

# PV - Northmore Gordon

Canonical: <https://northmoregordon.com/glossary/pv/>

## Details:

Home › Glossary › PV

### # PV

PV stands for Solar Photovoltaic, as defined in the Northmore Gordon glossary. Solar PV is a renewable energy technology that converts sunlight directly into electricity using semiconductor materials. It is a key technology in Australia's renewable energy landscape and is eligible for various renewable energy certificate schemes under specific conditions.

### ## Related guidance

Carbon advisory

Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions

Certificates

Government schemes

Certificate trading

Measurement and verification

### ### What does PV stand for?

PV stands for Solar Photovoltaic, as defined in the Northmore Gordon glossary. Solar PV is a renewable energy technology that converts sunlight directly into electricity using semiconductor materials. It is a key technology in Australia's renewable energy landscape and is eligible for various renewable energy certificate schemes under specific conditions.

### ### Which company published the glossary definition of PV?

The glossary definition of PV was published by Northmore Gordon, a consulting firm operating in Australia and Singapore that specializes in energy performance, carbon management, and environmental certificates for industrial businesses and the built environment.

### ### Is Solar PV relevant to Australia's renewable energy certificate schemes?

Yes, Solar PV is a renewable energy technology eligible for Small-Scale Technology Certificates (STCs) under Australia's Renewable Energy Target scheme. The small-scale pathway is one of two certificate creation mechanisms available. Solar PV systems must meet specific capacity and technical requirements to qualify for certificate creation. The technology is also eligible to participate in the large-scale renewable energy scheme under different rules.

### ### What change to Solar PV eligibility under STCs was announced by the Clean Energy Regulator?

As of 15 September 2026, the Clean Energy Regulator announced an expansion of solar PV eligibility for STCs from 100 kW to 1 MW, intended for installations from 1 October 2026, subject to regulations being made. This expansion potentially allows larger solar installations to access the small-scale certificate pathway, though the exact implementation depends on regulatory confirmation.

### Should the announced expansion of solar PV eligibility be treated as already in effect?

No. The announcement should not be treated as proof that a proposed system already has expanded entitlement. You must confirm the enacted requirements and application arrangements for the actual installation date. Eligibility depends on when the regulations are made and come into effect, not simply on the announcement date. Check the Clean Energy Regulator's current guidance before relying on the proposed 1 MW threshold.

### What should be established before choosing a solar PV certificate pathway?

Before selecting a certificate pathway, gather the technology type, rated capacity, output profile, commissioning date, and details of any existing or expanded system. Document the entity controlling the facility and the rights to environmental attributes. Separate three key questions: which scheme can the facility participate in, which certificates can be created, and what claim can the owner make after retirement. Do not assume that the largest estimated certificate quantity is the correct choice; compare complete cash-flow timing, evidence costs, and attribute consequences across options.

### How can Northmore Gordon assist with solar PV project assessment and certificate pathways?

We provide measurement-and-verification support, certificate-related guidance, and project assessment services for solar installations. We conducted a published case study on a 400 kW solar installation at Kalafatis Fresh Produce, documenting how measurement planning, solar generation tracking, and baseline management apply to projects. We can help identify the applicable scheme, prepare measurement and verification plans, and support certificate registration and trading.

### What data and evidence is important for a solar PV project assessment?

A solar PV project assessment should establish site consumption and import data before installation, solar generation and export data post-commissioning, equipment and expansion chronology, meter and inverter quality records, and the assessment boundary. Solar generation data records the electrical output produced by the installation and the amount used on site versus exported. Inverter data quality is particularly important; issues with data recording can complicate assessment of the project's performance.

### Can an installed solar PV system still qualify for certificates if it has not been previously nominated?

Whether an installed solar PV project can qualify for certificates depends on the specific scheme, its rules, the relevant dates, available evidence, and any prior arrangements. Timing requirements and newness criteria vary between schemes. Before assuming retrospective eligibility, submit a project brief to Northmore Gordon identifying the state, project stage, intended outcome, and actual installation date. An adviser can then confirm whether an available pathway applies or explain which pathways are no longer available.

### What is Northmore Gordon's approach to solar PV projects within its broader delivery framework?

We use a six-stage delivery approach: Assess (audits and benchmarking), Build the Case (feasibility and investment cases), Capture Value (certificates and funding pathways), Deliver (project management and M&V;), Procure (renewable attribute procurement), and Perform (reporting and ongoing management). For a solar PV project, the appropriate starting stage depends on your current situation: if no audit exists, start with assessment; if an upgrade is identified, focus on feasibility and measurement planning before installation to ensure certificates remain eligible.