

EnergyTech Market Ready Support (EMRS) 2026

Canonical: <https://northmoregordon.com/grants-and-programs/energytech-market-ready-support-emrs-2026/>

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Funding program archive

This page preserves a dated funding-program record and links it to current project-planning guidance.

Publication date: the source publication date.

Status note: This archive does not confirm that applications are open, funds remain available or the earlier eligibility and co-funding settings still apply. Verify the current administrator page and guidelines.

What this article reported

The EnergyTech Market Ready Support (EMRS) 2026 program provides equity-free grants to help Victorian EnergyTech startups accelerate the commercialisation of innovative energy solutions. Designed for businesses that have already entered the market, the program supports defined projects that move technologies closer to widespread adoption, helping startups secure customers, expand into new markets, and contribute to Victoria's renewable energy transition.

Who is this for?

State: Victoria

Industry: Energy Technology (EnergyTech), Clean Energy, Renewable Energy, Climate Technology Startups

Eligibility: You can apply if you:

Hold a current Australian Business Number (ABN).

Are a legally constituted business (sole trader, partnership or company) commercialising an EnergyTech solution.

Are the founder or co-founder with the legal authority to enter into a funding agreement.

Hold the intellectual property, or the necessary rights and licences, to commercialise your solution.

Can demonstrate your solution is already in-market through evidence such as an active pilot, trial partner, customer commitment, deployment or early revenue.

Are based in Victoria and can demonstrate at least 80% of project expenditure will occur within Victoria.

Can demonstrate previous external funding, secured co-investment, or an ongoing funding or revenue stream.

Funding available

Grants of \$50,000 are available.

Six grants will be awarded from a total funding pool of \$300,000.

Projects must be completed within six months, between October 2026 and April 2027.

What can the grant be used for?

Funding is available for defined commercialisation projects that help EnergyTech startups progress towards market readiness or commercial expansion. Eligible activities may include:

Converting pilot projects into ongoing customer contracts.

Developing customer proof packs, case studies and compliance documentation.

Delivering commercial pilot projects and demonstrations.

Expanding into new customer markets or distribution channels.

Completing regulatory compliance, certification or industry testing.

Engaging professional services such as legal, intellectual property, accounting or technical expertise.

Covering wages for staff directly delivering the funded project.

Northmore Gordon can assist businesses with preparing competitive grant applications, developing commercialisation project plans, preparing project budgets, and demonstrating how proposed activities will deliver measurable commercial outcomes aligned with the program objectives.

What can't the grant be used for?

The program does not support:

Early-stage idea development, prototypes or MVP development without active market engagement.

Retrospective costs.

General operating expenses such as rent, utilities or insurance.

General marketing or routine business development activities.

Business-as-usual operations or incremental product improvements.

Feasibility studies without clear commercial outcomes.

Construction projects or major capital works.

Key dates

Applications open: 13 July 2026

Applications close: 5:00 pm AEST, 14 August 2026

Project period: October 2026 to April 2027 (six months).

Apply through Northmore Gordon

If you're developing innovative EnergyTech solutions and are ready to take the next commercial step, Northmore Gordon can help maximise your chances of success. Our experienced grant consultants will work with you to prepare a strong application that clearly demonstrates your commercialisation pathway, project outcomes and eligibility.

Contact Northmore Gordon today to discuss your eligibility and submit your application for the EnergyTech Market Ready Support (EMRS) 2026 program.

How to use this information now

Before relying on a grant, confirm the current round, applicant and project eligibility, eligible expenditure, co-contribution, assessment process, closing date and evidence obligations. Build the technical case so the project remains understandable with grant support shown separately.

Separate source-reported facts from forecasts, targets and commentary. For a current project, retain the official source, version, effective date, assumptions and decision record in the evidence file.

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What is the EnergyTech Market Ready Support (EMRS) 2026 program?

EMRS 2026 is a Victorian government program providing equity-free grants to help EnergyTech startups accelerate commercialisation of innovative energy solutions. It targets businesses already in the market with defined projects that move technologies closer to widespread adoption. The program supports startups in securing customers, expanding into new markets, and contributing to Victoria's renewable energy transition. Unlike early-stage funding, EMRS 2026 requires demonstrated market engagement such as active pilots, trial partnerships, customer commitments, or early revenue before application.

What are the key eligibility requirements for EMRS 2026 applicants?

