



Federal, State and Territory Renewable Energy Initiatives

For information specific for emerging technologies please refer to the Emerging Technologies Initiatives

Government	Program/ Scheme Name	Type/ cost of policy	Purpose	Eligible Renewable Technologies	Participant Eligibility/ Requirements	Duration/ Introduction	Grant amount	Additional Information	Further information
Federal	Renewable Energy Target (RET)	Mandates Australia's use of electricity generated from renewable sources Investment estimated at \$5bn	To encourage additional generation of electricity from renewable energy sources.	Renewable energy generated or deemed to have been generated	Accredited power stations or small generation units that have generated renewable energy or deemed to have generated renewable energy	Expanded renewable energy target (RET) commenced 1 Jan 2010.	N/A Market price paid for Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs)	Target set at additional 45,000 GWh by 2020	Click here
	Australian Centre for Renewable Energy (ACRE) (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	Manages over \$690m of funding. One stop shop for renewable energy businesses	To promote development, commercialisation & deployment of renewable energy technologies	Renewable energy technologies and enabling technologies	See ' Strategic Directions for ACRE '	Established 2010	N/A - Advisory body	Under Minister for Resources & Energy	Click here
	Renewable Energy Demonstration Program (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$300m competitive grants program (\$235m awarded to four projects November)	Funding to assist in demonstration of renewable energy for power generation on a commercial scale in Australia	Geothermal, wind, biomass, hydro, ocean energy, combination technologies	Applicant must be non-tax exempt incorporated Australian company	Launched 20 February 2009 Funding provided in rounds	Size of grants expected to be \$50-100m (up to one third of eligible expenditure on the project (grants ranging \$15.28m-90m awarded	Administered through the Australian Centre for Renewable energy (ACRE) Applications invited for funding 2009/2010 and	Click here

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		2009)					November 2009)	beyond	
	Renewable Energy Future Fund (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$652.5 m over 4 years Additional funding under the Clean Energy Initiative	For the development & deployment of large and small scale renewable energy projects	Renewable energy e.g. geothermal, solar, wave energy	Will leverage private venture capital by encouraging partnerships between the Government and the private sector to make critical early-stage investments in the commercialization of new renewable technologies	Over four years, from 2010-2014	\$42 m to be spent 2010-11 \$352 to be spent 2011-12 \$149 to be spent 2012-13 \$109.5 to be spent 2013-14	Coordinated by DCCEE	Click here
	Geothermal Drilling Program (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$50m competitive grants program (\$7m grants awarded to 7 projects over Round 1 and 2)	To support cost of drilling geothermal wells for proof of concept	Geothermal	Applicant must be non-tax exempt incorporated Australian company which holds Australian geothermal exploration licence	Launched 20 August 2008	Grants of up to \$7 million provided as dollar for dollar matched funding	Administered through ACRE \$49m awarded to date.	Click here
	Second Generation Biofuels Research & Development Program (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$15m competitive grants program	To support research, development & demonstration of new biofuel technologies & feedstocks	New biofuel technologies and feedstocks	Applicant must be research institution, university or business with capability to undertake research, development or demonstration of 2nd generation biofuels	Delivered over 4 years from 2008-2009 to 2011-12	Matching grants of \$1- \$5m Up to 50% of eligible expenditure on projects.	Administered through ACRE \$12.617m awarded to date.	Click here

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	Wind Energy Forecasting Capability initiative (WEFC) (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	Up to \$14m development fund	To support the development and installation of software and systems for the effective forecasting of wind energy generation in Australian power systems	Funded the AEMO to develop and deliver the Australian Wind Energy Forecasting System (AWEFS)	Up to \$14m development fund	Announced in June 2004	Up to \$14m development fund	Has also funded a number of research and development projects to support AWEFS	Click here
	Advanced Electricity Storage Technologies (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$20.4m funding	Supports the development and demonstration of efficient electricity storage technologies for use with variable RE sources	Advanced storage technologies	Technology must be for advanced storage for use with variable RE sources	Announced in June 2004	Grants ranging from \$1.113-\$7.4m awarded to five projects	\$18.433m funding awarded to five projects	Click here
	Renewable Energy Venture Capital (REVC) fund (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$100m	Fund to make critical early-stage equity investments that leverage private funds to help commercialise emerging renewable energy technologies.	Early-stage equity investments that leverage private funds	Early-stage equity investments that leverage private funds to commercialise emerging renewable energy technologies.	To be established in 2011	Size of grants TBA	ACRE released a consultation paper in November 2010. Feedback is being incorporated into the <i>Renewable Energy Venture Capital Program Administrative Guidelines</i> , due for release late-2011.	Click here
	Solar Flagships Program (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$1.5bn over 6 yrs. Competitive funding for	Aims to create an additional 1000MW of solar	Commercially proven solar technologies. Proposal may	Technology to be used in the project must have been demonstrated in	Round 1 closed 15 Feb 2010. Successful projects expected	Expected to leverage \$2 of industry and state	Round 1 projects scheduled to complete commissioning	Click here

