

Information pack

About the awards

The Smart Energy Excellence Awards 2025 are administered by the Smart Energy Council, the Independent Body for the Australian Renewable Energy Industry.

The Smart Energy Excellence Awards recognise and promote the significant achievements across the entire renewable energy industry. Culminating in a gala dinner in Sydney on 9 April 2025, entering these awards is an opportunity for you and your organisation to gain valuable exposure and be celebrated as industry leaders.

Key dates

Award entries open	10 December 2024
Awards entries close	13 February 2025
Awards finalists announced	13 March 2025
Awards gala dinner Doltone House, Darling Island, Sydney	9 April 2025, 6pm

Key information

Entry Portal

All award submissions must be completed online via the Awards Portal

We recommend you prepare your responses offline and then paste them into the portal when ready, before the deadline.

Applicants can self-nominate, and can enter as many awards as are relevant to them.

Awards Entry Process

- Follow the link to the <u>Awards Portal Homepage</u> or visit
- Click on the relevant award category
- Create an account
- Create the contact information tab
- Complete all fields on the Abstract Nomination tab, navigate through the menu displayed on the left of the screen
- Review the nomination then agree to the terms & conditions and submit the completed abstract, or it can be saved as a draft to edit and submit later
- FAQs and T&Cs can be found on the relevant tabs on the navigation bar in the awards nomination portal

Key contacts

Award Entry: awards@smartenergy.org.au Gala dinner: awards@smartenergy.org.au Media Enquiries: Tim@smartenergy.org.au

Terms and conditions

- Organisations and individuals that operate across the renewable energy sector in Australia are eligible to nominate.
- 2. Organisations must have been operating for a minimum of 12 months and must be solvent throughout the entire awards process.
- 3. Multiple entries are accepted, with separate submissions for each category.
- 4. The nomination must address each question relating to the relevant award category.
- 5. Full-time or part-time employees and board members of the Smart Energy Council, and awards judges are not eligible to enter or nominate for an award.

- 6. The Smart Energy Council reserves the right to disqualify entries from organisations and individuals that are insolvent or have provided incorrect or unverifiable information.
- 7. Judging will be undertaken by a panel of independent experts.
- 8. The judging panel's assessment of each nomination will be in accordance with the judging criteria and weightings.
- 9. The judging panel will assess each nomination according to the criteria, and select finalists and winners for each category.
- 10. The judging panel may contact award entrants to verify information included in their submission.
- 11. Answers should include recent achievements and activities, with a focus on the period from 1 January 2024–31 December 2024.
- 12. The judging panel reserves the right to present two awards in one category and may also decide not to present an award in a category where entries are not considered to merit an award.
- 13. The decision of the judging panel is final, and all nominees acknowledge and accept this
- 14. By registering your details, you agree to the collection, storage, and use of your information by the Smart Energy Council in accordance with our Privacy Policy.
- 15. Nominations must be completed online. Hard copy nominations will not be accepted.
- 16. Finalists and winners will be provided with digital awards logos that can be used on marketing collateral and social media.
- 17. Information on the finalists and winners will be published on the official Smart Energy Excellence Awards 2025 <u>website</u>.
- 18. Nominees agree for the Smart Energy Council to use all collateral submitted as part of the submission.
- 19. In accepting these terms and conditions, you accept that you may be filmed and photographed in relation to the Smart Energy Council, and that those images may appear in all forms of media, including print, online, television and other media.
- 20. By submitting the nomination form, nominees accept and abide by all terms and conditions.

Category information

This information provides an overview of each award category. Please read this information carefully when deciding which categories to enter.



Excellence in Consumer Energy

This award recognises organisations that demonstrate an outstanding development for distributed energy resources in Australia.

Judging criteria:

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- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. Outline how a product or service developed by your organisation is a significant development in the distributed energy resources market in Australia.
- 3. What is the compelling value proposition of what you do and why is it valuable for consumers?
- 4. What impact has your product or service had?

Excellence in Smart Transport

This award recognises organisations that are committed to solutions that decarbonise Australia's transport sector in an innovative way.

