

## Community Solar Banks – New South Wales

### FEDERATION FUNDING AGREEMENT – ENVIRONMENT

Table 1: Formalities and operation of schedule	
Parties	Commonwealth New South Wales (NSW)
Duration	This Schedule is expected to expire on 30 December 2027 or on completion of projects, including final evaluation reports, unless terminated earlier or extended as agreed in writing by the Parties.
Purpose	<p>This Schedule will support funding to target up to 10,000 households through a state-wide solar for apartments program as well as providing a community clean energy program in the far south coast of NSW.</p> <p>1) Solar for Apartment Residents (SoAR): to provide apartment dwellers with access to the benefits of solar through the installation of shared rooftop solar. This program will have a specialised stream for low-income households.</p> <p>Given this is a demand-driven program, the final number of households serviced will depend on the number of applications received over the period of the program.</p> <p>2) Community clean energy program: to establish a grants program to deploy clean energy projects in the NSW far south coast region.</p>

<p>Estimated financial contributions</p>	<p>The Commonwealth will provide a total financial contribution of up to \$31m to the NSW Government towards the installation of a shared solar program and a community clean energy program.</p> <p>This funding is from the Commonwealth’s Community Solar Banks Program, with \$30m directed to Solar for Apartment Residents program and \$1m to the community clean energy program in the NSW far south coast.</p> <p>The NSW Government is providing the program management and administration for the two programs as their contribution, as indicated below.</p> <p>If there are any unspent Commonwealth funds remaining in 2025-26, a movement of funds will be requested by the Commonwealth to move funding into 2026-27.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 853 1430 1227"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Table 1.1: Solar for Apartment Residents &amp; Low-Income Stream (\$million)</b></th> <th><b>2024/25</b></th> <th><b>2025/26</b></th> <th><b>2026/27</b></th> <th><b>Total</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Estimated total budget</b></td> <td>3.5</td> <td>28.5</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>32.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less estimated National Partnership payments</td> <td>2.5</td> <td>27.5</td> <td></td> <td>30.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>1.0</td> <td>0.8</td> <td>2.8</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1234 1430 1570"> <thead> <tr> <th><b>Table 1.2 NSW Far South Coast project (\$million)</b></th> <th><b>2024/25</b></th> <th><b>2025/26</b></th> <th><b>2026/27</b></th> <th><b>Total</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><b>Estimated total budget</b></td> <td>0.54</td> <td>0.54</td> <td></td> <td>1.08</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less estimated National Partnership payments</td> <td>0.5</td> <td>0.5</td> <td></td> <td>1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions</td> <td>0.04</td> <td>0.04</td> <td></td> <td>0.08</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Table 1.1: Solar for Apartment Residents &amp; Low-Income Stream (\$million)</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Estimated total budget</b>	3.5	28.5	0.8	32.8	Less estimated National Partnership payments	2.5	27.5		30.0	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	1.0	1.0	0.8	2.8	<b>Table 1.2 NSW Far South Coast project (\$million)</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2025/26</b>	<b>2026/27</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Estimated total budget</b>	0.54	0.54		1.08	Less estimated National Partnership payments	0.5	0.5		1.0	Balance of non-Commonwealth contributions	0.04	0.04		0.08
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<p>Use of Commonwealth Funds</p>	<p>Commonwealth funding will be used for the deployment of shared solar and clean energy projects and will not be used for any NSW Government program administration.</p>																																								

**Table 2.1: Solar on Apartment Residents performance requirements, reporting and payment summary**

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
Provide apartment dwellers access to the benefits of solar through a program to support the installation of shared rooftop solar - including a stream for low-income households.	<p>Milestone 1</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of:</p> <p>Project Plan containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of the program, implementation details, timelines, milestones and risk register.</li> <li>• Communications Plan targeting specific participants (apartment dwellers, Owners Corporations).                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Including providing the Commonwealth with any relevant media opportunities and recognition/co-branding on any related material.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Stakeholder engagement plan including evidence of arrangements with key program stakeholders where applicable e.g. Owners Corporations</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation framework, which would include the collection of relevant data to perform an evaluation outlined in Milestone 5.</li> </ul> <p>Draft Solar for Apartment Residents Program Guidelines containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Program objectives including to provide apartment dwellers access to the benefits of solar through the installation of shared rooftop solar.</li> <li>• Assessment criteria for the program including a criterion for value for money.</li> <li>• Application process.</li> <li>• Timelines.</li> </ul>	10/10/2024	\$2.5m (paid)
	<p>Milestone 2</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing evidence of satisfactory progress towards the output, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List and details of the Shared Rooftop Solar applications including:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Number of households proposed to be serviced.</li> <li>○ Capacity of proposed installs.</li> <li>○ Cost of proposed installs.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	10/12/2024	\$2.5m (paid)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Estimated household savings.</li> <li>○ Details of target groups such as, low-income households and renters.</li> <li>○ Program Expense Report containing grant payments and commitments, Owners Corporation contributions and administration expenses.</li> <li>● Projections of expected funding agreements for completion by end of delivery stage May 2026.</li> </ul>		
	<p>Milestone 3 Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing evidence of satisfactory progress towards the output, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Updated Project Plan containing Low-Income Stream (as per Milestone 1):</li> <li>● Updated Solar for Apartment Residents Program Guidelines containing Low-Income Stream (as per Milestone 1)</li> <li>● Summary of applications received including: total received, approved, being processed, withdrawn and ineligible with reasons.</li> <li>● List and details of the executed funding agreements under the Shared Rooftop Solar program including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Planned/actual number of shared solar systems with total and average size/capacity installed (kW).</li> <li>○ Number of households participating (total as well as subset number of target groups e.g., renters, low-income households, other).</li> <li>○ Household savings to date including overall as well as per-household average e.g. energy bills savings (real or estimated).</li> <li>○ Program Expense Report containing total grant payments and commitments, Owners Corporation contributions and administration expenses.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	30/01/2026	Up to \$25m based on the value of executed funding agreements.
	<p>Milestone 4 Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing evidence of satisfactory progress towards the output, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Summary of applications received including: total received, approved, being processed, withdrawn and ineligible with reasons.</li> <li>● List and details of the executed funding agreements under the Shared Rooftop Solar program including:</li> </ul>	08/05/2026	Up to \$25m based on the value of executed funding agreements (less any payments from Milestone 3)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Planned and actual number of shared solar systems with total and average size/capacity installed (kW)</li> <li>○ Number of apartments/households participating (total as well as subset number of target groups e.g., renters, low-income households, other)</li> <li>○ Household savings to date including overall as well as per-household average e.g. energy bills savings (real or estimated).</li> <li>○ Program Expense Report containing total funding payments and commitments, Owners Corporation contributions and administration expenses.</li> </ul>		
	<p>Milestone 5</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing evidence of satisfactory progress towards the output, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Summary of applications received including: total received, approved, being processed, withdrawn and ineligible with reasons.</li> <li>● List and details of the executed funding agreements under the Shared Rooftop Solar program including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Planned and actual number of shared solar systems with total and average size/capacity installed (kW)</li> <li>○ Number of apartments/households participating (total as well as subset number of target groups e.g., renters, low-income households, other)</li> <li>○ Household savings to date including overall as well as per-household average e.g. energy bills savings (real or estimated).</li> <li>○ Program Expense Report containing total funding payments and commitments, Owners Corporation contributions and administration expenses.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	02/11/2026	\$0
	<p>Milestone 6</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing evidence of satisfactory progress towards the output, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Summary of applications received including: total received, approved, being processed, withdrawn and ineligible with reasons.</li> <li>● List and details of the executed funding agreements under the Shared Rooftop Solar program including:</li> </ul>	01/05/2027	\$0