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	Initiative)	four solar energy plants	generation capacity over four plants	include solar thermal and solar PV with generation capacity of at least 150 MW. Proposals must meet Solar Flagships criteria and Education Investment Fund criteria.	operation at a scale of at least 30 MW generation capacity for 12 mths.	to be announced second half of 2011. Government has stated commitment to Round 2.	government funding for \$1 of Commonwealth investment	of plant by 31 December 2015	
	Australian Solar Institute (Part of \$5.1b Clean Energy Initiative)	\$150m over 4 yrs. Competitive grants program	To support solar researchers	Concentrating solar thermal energy and solar PV	Researchers from public and private sectors	To commence operations by July 2009	Variable. Round 1 successful projects announced December 2009. Total of \$18.5 million grants committed to 5 projects.	Round 2 projects proposals have been called for and are currently being reviewed.	Click here
	Emerging Renewables Program (Part of the \$652.5 m Renewable Energy Future Fund)	\$102.2m	Additional support for emerging technologies with potential as future sources of large-scale base load power	Emerging renewables that can potentially provide future sources of large-scale base load power	Emerging renewable projects	Guidelines issued by November 2010 Applications received by March 2011 Funding allocations announced in June 2011.		An additional \$60m funding allocated 2011/12 budget	Click here
	Connecting Renewables Program	\$1b	Facilitate connecting renewable energy projects to electricity networks	TBA - expected to be finalised by the second half of 2011	TBA - expected to be finalised by the second half of 2011	Over ten years from 2010-2020	Funding through co-contributions with governance arrangements consistent with	Proposed Townsville to Mt Isa transmission line will be the first project assessed - \$185m	Click here

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							NEM frameworks. \$100 million committed for the first 4 years from 2010/11	committed 2012 to 2017, and additional funding of up to \$150 million 2017 to 2020, at not more than \$50 million p/a	
	Innovation Investment Fund	Venture Capital support program	To support commercialisation of Australian research by co-investing in innovation funds.	Investing in early stage and commercialising Australian R&D	Fund Managers	Closed to new applications.	Investment provided to venture capital fund on 1:1 ratio - maximum commonwealth capital \$20m \$221m (from total \$354m) committed for Rounds 1 and 2, matched by the private sector up to a maximum ratio of 2:1. \$200m for Round 3 to license up to ten fund managers.	Further information at AusIndustry hotline: 132 846	Click here
	R&D Tax Concession	Tax Concession	125% Tax Concession (Australian-owned R&D only) R&D Tax Offset for small companies, enabling them to 'cash out' any	Australian-owned R&D	Companies incorporated in Australia and undertaking R&D Applications are received based on individual company reporting periods.	Eligible companies can choose the R&D tax offset in their first year of income beginning after 30 June 2001	N/A	Further information at AusIndustry hotline: 132 846	Click here

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			<p>tax losses (Australian-owned R&D only)</p> <p>R&D Incremental (175% Premium) Tax Concession for additional investment in Australian-owned R&D</p> <p>175% International Premium incremental tax concession for additional investment in 'foreign owned' R&D</p>						
	Clean Energy Innovation Centre – Enterprise Connect Network	Part of \$50m Enterprise Connect Initiative	Centre offers services to clean energy industry including free business reviews and supporting grants	Clean energy technologies e.g. solar, wind, wave, tidal, biofuels and cogeneration, development and supply of methods, equipment and technology used to reduce energy demand or increase energy efficiency.	Small & medium sized businesses in the clean energy industry	Launched 2009	Business reviews, ongoing mentoring , grants up to \$20,000 (will contribute to half the cost of approved projects)	Centre located in Newcastle Further info available at website or hotline: 131 791	Click here

