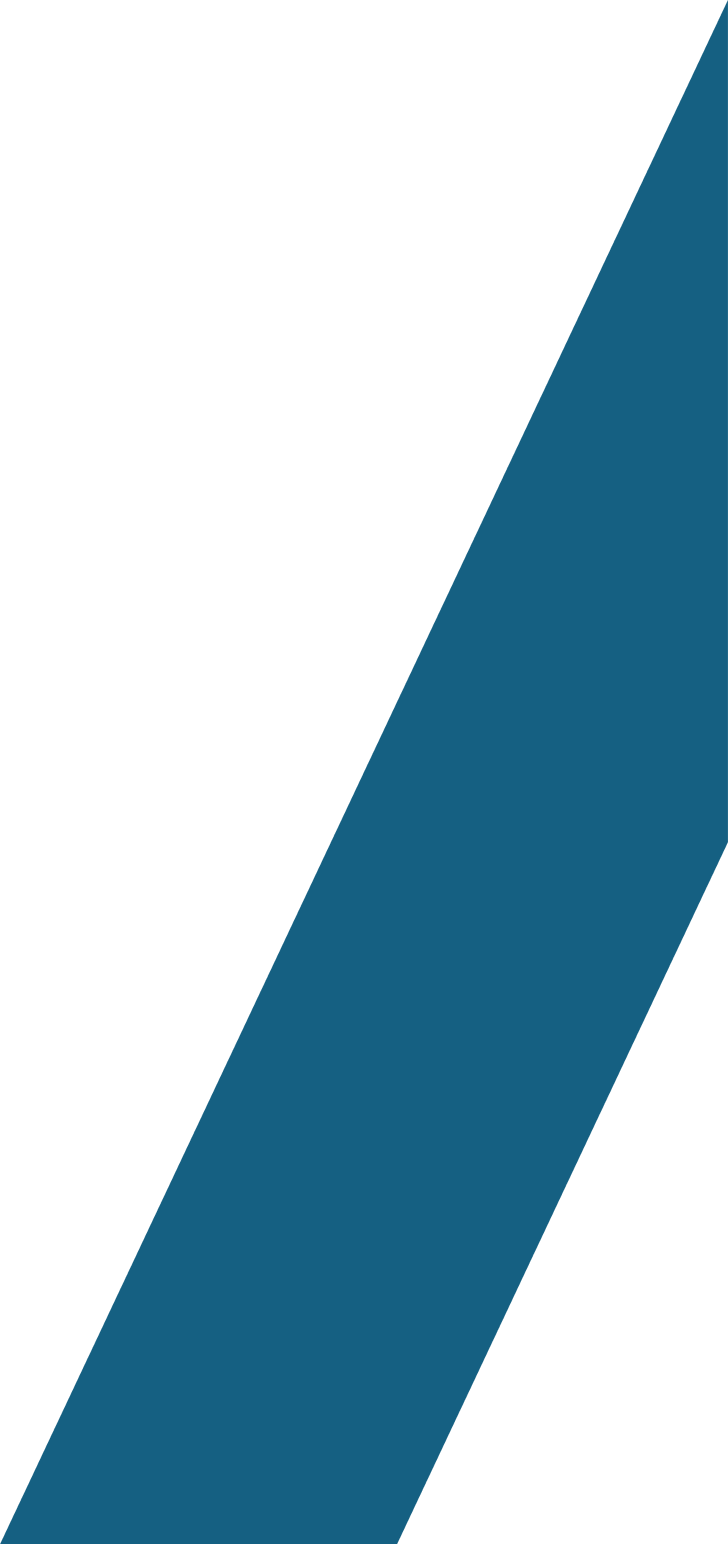
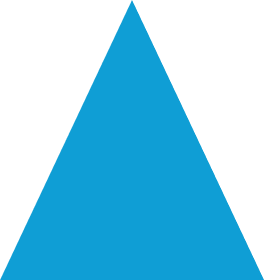
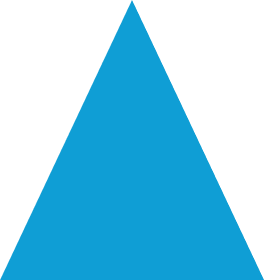
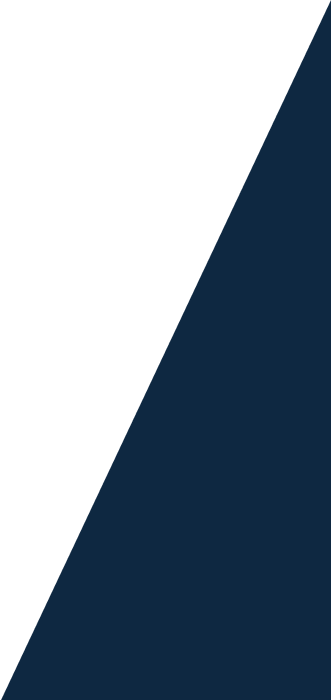
100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program

