for grid-scale renewable energy generation, storage, and transmission such as, but not limited to, wind towers, solar panels, batteries and transmission cables
- is expected to be fully delivered within 4 years of execution of the funding deed and no later than 30 June 2032
- is sustainable without continued government investment
- would not occur in NSW at all, or in the same timeframe, without government support
- has a funding need from this grant opportunity in the range of $5 million to $30 million, representing no more than 50% of the eligible project costs
- has a viable commercial strategy
- has a minimum financial contribution of at least 50% of the eligible project costs from non-NSW Government sources (for example, applicant, collaborators, private or other public organisations). In-kind (non-financial) contributions are not counted towards the 50% contribution for the eligible project costs.

Table 3 provides examples of projects that are eligible for funding under this grant. This list is non-exhaustive and is intended to give applicants an idea of the type of projects that are eligible and their key benefits.

[2] The technologies and processes used to manufacture the renewable energy components must be within the Commercial Readiness Index (CRI) 3-6. Refer to the RM supplementary guidance for CRI descriptions.

Table 3: Examples of eligible projects

Example of eligible project
Construction of lithium-ion battery manufacturing plant to supply electric vehicle and utility-scale energy storage markets.
Construction of a new wind turbine component manufacturing facility. The facility will manufacture and assemble wind turbine components for local and export markets.
Solar cell and module manufacturing plant to produce solar modules for residential, commercial as well as grid scale solar farms.
Production of high voltage transformers specifically used for dispatching renewable energy across electricity networks

4.4 Ineligible projects

The following projects are ineligible for funding:

- projects requiring ongoing funding from the NSW Government beyond the end date of the grant
- projects that would proceed and be delivered on the same timeline without government investment support
- projects that have already commenced or started work on activities for which funding is being requested, prior to a signed funding deed
- projects, or parts of projects, that have already received NSW Government funding for the same scope of activities as outlined in your application
- components for energy-harnessing technologies including geothermal energy, bioenergy and ocean energy
- mining of essential minerals needed to manufacture renewable energy components.

4.5 Eligible costs

Funding may be used for capital expenses (CAPEX) and other costs directly related to the delivery of your project. Costs will be reviewed closely, and eligible costs may only be incurred once both parties have signed a funding deed.

Eligible costs include those for:

- purchasing land (if necessary for your project and suitable alternatives to rent do not exist)
- purchasing, constructing, installing and/or commissioning new plant, equipment and/or machinery
- purchasing, constructing, establishing and/or fitting out new facilities, buildings or hubs
- purchasing technology and/or intellectual property (IP) required for your project
- upgrading existing facilities, buildings, plant, equipment, machinery and/or technology where necessary to deliver your project and achieve its outcomes
- labour costs up to 10% of total grant funding, for new roles including:
  - external project management
  - specialists such as technicians and subject matter experts
  - machine operators
  - consultants
  - tradespeople
  - apprentices.

4.6 Ineligible costs

The following costs are ineligible for funding:

- labour costs for existing roles
- day-to-day operations costs of your business
- marketing and promotional costs
- front-end engineering design (FEED) costs
- costs incurred before both parties have signed a funding deed, including
  - existing assets owned by you the applicant or affiliated entities, including newly established or proposed entities
  - assets already procured under a loan facility

- cost already funded by other sources of local, state or commonwealth government funding.

4.7 Eligible grant amounts

The funding range that can be awarded is between $5 million to $30 million per successful application.

All grant amounts are GST exclusive. If your application is successful, you will be paid the approved grant amount plus 10% by the department if GST is applicable.

5. Merit criteria

This section outlines the merit criteria that your application will be assessed against. Each merit criterion is weighted equally and must be addressed in your application.

For further information on the evidence requirements for each merit criterion, please read the Renewable Manufacturing grant supplementary guidance on our website.

Table 4 lists the merit assessment criteria.

Table 4: Renewable Manufacturing merit criteria

Criterion	Description
1. Deliverability and technical feasibility	A detailed assessment of: • the technical capability, capacity and resources to deliver and operate your manufacturing facility • your readiness to deliver an operational commercial-scale manufacturing facility within 4 years of executing a funding deed and no later than 30 June 2032 • the proposed technology to manufacture the renewable energy component is proven through successful operations.
2. Financial and commercial feasibility	A detailed assessment of: • market viability for the renewable energy product • financial viability and profitability of the proposed manufacturing of the product.
3. Strategic significance	The extent to which your proposed project will: • grow the NSW supply chain capacity and capability for the renewable energy sector • alleviate supply chain risks for the renewable energy sector • stimulate economic growth for NSW.