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	Retooling for Climate Change Program (Part of \$240m Clean Business Australia initiative)	\$88.7m over 4 yrs Competitive grants program	Aims to help Australian manufacturers reduce their environmental footprint	Small-scale cogeneration plants	Applicant must be non-tax exempt incorporated Australian company and have annual turnover of less than \$100m	Commenced 2008 until 2012. Closed to new applications.	\$10,000 - \$500,000, up to a maximum of half the cost of project.	Applications may be submitted at any time and will be assessed on a regular basis. AusIndustry hotline:13 28 46	Click here
	Climate Ready Program (Part of \$240m Clean Business Australia initiative)	\$75m over 4 yrs Competitive grants program	To support research & development, proof-of-concept & early-stage commercialisation activities	Small scale renewable energy technologies	Applicant must be non-tax exempt incorporated Australian company and have an annual turnover of less than \$100m	Commenced 28 July 2008 Closed for applications.	\$50,000 - \$5m on a matching funding basis	Currently closed for application. Further information on future funding rounds to come. Information available on AusIndustry hotline:13 28 46	Click here
	Solar Cities	\$88.7m program Solar Cities are: Adelaide, Alice Springs, Blacktown, Central Victoria, Moreland, Perth, Townsville	To demonstrate effects of combining cost reflective pricing with widespread use of solar technology and examine barriers.	Solar Technologies	Solar Cities	Duration 2005 - 2013	N/A \$13.7m in additional funding over two years announced budget 2011/12	Data collected & analysed to find the most effective energy management for communities	Click here
	National Solar Schools	Competitive Grants program	To allow schools to generate electricity from renewable sources, improve energy	Solar power systems, small wind, small hydro, solar & heat pump hot water systems	Government and non-government schools	July 2008 until 30 June 2013 Successful schools in the 10/11 funding will receive grant payments.	Systems >2kW up to \$50,000 grant Systems <2kW up to \$30,000	Hotline: 1800 703 831.	Click here

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			efficiency, reduce energy consumption			There will be two further rounds for 11/12 and 12/13.			
	Clean Energy Trade and Investment Strategy	\$14.9 million will be spent over 3 years	To attract investment into Australia's clean energy sector and assist Australian clean energy companies to access international markets	Solar, wind, geothermal, marine, bioenergy and biofuels,	Australian business	Announced budget 2009/10 Under development	N/A	Austrade to appoint industry specialists in Australia and in major offshore markets Attracting investment in the Australian Renewable Energy sector Developing exports of Australia's clean technologies and services to Asia	Click here
	GreenPower Scheme	Joint initiative of the ACT, NSW, SA, QLD, VIC and WA government agencies	To encourage use of renewable energy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and drive demand for renewable energy	Solar, wind, hydro, bioenergy	Households, business. State governments have agreements to purchase some of their power from GreenPower	Commenced in NSW in April 1997 then expanded to other states in 2000	N/A	Currently over 980,000 GreenPower customers and 196 accredited generators	Click here

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Australian Capital Territory	Greenhouse Gas Abatement Scheme – ACT Scheme	Mandatory greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with production / use of electricity by using eligible activities to offset the production of emissions	Certificates can be created by generating electricity in a way that reduces emissions per MWh	Electricity retailers & other parties who buy or sell electricity in NSW must meet mandatory emission reduction benchmarks.	Commenced 1 January 2005	N/A If participants fail to meet benchmarks a penalty is assigned	Administered by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) Mirrors the NSW Scheme	Click here
	Renewable Energy Target	<i>Weathering the Change Action Plan</i> ² was used as a basis to set the targets.	15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2012 and 25% by 2020	TBA	TBA	Announced May 2011	N/A		Click here
New South Wales	NSW Greenhouse Gas Reduction Scheme (GGAS)	Mandatory greenhouse gas emissions trading scheme	To reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with production / use of electricity by using eligible activities to offset the production emissions	Certificates (NGACs) can be created by generating electricity in a way that reduces emissions per MWh	Electricity retailers & other parties who buy or sell electricity in NSW must meet mandatory emission reduction benchmarks.	Commenced on 1 January 2003	N/A If participants fail to meet benchmarks a penalty is assigned	Administered by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART)	Click here
	NSW State Plan (Incorporates Clean Energy Strategy - in development)	Achieve a 20% renewable energy consumption by 2020 to align with federal RET	To encourage additional generation of electricity from renewable energy sources.	Renewable energy technologies	Clean Energy strategy will examine incentives for emerging technologies e.g. geothermal, biomass, wave energy	Revised State Plan released 2010	N/A	State Plan also includes training and green jobs	Click here

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	Renewable Energy Development Program (Part of \$700m NSW Climate Change Fund)	\$40m over 5 yrs Competitive grants program	Funding to assist in demonstration, commercialisation of renewable energy technologies in NSW	Solar, geothermal, wind, bioenergy, hydro, ocean energy (Native forest biomaterial not eligible)	Selection criteria for applicant available on website	Established July 2007	Variable funding provided in rounds	Round 1 closed. To be notified of future funding rounds email contact details to ccf@environment.nsw.gov.au	Click here
	Public Facilities Program (Demonstration Stream) (Part of \$700m NSW Climate Change Fund)	\$30m over 5 yrs Competitive grants program	Funding to assist in projects which reduce the demand for electricity, water	Cogeneration	Public or educational facilities which are open to, and frequently accessed, by the public	Established July 2007	Variable funding provided in rounds.	Round 2 closed. To be notified of future funding rounds email contact details to ccf@environment.nsw.gov.au	Click here
	NSW Green Business Program (Part of \$700m NSW Climate Change Fund)	\$30m over 5 yrs Competitive grants program	Funding to assist in projects which reduce the demand for electricity, water	Projects that reduce electricity demand eg. cogeneration	NSW business operations. Further selection criteria for applicant available on website	Established July 2007	Variable Funding provided in rounds.	Round 1 closed. To be notified of future funding rounds email contact details to ccf@environment.nsw.gov.au	Click here
Queensland	Queensland Geothermal Energy Centre of Excellence	\$15m over 5 yrs for centre of excellence in partnership with University of Queensland	To encourage R&D in energy derived from hot rocks	Geothermal	N/A	Announced 2007	N/A		Click here