Application Guidelines

[deeca.vic.gov.au](https://delwpvicgovau-my.sharepoint.com/Users/fionadurante/Downloads/deeca.vic.gov.au)

Round 2 – August 2024

Photo credit

Photographer: Tom Rumble



We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria’s land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it.

We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom   
has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

DEECA is committed to genuinely partnering with Victorian Traditional Owners and Victoria’s Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.

© The State of Victoria Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action 2024.

Creative Commons

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International licence, visit the [Creative Commons website](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) ([creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/](http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)).

You are free to re-use the work under that licence, on the condition that you credit the State of Victoria as author. The licence does not apply to any images, photographs or branding, including the Victorian Coat of Arms, and the Victorian Government and Department logos.

Disclaimer

This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

Accessibility

To receive this document in an alternative format, phone the Customer Service Centre on 136 186, email [customer.service@deeca.vic.gov.au](mailto:customer.service@deeca.vic.gov.au), or contact National Relay Service on 133 677. Available at [DEECA website](http://www.deeca.vic.gov.au/) (deeca.vic.gov.au).

Contents

[Message from the Minister 2](#_Toc174452298)

[1. What is the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program? 3](#_Toc174452299)

[2. Who can apply? 4](#_Toc174452300)

[3. Who cannot apply? 4](#_Toc174452301)

[4. What might be funded? 5](#_Toc174452302)

[Stream 1: Delivering network and community benefits 5](#_Toc174452303)

[Stream 2: Delivering community benefits 5](#_Toc174452304)

[Stream 3: Delivering energy resilience 5](#_Toc174452305)

[5. Priorities for funding 7](#_Toc174452306)

[6. What will not be funded? 7](#_Toc174452307)

[7. What are the assessment criteria? 9](#_Toc174452308)

[8. What supporting documents will need to be provided? 11](#_Toc174452309)

[9. What are the funding conditions? 12](#_Toc174452310)

[10. What is the application process? 14](#_Toc174452311)

[11. Additional information 14](#_Toc174452312)

[12. What is the notification process? 14](#_Toc174452313)

[13. Key dates 14](#_Toc174452314)

[14. Checklist 15](#_Toc174452315)

[Appendix 1 – Priority Local Government Areas 16](#_Toc174452316)

# Message from the Minister

Medium shot of a person smiling

Description automatically generatedOver the last nine years Victoria has established itself as a leader – nationally and around the world – in the development of renewable energy. The addition of neighbourhood batteries will enable the electricity network to support more renewable solutions for our increased energy needs.

The most significant advantages of adding battery resources are that they are dispatchable, and they can be used for multiple purposes from improving load management to generation to reliability and stability services. In other words, battery storage greatly increases the flexibility of integrating more variable renewable energy into the grid.

Optimising the value of storage will play a key role in helping us meet world-leading targets to cut the state’s greenhouse gas emissions and achieve net zero emissions by 2045.