Criterion	Description
4. Value for money and affordability to government	• The value of the contribution of your proposed project to the NSW economy as determined by a cost-benefit analysis (CBA) undertaken by the department. Projects will generally be required to produce a benefit-cost ratio (BCR) above one and a positive net benefit (Net Present Value) per dollar of government grant. • The value of the funding contribution in the form of committed finance from you, your partners and other non-NSW Government sources as a percentage of the eligible project costs. Contributions from non-NSW Government sources must be at least 50% of the eligible project cost. In-kind (non-financial) contributions are not eligible.

6. Awarding funding

If your application is successful, you will receive an offer for funding from the department and will be required to sign and return a confidentiality and conflict of interest document. You must not publicly communicate or announce any information about the awarding of grant funding for your project until an announcement has been made by the department or as advised by the department.

If you do not comply with these requirements, we may withdraw the offer for funding.

6.1 Funding deed

A template funding deed will be available to review as part of your application. The deed will outline the terms of the funding relationship between you and the department and any obligations relating to the project for all relevant parties. The funding deed will also capture details about you and your project such as:

- key project milestones
- the project budget
- a list of key contractors and project assets
- any relevant plans, such as a risk management plan.

We do not encourage departures (changes) from the funding deed template. If you require adjustments to the terms outlined in the funding deed you can submit a departure request using the departures table provided in the template.

Requests must be submitted with your application and should clearly identify the change and reasons for the departure. The department will consider any departure requests as exhaustive and may accept any requests at its discretion.

If you do not submit a departure request, we will consider you as accepting the terms of the funding deed template.

A funding deed co-signed by you and the department is required before your project can commence. Any payment of funds is also subject to the execution of a funding deed.

We expect the terms of an executed funding deed to reflect your careful and diligent expectations for the project's development. You should ensure there is a rigorous and realistic basis for your proposed milestone timings, associated payments and outcomes for your project.

6.2 Ongoing project monitoring

The department will monitor the progress of your project by conducting site visits or periodically requesting updates and reports on the status of your activities and milestones. This reporting is a requirement as part of an executed funding deed and may include the following:

Time based reports, such as:

- annual operating parameters report
- annual project report.

Project based reports, such as:

- risk management plan
- licensing and approvals plan
- milestone report
- financial reports
- final report
- emissions monitoring plan
- knowledge sharing plan
- other reports and plans.

Occasionally the department may re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

6.3 Publishing and sharing project information

The department may publicly announce and will publish the following information associated with successful projects:

- name of the recipient
- title of the project
- description of the project and its aims
- amount of grant funding awarded.

The department will also share or publish information about any project when required by law.