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. Outline how your organisation takes an innovative approach to decarbonising Australia's transport sector.
- 3. What is the compelling value proposition of what you do and why is that valuable for consumers?
- 4. What impact has your product or service had?
- 5. Outline your organisation's vision for future developments in zero-emission transport and commitment to industry sustainability.

Excellence in Zero Carbon Hydrogen

This award recognises organisations in the hydrogen sector that demonstrate a commitment to positive outcomes in areas including social and environmental impact.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. Outline how a project, product or service developed by your organisation is a significant development in the zero carbon hydrogen market in Australia.



- 3. What are the compelling environmental or economic outcomes from your project, product or service?
- 4. Demonstrate your organisation's commitment to community engagement and broader social outcomes.

Excellence in Stewardship

This award recognises organisations that demonstrate an impactful approach to the principles of stewardship (sustainable end-of-life strategies for battery energy storage systems, electric vehicles, solar inverters and associated supply chain packaging and components). Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. Outline your product, program or service that advances the principles of stewardship.
- 3. What are the compelling environmental and economic outcomes from your product, program or service?
- 4. What impact has your product, program or service had?

Excellence in Manufacturing

This award recognises organisations that are innovators in the development of renewable energy products that enhance efficiency, reduce costs, or improve sustainability. Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. How is your product innovative within the renewable energy industry?
- 3. What is the compelling value proposition of your product?
- 4. What impact has your product had?

Excellence in Large Scale Renewables

This award recognises solar, wind or energy storage projects greater than 5 MW in size, that demonstrate excellence in community engagement.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your project
- 2. In what ways does your project deliver excellence in community outcomes?
- 3. Outline your approach to community engagement.
- 4. What impact has your project had on the community?



Excellence in International Business Development

This award recognises organisations that demonstrate an innovative and impactful approach to international business.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. What is your compelling value proposition for the international market?
- 3. Demonstrate how you have taken an innovative approach to business-to-business international development
- 4. What international business outcomes have you achieved and what are the impacts of these outcomes?

Excellence in Training

This award recognises individuals or organisations that have demonstrated commitment to providing high quality training and support to the renewables industry.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. What is your compelling value proposition?
- 3. Explain how you provide innovative solutions to evolving training needs.
- 4. What impact have your programs had?

Diversity and Inclusion Champion

This award recognises organisations that have shown a commitment to diversity and inclusion in the workplace and industry.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. Outline your diversity and inclusion plan.
- 3. How have you taken innovative approaches to increasing the diversity of talent within your organisation?
- 4. What impact have these approaches had?
- 5. How is your organisation advocating for diversity and inclusion across the broader industry?



Excellence in First Nations Engagement

This award recognises First Nations organisations, or organisations or projects that demonstrate excellence in First Nations engagement.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. Outline your First Nations engagement plan.
- 3. How have you taken innovative approaches to First Nations engagement?
- 4. What impact have these approaches had?
- 5. How is your organisation advocating for First Nations engagement across the broader industry?

Best Public Sector Energy Transition Initiative

This award recognises public sector organisations that demonstrate excellence in driving innovation in the renewables industry.

Judging criteria:

- 1. Please provide an overview of your organisation.
- 2. What is your innovative value proposition?
- 3. How is your organisation using technology to progress your value proposition?
- 4. What impact has your innovation had?
- 5. How is your organisation taking a creative approach to environmental impact management to ensure your initiative's nature-positive impact?

Smart Energy Emerging Leader of the Year

This award recognises high-performing professionals aged under 40 years old who demonstrate leadership and a significant contribution to the smart energy industry. Judging Criteria:

- 1. Provide a brief overview of your professional background and current activities.
- 2. How are you demonstrating leadership within the industry?
- 3. What impact has your leadership had?
- 4. What would winning this award mean to you?

Smart Installer of the Year

This award recognises solar panel installers who demonstrate excellence in customer service and a commitment to their community.



Judging Criteria:

- 1. Provide a brief overview of your professional background and business
- 2. How have you provided excellence in customer service? Include examples.
- 3. Provide examples of your commitment to your community.
- 4. What steps have you taken to grow your business in 2024?
- 5. What would winning this award mean to you?
- 6. Provide three testimonials.