

Celebrating Excellence in Energy at the 2025 EEC Awards

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This dated news record has been reorganised for clear reading and connected to current guidance.

Publication date: May 28, 2025.

Status note: Present-tense statements, market figures, deadlines and program details in the archived record belong to its publication date. Check current official sources before making a decision.

What this article reported

It was a big night at the Energy Efficiency Council National Conference Gala Dinner, where the 2025 EEC Award winners were announced - a celebration of innovation, leadership, and impact across Australia's energy management community.

We extend our congratulations to all the nominees and winners, and proudly highlight G&K; O'Connor , supported by Northmore Gordon , for taking home the EEC Leading Energy Management Project: Industrial award . Their winning project, 'Closing the Loop on Red Meat Processing Energy and Emissions' , is a testament to what's possible when strategic vision meets deep technical expertise.

Over the past three years, it has been a privilege to work alongside GKO - helping navigate complex energy challenges and drive real emissions reductions in one of Australia's most vital industries.

A heartfelt thank you to Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and the Australian Meat Processor Corporation (AMPC) for their support, and congratulations again to all involved. This recognition reflects the dedication, innovation, and collaboration that continue to shape a more sustainable future.

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What was G&K; O'Connor's award-winning project about, and why does it matter for the red meat processing industry?

G&K; O'Connor's winning project, 'Closing the Loop on Red Meat Processing Energy and Emissions,' addressed energy and emissions challenges in Australia's red meat processing industry. The project demonstrates how industrial processors can reduce environmental impact while maintaining operational performance. Red meat processing is described as one of Australia's most vital industries, making energy efficiency improvements in this sector significant for both business competitiveness and national emissions goals. Our support over three years helped G&K; O'Connor navigate the technical and commercial complexity of achieving real, measurable emissions reductions in an energy-intensive operation.

What role did Northmore Gordon play in G&K; O'Connor's award-winning project?

We supported G&K; O'Connor on the 'Closing the Loop on Red Meat Processing Energy and Emissions' project, which won the EEC Leading Energy Management Project: Industrial award in 2025. The company worked alongside G&K; O'Connor for three years, helping navigate complex energy challenges and drive real emissions reductions. While specific technical services are not detailed in the award announcement, our typical support for industrial decarbonisation includes energy auditing, measurement and verification, environmental certificate assessment, and funding-pathway evaluation—services aligned with the scope of this red meat processing project.

Who were the key supporters of the award-winning project, and what did they contribute?

The Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) and the Australian Meat Processor Corporation (AMPC) were recognized as key supporters of G&K; O'Connor's winning project. Their involvement reflects broader industry and government backing for emissions reduction initiatives in meat processing. ARENA typically supports renewable energy and low-emissions technology projects, while AMPC represents the sector's collective interests. This multi-party support model—combining industry association expertise, government funding mechanisms, and consulting services—demonstrates how industrial decarbonisation projects benefit from coordinated technical, financial and sector-specific guidance.

What is the Energy Efficiency Council (EEC), and what do its awards recognize?

The Energy Efficiency Council, founded in 2009, is a not-for-profit membership association for businesses, universities, governments and NGOs focused on building a market for energy management products and services. Its mission supports healthy buildings, productive businesses and an affordable, reliable and sustainable energy system for Australia. The EEC Awards recognize excellence in energy management across sectors. G&K; O'Connor's 2025 award for Leading Energy Management Project: Industrial highlights the EEC's role in celebrating organizations that deliver measurable energy and emissions improvements, providing recognition that validates both the technical approach and the commercial viability of industrial decarbonisation.

What type of industrial energy challenges does Northmore Gordon help companies navigate, based on the G&K; O'Connor example?

Based on our three-year engagement with G&K; O'Connor, we assist industrial processors with complex energy and emissions challenges requiring coordinated technical assessment, commercial decision-making and funding coordination. In animal processing specifically, this includes evaluating heat and cooling duties, identifying efficiency opportunities, assessing renewable or alternative fuel options, and securing funding through grants and environmental certificates. Our approach—connecting technical assessment with commercial viability and ongoing performance—is suited to sectors like red meat processing where operational constraints, product quality and asset life cycles require integrated solutions rather than isolated equipment upgrades.

How does the G&K; O'Connor award recognition support Northmore Gordon's positioning in industrial energy and emissions work?

G&K; O'Connor's 2025 EEC award for Leading Energy Management Project: Industrial validates our experience in delivering measurable emissions reductions within energy-intensive industrial operations. The award recognizes not only the technical success of the project but also the three-year partnership approach that supported complex, real-world implementation. This recognition demonstrates that our service model—combining energy auditing, strategic planning, funding assessment and ongoing performance support—delivers outcomes that industry bodies and peers recognize as excellent. For prospective clients in manufacturing and processing, the award serves as evidence that we understand sector-specific constraints and can coordinate the technical, commercial and governance elements necessary for successful industrial decarbonisation.

When and where were the 2025 EEC Awards announced?

The 2025 EEC Award winners, including G&K; O'Connor's Leading Energy Management Project: Industrial award, were announced at the Energy Efficiency Council National Conference Gala Dinner. We published an article reporting this announcement on 28 May 2025. The gala dinner setting reflects the EEC's role in bringing together energy efficiency professionals, industry leaders and policymakers to celebrate excellence and share knowledge about successful energy management initiatives across Australia.

Why would a red meat processing company need coordinated energy and emissions support, rather than simply upgrading equipment?

Red meat processing involves interconnected energy systems—heating for cleaning and processing, cooling for product storage, compressed air, steam generation and wastewater treatment. Equipment operates within strict food-safety, hygiene and reliability constraints. An effective energy and emissions strategy must account for these operating requirements while identifying efficiency improvements, alternative fuels or renewable energy. Our approach to industrial decarbonisation addresses this complexity by combining energy auditing with operational feasibility assessment, funding-pathway evaluation and environmental certificate management. This integrated support helps processors like G&K; O'Connor achieve emissions reductions without compromising production performance or food safety—outcomes that individual equipment upgrades alone would struggle to deliver.