7. Related opportunities

7.1 Opportunity to supply Roadmap projects

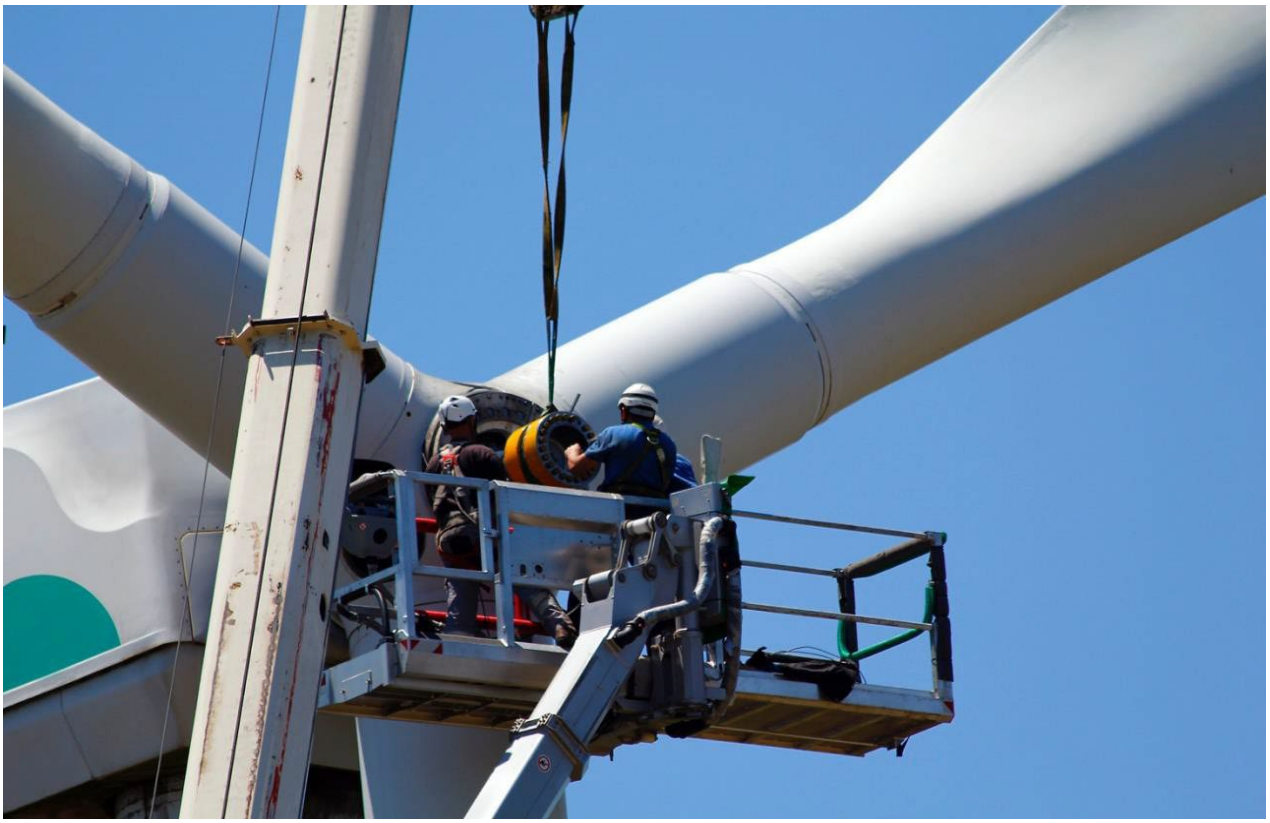
The Roadmap provides NSW renewable energy manufacturers with a once-in-a-generation opportunity to participate in the energy transition.

To help local manufacturers take advantage of this opportunity, the electricity generation, storage and network infrastructure projects under the Roadmap include minimum or baseline requirements for local content. These cover goods, services and other inputs for the construction and operation of Roadmap infrastructure.

The local content requirements were developed by the NSW Renewable Energy Sector Board (the Board). By growing the capacity and capability of the NSW supply chain, construction-ready projects may enable an increase in the local content requirements over time.

The Board is keen to ensure it considers construction-ready projects when recommending increases to the local content requirements, in line with growing sector capacity. To assist with this, Renewable Manufacturing applicants will be able to request their renewable energy manufacturing project be included in the Board's considerations (via the application form).

Note: Applicants requesting their project be included in the Board's considerations is unrelated to the assessment of their application to this grant.



8. Contact details

8.1 Contact information

This grant is administered by the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department). If you have any questions about these guidelines or grant opportunity, email us at netzeromanufacturing@environment.nsw.gov.au. You can also read our frequently asked questions and access helpful information and resources on our website to assist you with your application.

Our staff are available to assist with any questions during the application process. Please note we are not able to assist you with the preparation of your application.

The department will endeavour to respond to all enquiries within 3 business days. Responses to enquires may be provided to all applicants unless you request the information be kept confidential. Confidentiality may be granted as determined by the department.

8.2 Complaints

Complaints concerning the initiative and the Renewable Manufacturing grant should be emailed to netzeromanufacturing@environment.nsw.gov.au. Complaints will be reviewed by the department program team in the first instance. If the program team cannot resolve the complaint, they will provide details of a nominated complaints and review officer from the NSW Government, who will advise the next steps. If the complaint is still not resolved satisfactorily, the NSW Ombudsman can be engaged for external review of the administrative actions of the NSW Government.

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For more information

For more information about the net zero manufacturing initiative grants please visit our website or contact us via the email below.

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