The Victorian Government is actively promoting the uptake of battery storage as part of our wider strategy to transition to a clean energy future.

The 2023-24 Victorian Budget announced investment of $42.2 million to install 100 neighbourhood-scale batteries across the state. This will improve energy reliability and provide energy storage capacity for locally generated solar power, which is expected to increase access to renewable energy and help lower energy bills.

It will allow for the flexibility to install batteries with functions and operational models tailored to meet local needs and deliver a broad range of community benefits. To ensure success, a range of providers including local government, community groups, distribution network service providers, energy retailers, and other commercial entities are encouraged to take part.

This program will leverage from the success of the $10.92 million Neighbourhood Battery Initiative, commenced in 2021 funding feasibility studies and demonstration projects with a variety of neighbourhood-scale battery ownership and operational models.

In March 2024, a total of $6.07 million in funding was awarded to six projects through Round 1 of the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program. This first round of projects will collectively deliver 25 batteries in 20 towns across Victoria by August 2025.

The 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program is about taking action to enable communities to generate and consume more renewable energy locally and do so in a way that ensures Victorians can benefit from the opportunities as we grow our renewable energy economy.

# What is the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program?

The 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program provides grants to support the installation of 100 neighbourhood-scale batteries to improve energy reliability and provide energy storage capacity for locally generated solar power, increasing access to renewable energy and helping to lower energy bills. Administered by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA), the program builds on lessons learned through the successful Neighbourhood Battery Initiative (NBI) and paves the way for a new generation of energy storage to benefit local communities.

The Victorian Government is funding these grants to achieve the following outcomes and objectives:

* benefits from local renewable energy and energy storage are passed on to consumers, including lowering household energy bills
* increased energy reliability
* increased energy resilience
* reduced costs of network upgrades
* support the ability of communities to personally contribute to Victoria’s energy transition
* scale up the delivery of operational models for neighbourhood-scale batteries.

##### Grant amount and duration

Round 2 of the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program makes available total program funding of up to $15 million, with up to $400,000 project funding available per battery.

Projects must be completed by 31 August 2026 with preferred delivery within FY2025-2026.

# Who can apply?

##### Eligible organisations

The following organisations can apply for funding:

* public entities
* private sector businesses and agencies
* educational institutions
* local government authorities
* co-operatives
* not for profit organisations.

In addition, to be eligible for funding, Applicants must:

* be an incorporated body, co-operative or association (including business associations)
* be financially solvent.

##### Lead Organisation

All applications, whether single entities or a consortium, must nominate a ‘Lead Organisation’ to:

* endorse the Application
* verify any commitment of funds for the project
* be authorised to enter into a funding agreement with the State if successful.

Individuals are not eligible to apply as a Lead Organisation.

The Lead Organisation must:

* have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and be registered for GST
* be able to demonstrate that either the Lead Organisation or the Lead Organisation's parent company has at least three years’ operating history
* be able to provide three years of financial reports (preferably audited) for the Lead Organisation or the Lead Organisation's parent company.

Please note, funding can only be given to the Lead Organisation throughout the duration of the project.

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) may request, during the Assessment Process, that unaudited financial reports be audited and resubmitted.

##### Participating Organisation

Applications may also identify one or more project partners as a Participating Organisation.

A Participating Organisation means any Company (or other entity) working with the Lead Organisation, and/or providing funding to the Applicant for the Project, other than a Government Funder or a Subcontractor.

Applications should clearly list the name and ABN of each Participating Organisation.

# Who cannot apply?

The following organisations and individuals cannot apply for funding:

* individuals
* government departments and administrative offices.

Distribution network service providers are *not* eligible to apply for funding under Stream 3.

# What might be funded?

The following types of projects are eligible for funding:

## Stream 1: Delivering network and community benefits

Funding (of up to $400,000 per battery) will be provided for projects that:

* implement one or more neighbourhood batteries (including installation and commissioning)
* quantify benefits for both the electricity network and local community
* include a cash co-contribution of at least 30% of the requested grant amount
* each battery must be a chemical battery of a minimum size 20kW/40kWh and maximum 5MW/20MWh
* will complete project delivery by 31 August 2026.