Applicants must hold an active Australian Business Number and be a legally constituted business commercialising an EnergyTech solution. Founders or co-founders must have legal authority to enter funding agreements and hold or control the intellectual property. Critically, the solution must be already in-market (pilot, trial, customer commitment, or early revenue). The business must be Victoria-based with at least 80% of project expenditure in Victoria, and must demonstrate previous external funding, secured co-investment, or an ongoing funding or revenue stream.

What eligible activities does EMRS 2026 funding support?

Eligible uses include converting pilots into ongoing customer contracts, developing customer proof packs and case studies, delivering commercial pilots and demonstrations, expanding into new customer markets or distribution channels, completing regulatory compliance or industry testing, and engaging professional services (legal, IP, accounting, technical). Staff wages directly delivering the funded project are also eligible. Funding emphasises moving technologies toward widespread adoption through commercially-focused activities rather than research or prototype development.

What activities are specifically excluded from EMRS 2026 funding?

Ineligible activities include early-stage idea development, prototypes or MVP development without active market engagement, retrospective costs, general operating expenses (rent, utilities, insurance), routine marketing or business development, business-as-usual operations or incremental improvements, feasibility studies without clear commercial outcomes, and construction or major capital works. The program focuses on businesses with demonstrated market traction, so speculative or foundational research and general overhead costs cannot be funded.

What is the funding amount and timeline for EMRS 2026 projects?

Individual grants of \$50,000 are available, with six grants awarded from a total pool of \$300,000. Projects must be completed within six months, running from October 2026 to April 2027. This compressed timeline requires applicants to have well-defined, achievable commercialisation activities ready to execute immediately upon funding approval. Planning and scope must be realistic within the delivery period to ensure successful project completion and measurable commercial outcomes.

How can Northmore Gordon assist with EMRS 2026 application preparation?

Our consultants can help businesses prepare competitive applications by developing commercialisation project plans aligned with program objectives, preparing detailed budgets, and demonstrating how proposed activities deliver measurable commercial outcomes. They can clarify how energy technology projects meet eligibility criteria, structure applications to emphasise market engagement and pathway to adoption, and ensure project scopes are realistic within the six-month delivery timeline. This support strengthens applications by connecting technical capability with commercial clarity.

How does the six-month project timeline affect EMRS 2026 project planning?

The October 2026 to April 2027 timeline requires applicants to have commercially-ready projects that can be executed immediately. Extended feasibility studies, prototype development, or multi-phase rollouts are not viable within this window. Projects must focus on discrete commercialisation activities with clear start and completion dates, such as completing certification, launching with a specific customer, or expanding into a defined market. Applicants should front-load planning and secure resources before approval to meet the condensed delivery period effectively.

What evidence is needed to demonstrate that an EnergyTech solution is 'already in-market' for EMRS 2026?

In-market evidence includes active pilot projects with defined outcomes, confirmed trial partnerships with named organisations, signed customer commitments or letters of intent, deployed solutions generating early revenue, or established customer relationships. Documentation should demonstrate tangible market engagement beyond conceptual interest. This requirement distinguishes EMRS 2026 from early-stage funding programs; it supports businesses ready to scale proven solutions rather than validate market demand. Applicants should gather evidence of customer or partner commitment before submitting applications.

Why does EMRS 2026 require Victorian-based operations with 80% project expenditure in Victoria?

The program aims to strengthen Victoria's renewable energy and clean technology sector. The geographic requirement ensures funded projects contribute directly to the state's energy transition and create local economic activity. The 80% Victorian expenditure threshold allows for some specialist services or suppliers outside Victoria while ensuring the primary project benefits accrue locally. Applicants must plan project budgets with Victorian delivery in mind, which may include engaging local service providers, recruiting Victorian staff, or conducting market expansion activities within the state.

What does 'demonstrating previous external funding, secured co-investment, or ongoing revenue' mean for EMRS 2026 eligibility?

Applicants must show financial traction through one of three pathways: previous external funding rounds (seed, venture, government grants), confirmed co-investment commitments toward the EMRS 2026 project, or established revenue streams from existing operations. This requirement signals market confidence in the business model and demonstrates the founder's ability to attract capital or generate sales. It differentiates mature startups from earlier-stage ventures, ensuring EMRS 2026 supports businesses ready to scale. Applicants should prepare documentation of funding history, investor commitments, or revenue records to substantiate this criterion.