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	Queensland Renewable Energy Plan	Road map to attract investment in renewable energy to QLD	To increase deployment of renewable energy initiatives and accelerate growth of this sector	Solar thermal, geothermal, small scale renewable energy systems	Australian based organisations with project related to QLD	Launched June 2009	Various incentives	Administered by Office of Clean Energy	Click here
	Queensland Sustainable Energy Innovation Fund	Competitive grants (\$8.9m for over 77 projects has already been granted)	To assist in the development & commercialisation of sustainable technologies	Renewable energy technologies	Incorporated QLD based organisations	Commenced 1999	Grants of up to 80% of project costs up to \$200,000	Applications for new project proposals invited twice per year. Application process information available on website	Click here
	Queensland Renewable Energy Fund	\$50m program Competitive grants program	To support development and deployment of renewable energy generation technologies in QLD.	Renewable energy technologies that are beyond proof of concept and provide minimum capacity of 100kW	Australian based organisations with project related to QLD	Announced 2007	Funding is accessed via loan of up to 100% or grant of up to 50% of project capital value.	Further funding rounds are yet to be determined.	Click here
South Australia	Renewable Energy Target	20% of electricity to be produced by renewable energy by 2014	To increase the use of renewable energy in SA	Renewable energy technologies		Climate Change and Greenhouse Emissions Reduction Act 2007 became law on 3 July 2007	N/A	New target announced of 33% of electricity to be produced by renewable energy by 2020	Click here
	Renewable Energy Fund	\$20 million over 2 years	To support R&DD of renewable energy technologies	Renewable energy technologies	Incorporated company with history in delivering similar projects, financially viable	Established June 2009. Expires June 2011	Variable	To be overseen by Renewable Energy Board, supported by Renewable Energy	Click here

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								Commissioner	
	Payroll Tax rebate	Payroll tax rebate for construction of renewable energy plant	To attract more investment in renewable energy	Large scale renewable energy projects eg. wind, solar, wave, geothermal	Projects must have nameplate rating at single connection point of greater than or equal to 30MW and have started construction phase after 1 July 2010	1 July 2010 until 30 June 2014	Payroll tax rebate associated with labour: Up to \$5m for solar Up to \$1m for wind	Administered by Revenue SA	Click here
Victoria	Energy Technology Innovation Strategy	\$72m grants program	To support the development of large scale, precommercial demonstrations of sustainable energy technologies	Solar, energy storage, biofuels, biomass conversion, geothermal & clean distributed energy	Selection criteria available on website	Established April 2008	August 2010 the Govt allocated \$30m to two grant programs (SERD 2 and SEPD). Proponents TBA	Administered by DPI	Click here
	Victorian Solar in Schools Initiative	\$5m over 4 yrs	To support 500 schools and community buildings to install solar panels	Solar PV	Victorian schools, kindergartens, government owned or incorporated not-for-profit community organisations.	Commenced 2007	Rebate ranging from \$3000 - \$15,000 depending on system size & organisation type	Round 5 is now open	Click here
	Sustainability Fund	Competitive grants program	To support projects to tackle climate change and help Victoria reduce its environmental impact	Can include trialling of renewable energy technologies	Schools, businesses, local government and community groups across Victoria	Established in 2002	Variable	Managed by Sustainability Victoria	Click here

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Western Australia	WA Solar Schools Program	Rebate Scheme	To support WA schools to install solar panels	Solar PV	Government & non government WA schools	November 2005 – June 2012	Up to \$12,500 for metropolitan schools Up to \$13,000 for regional schools	Schools must contribute a minimum of \$1,000 toward cost of the system	Click here
	Low Emissions Energy Development Fund	Competitive grants program	To develop low emission technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Renewable energy technologies	WA projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Projects must not have commenced and must be seeking > \$200,000	Launched 2007	Variable funding in rounds on matching 3 for one dollar basis. Applications for Round 4 funding are now open. Applications close at 5pm (WST), Wednesday 29 June 2011		Click here

This information is intended as a guide only and was current as at 1 June 2011.