## Stream 2: Delivering community benefits

Funding (of up to $400,000 per battery) will be provided for projects that:

* implement one or more neighbourhood batteries
* quantify benefits for the local community
* include a cash co-contribution of at least 10% of the requested grant amount
* each battery must be a chemical battery of a minimum size 20kW/40kWh and maximum 5MW/20MWh
* will complete project delivery by 31 August 2026.

## Stream 3: Delivering energy resilience

Funding (of up to $400,000 per energy back-up system) will be provided for projects that:

* implement one or more energy back-up system/s that will be capable of continuing to supply power to one or more publicly accessible building/s during grid outages. Each energy back-up system **must** include an eligible neighbourhood battery and may also include installation of any or all of the following: solar photovoltaics (PV), generator and management systems.
* quantify benefits for the local community
* include a cash co-contribution of at least 5% of the requested grant amount
* each battery must be a chemical battery of a minimum size 20kW/40kWh and maximum 5MW/20MWh
* will complete project delivery by 31 August 2026.

##### Applications for more than one battery

Applicants seeking funding for installation of more than one battery are encouraged to submit a single application in which the combined funding sought equals no more than the total eligible per battery funding. For example, an Applicant seeking $120,000 funding for one battery project and $330,000 funding for another battery project may make a single application for $450,000 grant funding.

##### Co-contributions

Applicants must have secured, or have evidence of a commitment to provide, a cash co-contribution towards the project. This cash co-contribution must meet the minimum threshold of your chosen funding stream. Please note, this is a percentage of the *grant amount*. For example, a Stream 2 project with a grant of $400,000 would have to provide a 10% cash co-contribution of at least $40,000.

In-kind support *cannot* be included as part of this cash co-contribution. Any contribution of a good or service other than money (for example, voluntary labour or donated items) can be acknowledged in your application but must be reported separately from the cash co-contribution amount.

Additional funding can come from any source, including Commonwealth and Local Government grants. This funding can be used to partially or wholly fund the mandatory cash co-contribution. However, funding from these sources must not be used for the same items of eligible expenditure funded by this grant program.

Any cash co-contribution in the form of other government grants should identify the status of the application/s, timing of funding delivery, and how the project will be funded if any outstanding applications are unsuccessful. Applicants will be required to demonstrate that other external funding sources or expansion plans will not impede the delivery of a project funded under the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program.

##### DEECA funding considerations

Where DEECA considers an application better aligns with the eligibility criteria of a different Round 2 funding stream, DEECA reserves the right to re-allocate applications between streams. For instance, if DEECA considers that an application under Stream 2 primarily offers network benefits rather than community benefits, DEECA may choose to assess the application against the Stream 1 eligibility criteria, including higher cash co-contribution.

DEECA will take a portfolio approach to selecting applications for funding, giving consideration to how each project will contribute to the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program outcomes. DEECA may choose not to fund an otherwise suitable application if the aims or outcomes of that application are the same as, or similar to, the aims and outcomes of a project that has previously been funded, or an application that DEECA is intending to fund under the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program, or another funding source. Such funding considerations may include, but are not limited to, geographic spread, proponent diversity, beneficiary diversity, and supply chain or market constraints to support installations in any given area.

# Priorities for funding

**Under Streams 1 and 2**, projects with one or more of the following attributes will be given priority:

* delivering benefits to diverse communities, low income and vulnerable households
* delivering benefits to households with no access to solar PV generation, such as renters and apartment-dwellers
* contributing to completed or scheduled works that increase the electrification of the local community and/or the premises on which the battery is located
* demonstrating increased benefits for the local community via a novel battery operational and/or commercial model
* located in network areas with poor reliability, particularly in regional areas where addition of a neighbourhood battery will increase energy reliability
* located in constrained networks with solar export limits where addition of a neighbourhood battery will reduce network constraints and increase local hosting capacity for solar
* located within one or more of the 29 Local Government Areas (LGAs) committed to by the Victorian Government (see Appendix 1)
* located in areas that have not previously received funding from this Program
* delivering a greater number of batteries and faster deployment timelines (delivery within FY 25-26 is preferred).

