

AP - Northmore Gordon

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AP stands for Accredited Provider. In Victoria, an Accredited Provider is a person accredited under the Victorian Essential Services Commission (ESC) to create VEECs (Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates) for Prescribed Activities under the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme. This is distinct from New South Wales, where the equivalent term is Accredited Certificate Provider (ACP), who creates Energy Savings Certificates (ESCs) under the NSW Energy Savings Scheme.

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What does AP stand for?

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What is an Accredited Provider (AP)?

An Accredited Provider is a person accredited under the Victorian Essential Services Commission (ESC) to create VEECs (Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates) for eligible activities under the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme. Accredited Providers create certificates for eligible activities by demonstrating that projects meet prescribed activity requirements or project-based methods such as measurement and verification or benchmark rating. Their authority is specific to their accredited scope and the scheme rules current at the time of assessment.

Which regulatory body accredits Accredited Providers in Victoria?

The Victorian Essential Services Commission (ESC) accredits Accredited Providers in Victoria. The ESC provides relevant approval scope that must be matched to proposed projects under Victorian Energy Upgrades. Before selecting a provider, verify that their accredited scope covers the specific activity type and premises category relevant to your project, as accreditation scope can be limited to particular sectors or prescribed activities.

What certificates can an Accredited Provider create under the Victorian scheme?

An Accredited Provider can create VEECs (Victorian Energy Efficiency Certificates) for eligible activities under the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme. Certificates may be created for prescribed activities with standardized equipment requirements or for project-based activities that use measurement and verification or benchmark rating methods. Certificate creation requires that the activity, premises, equipment, and scheme conditions all align; a technically sensible upgrade is not automatically eligible under the scheme rules.

What should be verified before relying on an Accredited Provider's services?

Before relying on an Accredited Provider, verify professional scope alignment—that the provider's accreditation covers the specific activity, premises type, and calculation method for your project. Confirm scheme compliance with current Victorian Energy Upgrades rules and specifications. Request the governing activity document version, main eligibility assumptions, calculation basis, evidence responsibilities, and commercial treatment of certificates. Show certificate price and quantity assumptions separately, and confirm whether an amount quoted is an indicative gross value or the customer's net proceeds after agreed charges.

Does accreditation guarantee a provider is suitable for any given project?

No. Accreditation establishes that a provider is authorized to create certificates under the scheme, but does not guarantee suitability for every project. The provider's specific activity and professional scope must be verified as matching your proposed project. A past solar, cogeneration, or heating project cannot establish today's eligibility for a new site; exact current specifications, activity requirements, and the Essential Services Commission's relevant approval scope must be matched to the proposed project before detailed advice or certificate calculation is finalized.

How do Accredited Providers differ from Accredited Certificate Providers (ACPs) in New South Wales?

Accredited Providers (APs) in Victoria create VEECs under the Victorian Energy Upgrades scheme and are accredited by the Victorian Essential Services Commission. Accredited Certificate Providers (ACPs) in New South Wales create Energy Savings Certificates (ESCs) under the NSW Energy Savings Scheme. While both roles involve creating environmental certificates for eligible energy-saving activities, the schemes, accrediting bodies, certificate types, calculation methods, and record-keeping requirements differ between jurisdictions. Projects must be assessed under the applicable scheme rules for their location.

What information should be prepared before engaging an Accredited Provider?

Prepare a screening file including site address and premises use, existing and proposed equipment details, project stage and intended dates, available energy data, prior incentives and certificate arrangements, and details of the proposed provider and practitioner. This project intake allows an Accredited Provider to verify the relevant activity and professional scope, identify whether prerequisites and measurement are still possible, and assess baseline and monitoring gaps. Provide records that distinguish estimates from measured data to support evidence planning.

What role does Northmore Gordon play regarding Accredited Providers?

We assess project eligibility for environmental certificates and provide engineering and commercial assessment across schemes including Victorian Energy Upgrades. We can help prepare project briefs, identify the applicable scheme and Accredited Provider scope, verify professional scope alignment, and assess whether proposed projects meet eligibility assumptions. We also deliver measurement and verification services, which work alongside an Accredited Provider's certificate creation role to establish credible project savings and compliance with scheme requirements.