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Planned and actual number of shared solar systems with total and average size/capacity installed (kW)</li> <li>○ Number of apartments/households participating (total as well as subset number of target groups e.g., renters, low-income households, other)</li> <li>○ Household savings to date including overall as well as per-household average e.g. energy bills savings (real or estimated).</li> </ul> <p>Program Expense Report containing total funding payments and commitments, Owners Corporation contributions and administration expenses.</p>		
	<p>Milestone 7</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of an End of Project Report containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● List and details of the executed funding agreements under the Shared Rooftop Solar program including:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Actual number of shared solar systems with total and average size/capacity installed (kW)</li> <li>○ Number of apartments/households participating (total as well as subset number of target groups e.g., renters, low-income households, other)</li> <li>○ Household savings to date including overall as well as per-household average e.g. energy bills savings (real or estimated).</li> <li>○ Program Expense Report containing total funding commitments and payments, Owners Corporation contributions and administration expenses.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Evaluation report on the Solar for Apartment Residents program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Objectives and outcomes, total energy and emission savings, number of households serviced and savings (by target groups).</li> </ul>	01/12/2027	\$0

**Table 2.2: Far South Coast of NSW – Clean energy technologies performance requirements, reporting and payment summary**

Output	Performance milestones	Report due	Payment
To establish a funding program to deploy clean energy projects in the NSW far south coast region	<p>Milestone 1</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of:</p> <p>Project Plan containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Description of the program, implementation details, timelines, milestones and risk register.</li> <li>• Communications Plan targeting specific grant recipients, such as, households and community groups in the far south coast of NSW.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Including providing the Commonwealth with any relevant media opportunities and recognition/co-branding on any related material</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Stakeholder engagement plan including evidence of arrangements with key program stakeholders where applicable, such as, community groups and clean energy organisations in the south coast of NSW.</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation framework, which would include the collection of relevant data to perform an Evaluation outlined in Milestone 4.</li> </ul> <p>Draft Program Guidelines containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Objectives, including to support community clean energy projects in the far south coast of NSW</li> <li>• Eligibility and merit criteria</li> <li>• Application and assessment process</li> <li>• Timelines</li> </ul>	10/09/2024	\$500,000 (paid)
	<p>Milestone 2</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory progress against project objectives and outcomes including clean energy technologies installed and community benefits from a sustainability and resilience aspect.</li> <li>• Program Expense Report containing total funding payments and commitments, contributions and other expenses.</li> </ul>	10/04/2025	\$465,000 (paid from an allocated \$500,000) based on the total value of executed funding agreements
	<p>Milestone 3</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of a Progress Report containing:</p>	10/12/2025	\$0

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Satisfactory progress against project objectives and outcomes including clean energy installed and community benefits from a sustainability and resilience aspect.</li><li>• Program Expense Report containing total funding payments and commitments, contributions and other expenses.</li></ul>		
	<p>Milestone 4</p> <p>Commonwealth acceptance of an End of Project Report containing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Satisfactory progress against project objectives and outcomes including clean energy installed and community benefits from a sustainability and resilience aspect.</li><li>• Program Expense Report containing total funding commitments, payments, contributions and other expenses.</li></ul> <p>Evaluation report on the program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Objectives and outcomes including community benefits from a sustainability and resilience aspect, total energy and emission savings, number of local jobs created.</li></ul>	10/06/2026	\$0

The Parties have confirmed their commitment to this schedule as follows:

Signed for and on behalf of the Commonwealth of Australia by



**The Honourable Chris Bowen MP**  
Minister for Climate Change and Energy

18/12 / 2025

Signed for and on behalf of the New South Wales Government by



**The Honourable Penny Sharpe MP**  
Minister for Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Heritage

16/2 / 2025