**Under Stream 3**, projects with one or more of the following attributes will be given priority:

* high incidence of historical electricity outages (both frequency and duration)
* significant percentage of local population impacted by electricity outages
* no or limited other local, publicly accessible, powered buildings available during electricity outages
* located in network areas with poor reliability, particularly in regional areas where addition of a neighbourhood battery will increase energy reliability
* vulnerability to extreme weather events likely to impact electricity infrastructure (e.g. storms, bushfires)
* located within one or more of the 29 Local Government Areas (LGAs) committed to by the Victorian Government (see Appendix 1)
* delivering a greater number of batteries and faster deployment timelines (delivery within FY 25-26 is preferred).

# What will not be funded?

Applications seeking funding for any of the following activities **will be deemed ineligible** and not assessed for funding. The 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program will not fund the following activities:

* business as usual costs, including salaries and wages for personnel *not* employed directly on the project
* routine or ongoing maintenance activities, including but not limited to, operational and/or maintenance costs of running a neighbourhood battery
* land acquisition and related expenses
* expenditure on other projects
* projects that have already commenced construction
* where duplicate services are in operation or planned for in a targeted community
* the use of any new or nascent technologies that are lower than Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 9 (See [arena.gov.au/assets/2014/02/Technology-Readiness-Levels.pdf](http://www.arena.gov.au/assets/2014/02/Technology-Readiness-Levels.pdf))
* feasibility studies or business cases
* projects that do not include installation of a neighbourhood battery
* projects that do not include integration of new or existing solar PV **– applies to Stream 3 only**
* installation, operation or maintenance of generation technologies (e.g. solar panels, diesel generators) – **applies to Streams 1 and 2 only**
* activities located outside the State of Victoria.

# What are the assessment criteria?

Applications are first checked for eligibility to make sure that the Applicant and their activities are eligible for funding. After that, eligible applications will be assessed using the criteria listed below. Each criterion is given a percentage weighting to indicate its relative importance in the assessment process. Applications should address all relevant criteria.

| Criteria | Weighting | Requirements |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Alignment with the intended outcomes of the 100 Neighbourhood Batteries Program | 30% | Applicants are required to describe how the project will contribute to the intended outcomes of the program including:   * benefits from local renewable energy and energy storage are passed on to consumers, including lowering household energy bills * increased energy reliability * increased energy resilience * reduced costs of network upgrades * communities feel they are personally contributing to Victoria’s energy transition * scaled up delivery of operational models for neighbourhood-scale batteries.   **Applicants must provide a *quantification* of the community and/or network benefits expected to be delivered by their project over the lifetime of the battery**. Applicants must identify all assumptions underpinning their calculations[[1]](#footnote-2).  Applicants should identify which (if any) of the priorities for funding listed in section 5 of the Application Guidelines would be addressed by the project and how they will be addressed. |
| Applicant capability and capacity | 20% | Applicants are required to:   * list key project partners and the proposed roles and responsibilities during the project and over the lifetime of the battery of both the Applicant and the project partners. * provide details of the full-time equivalent (FTE) and remuneration for each role. * describe the skills and experience of individual personnel and project partners * provide letter(s) of support from project partners, including Aboriginal businesses and Traditional Owners where appropriate * where a grid connection agreement will be required, provide a letter of support from the DSNP that includes, but is not limited to, the size and location(s) of the battery(s). |
| Project business case | 30% | Applicants are required to describe the project design and deliverables including:   * provision of a detailed Project Plan containing:   + summary of the project, including description of the proposed technology type, size and location of the neighbourhood battery(s)   + project schedule outlining key milestones, delivery dates and dependencies   + timeline for the project, including key milestones   + a map showing the site(s) where the neighbourhood battery(s) would be installed   + status of grid connection applications (if applicable)   + status of land access for the proposed project location(s) (if applicable)   + details on the proposed operations and maintenance regime for the lifetime of the battery(s)   + details on your proposed battery safety plan including steps to prevent and manage fire risk   + your plan to manage decommissioning and disposal of the neighbourhood battery(s) at the end of its/their operational life.   + work already undertaken with the community and your plan to seek input from community and Traditional Owners on how your project provides local benefit, how they can be involved/partnered with, notification of construction periods or any other relevant information   + outline of key risks and approach to management and mitigation, including completed project risk register   + evidence of intention to secure appropriate insurance for the project activities   + project reporting and knowledge sharing outcomes that will be adopted to further the development of neighbourhood batteries in Victoria   + project budget using DEECA’s Budget template, including installation costs and demonstrating a minimum cash co-contribution of 30% for Stream 1, 10% for Stream 2 or 5% for Stream 3   + evidence to support budget estimates   + outline of the source of funds required for the project, including contributions secured from your organisation or other project partners[[2]](#footnote-3)   + approach to managing potential cost overruns   + approach to using local content and suppliers and how your project aligns with the principles of the Local Jobs First Policy (s4) and the Victorian Social Procurement Framework, including:     - suppliers in Victoria     - manufacturers in Australia     - other businesses and organisations based and operating in Victoria (such as installation trades)     - any purchasing, supplies or services from Aboriginal businesses and Traditional Owners Corporations.   Please note, proposals that feature a greater number of batteries and faster deployment timelines will score more highly on this criterion. |
| Value for money | 20% | Applicants are required to provide evidence of a financial model that includes (at a minimum):   * expected return on investment (ROI) over the life of the battery(s) * expected revenues over the life of the battery(s), including the source of these revenue projections * expected costs over the lifetime of the battery(s), with clear breakdown of cost categories * calculation of the battery(s) capital cost per kilowatt hour * calculation of the total project cost per kilowatt hour of total installed battery(s) * clear identification of all assumptions underpinning model.   Applicants proposing a Behind the Meter (BtM) installation must also provide:   * size of existing solar photovoltaic (PV) installation * data on onsite electricity consumption and generation[[3]](#footnote-4), and modelling on how the battery will reduce premises’ energy costs and/or improve energy reliability. |

Please note, DEECA provides no guarantee that any of the projects applied for will be funded following evaluation of applications. No undertaking is given on the amount of individual or total grant monies that will be provided.

# What supporting documents will need to be provided?

All Applicants must submit the following documents with your application:

1. Project Plan
2. Budget (see DEECA template)
3. Project Delivery Schedule
4. Risk Management Log
5. Financial Model
6. Three years of Financial Records for Lead Organisation or parent company
7. Letter/s of support from Participating Organisation/s (if relevant)

DEECA templates for some of the above are available [www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants](http://www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants). Applicants *must* use DEECA’s Budget template but are permitted to use their own templates for the Project Delivery Schedule and Risk Management Log, as long as they are similar in content and format. The Risk Management Log must include risk associated with the delivery of the project as funded by this grant, and ongoing operational risks associated with the battery’s operation.

DEECA has no Project Plan or Financial Model template.

##### Submission Requirements

Failure to provide all supporting documents may render your application ineligible.

Attachments should be limited to the requested information – any additional information may not be considered.

At DEECA’s absolute discretion, DEECA may request that an Applicant provides additional proof of claims or statements contained in their application.

# 9. What are the funding conditions?

##### Funding agreements

Successful Applicants must enter into a funding agreement with Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action.

The DEECA Transfer Payment Funding Agreement is used for Victorian public entities, as defined under section 5 of the *Public Administration Act 2004*.

The Commercial Funding Agreement is used for funding agreements with all other entities.

It is recommended that Applicants review the terms and conditions before applying:

* For information about the Commercial Funding Agreement visit the [website](https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants).
* For information about the Transfer Payment Funding Agreement, please email [neighbourhood.batteries@deeca.vic.gov.au](mailto:neighbourhood.batteries@deeca.vic.gov.au)

Funding agreements must be **signed within one month** of notification of successful grant application. Failure of signing within this timeframe may result in loss of grant funding.

Funding must not be used for political campaigning or advocacy activities for political parties.

##### Legislative and regulatory requirements

In delivering the activity, grant Recipients are required to comply with all relevant Commonwealth and state/territory legislations and regulations, including but not limited to:

* *Privacy Act 1988* (Cth)
* *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (Vic)
* *Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004*
* *Planning and Environment Act 1987*
* *Climate Change Act 2017*
* *Electricity Safety Act 1998*
* *National Electricity (Victoria) Act 2005*
* *Electricity Industry Act 2000.*

##### Tax implications

Applicants should consult the Australian Taxation Office or seek professional advice on any taxation implications that may arise from this grant funding. Each Applicant is responsible for investigating their own tax structure and treatment.

Successfully funded projects will be offered funding as a **GST exclusive** amount. However, for organisations with an ABN and who are GST registered, payment will be made **GST inclusive**. Recipients are responsible for determining their tax liabilities for grant payments. Grants provided by DEECA may be classified as income and tax may be payable by Recipients. Each Applicant is responsible for investigating their own tax structure and treatment.

##### Acknowledging the Victorian Government’s support

Grant Recipients must follow DEECA’s *Acknowledgment and Publicity Guidelines for Victorian Government Funding Support.* The guidelines will form part of the funding agreement and can be accessed [here](https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants). Recipients must liaise with the departmental program area to coordinate any public events or announcements related to the project.

##### Payments

Payments will be made as long as:

* the funding agreement has been signed by both parties
* grant Recipients provide reports as required, or otherwise (as agreed by DEECA) that demonstrate the activity is progressing as expected
* other terms and conditions of funding continue to be met.

##### Monitoring

Grant Recipients are required to comply with project monitoring and reporting requirements as outlined in the funding agreement. This may include progress reports, site inspections, completion reports and acquittal documentation.

Recipients are responsible for project delivery, including any project cost overruns should they occur. In cases where a project is delayed for an unreasonable length of time, where substantive changes to scope are made after funding has been approved without prior approval of DEECA, or where a project fails to be delivered, DEECA reserves the right to cancel the grant and, if applicable, recoup any payment that has already been provided.

##### Cost

DEECA is not liable for any costs, expenses, losses, claims or damages that may be incurred by Applicants in connection with the application process, including in preparing or submitting an application, providing further information to DEECA, or participating in negotiations with DEECA.

##### Probity for application procedures

The Applicant and any of its associates must not offer any incentive to, or otherwise attempt to influence any of the persons who are either directly or indirectly involved in the application process, or in awarding any subsequent contract. If DEECA determines that the Applicant or any of its associates have violated this condition, the Applicant may be disqualified from further consideration, at DEECA’s absolute discretion.

By submitting an application, the Applicant consents to DEECA performing probity and financial investigations and procedures in relation to the Applicant or any of its associates. The Applicant agrees, if requested by DEECA, to seek consents from individuals to allow such probity checks.

##### Privacy

Any personal information about you or a third party in your application will be collected by the department for the purposes of administering your grant application and informing Members of Parliament of successful applications. Personal information may also be disclosed to external experts, such as members of assessment panels, or other Government departments for assessment, reporting, advice, comment, or for discussions regarding alternative or collaborative grant funding opportunities. If you intend to include personal information about third parties in your application, please ensure that they are aware of the contents of this privacy statement.

Any personal information about you or a third party in your correspondence will be collected, held, managed, used, disclosed or transferred in accordance with the provisions of the *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* and other applicable laws.

DEECA is committed to protecting the privacy of personal information. You can find the DEECA Privacy Policy online at [deeca.vic.gov.au/privacy](https://www.deeca.vic.gov.au/privacy).

Requests for access to information about you held by DEECA should be sent to the Manager Privacy, P.O. Box 500 East Melbourne 8002 or contact by emailing [foi.unit@deeca.vic.gov.au](mailto:foi.unit@deeca.vic.gov.au).

# 10. What is the application process?

Applications are submitted online using the Grants Online portal. To apply, go to [www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants](http://www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants)

and click on the ‘Start New Application’ button. To return to a saved draft application, click on the ‘Access Saved Application’ button.

###### Attaching required documents

Supporting documents must be in an acceptable file type, such as Word, Excel, PDF, or JPEG. The maximum file size for each file is 10MB.

You will receive an application number when you submit an application online. Please quote this number in all communications with the department relating to your application.

If you have documents to submit that cannot be attached to your online application, you can email them to [grantsinfo@deeca.vic.gov.au](mailto:grantsinfo@deeca.vic.gov.au), quoting your application number. Attach all documents to one email, zipping the files if required.

Make sure your application is submitted by **11.00am on 29 October 2024**.

**Note:** No hard copy applications will be accepted. Late applications or applications lodged other than in accordance with the requirements of section 10 of this document will only be accepted where the Department believes acceptance of the late application, or an application lodged other than in accordance with the requirements of section 10 of this document, will not compromise the integrity of the application process.

# 11. Additional information

Additional information is available on the [100 Neighbourhood Batteries website](http://www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants).

If you require assistance submitting your application online, email grantsinfo@deeca.vic.gov.au

# 12. What is the notification process?

Successful and unsuccessful Applicants will be notified in writing after the assessment process is completed. All decisions are final and are not subject to further review. Unsuccessful Applicants can ask for feedback on their application.

# 13. Key dates

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Applications open | 30 August 2024 |
| Questions close | 5:00 pm, 22 October 2024 |
| Applications close | 11:00 am, 29 October 2024 |
| Applicants notified and agreement executed | March 2025 |
| Activities commence | April 2025 |
| Activities completed and acquittal reports submitted | 31 August 2026 |

Should you have any questions, email neighbourhood.batteries@deeca.vic.gov.au

# 14. Checklist

Please review all the information about this grant program on the [100 Neighbourhood Batteries website](https://www.energy.vic.gov.au/grants/neighbourhood-batteries/100-neighbourhood-batteries-program-grants) before submitting an application.

Have you completed the following steps?

□ read these guidelines carefully

□ checked if you are, or your organisation is, eligible for this grant funding

□ checked if your project activity is eligible for this grant funding

□ checked that you would be able to comply with all relevant laws and regulations in delivery of your project

□ prepared and attached the appropriate supporting documents

# Appendix 1 – Priority Local Government Areas

* Ballarat
* Bass Coast
* Baw Baw
* Campaspe
* Cardinia
* Casey
* Darebin
* East Gippsland
* Greater Bendigo
* Greater Dandenong
* Greater Shepparton
* Hume
* Knox
* Macedon Ranges
* Maribyrnong
* Merri-Bek
* Mildura
* Moira
* Monash
* Moonee Valley
* Mornington Peninsula
* Port Phillip Bay
* Queenscliffe
* Wangaratta
* Wellington
* Whittlesea
* Wodonga
* Wyndham
* Yarra Ranges

1. Quantified benefits should align with the benefits required by the relevant grant funding stream (i.e., Stream 1 applications must quantify both network and community benefits). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Any cash co-contributions in the form of other government grants or payments should also identify the status of the application(s), timing of funding delivery and how/if the project will be funded if any outstanding applications are unsuccessful. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. A minimum of 12 months consumption and generation data or since installation date of assets if installed less than 12 months ago. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)