



Australian Government

Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water

Australia's Energy Policy Updates

Matt Marchesi, Assistant Director, Industrial Energy Efficiency Branch

15-16 March 2023

Building a secure and sustainable energy system for all Australians | www.dcceew.gov.au

Australia's Renewed Ambition

Australia has committed to a 43% emission reduction target on 2005 levels by 2030, and net zero by 2050.

- The Powering Australia Plan will integrate energy systems and modernise the energy grid with renewables at the fore.
- The Powering the Regions Fund will help businesses invest in energy efficient, low emissions technologies.
- Invest in 10,000 new energy apprentices and a new energy skills program.
- Invest \$20 billion to upgrade our electricity grid to support greater renewable energy penetration.



Australia's National Energy Performance Strategy

The focus of Australia's energy sector has been on energy supply with significant investment already underway to address supply-side challenges.

- On 6 October 2022, the Australian Government announced the development of a National Energy Performance Strategy (the Strategy).
- The Strategy will accelerate demand-side action to uplift energy performance, improve affordability and reduce emissions.
- Consultation is underway with states and territories, business, industry and community stakeholders to help shape the Strategy.



Australia is providing grants to improve the energy efficiency of small and medium sized enterprises

- Round 1 of the Energy Efficiency Grants for Small and Medium Sized Enterprises program launched on 6 March 2023.
- Australian small and medium businesses are benefiting from a \$62 million grants program designed to help them become more energy efficient, ease pressure on their energy bills and reduce emissions.

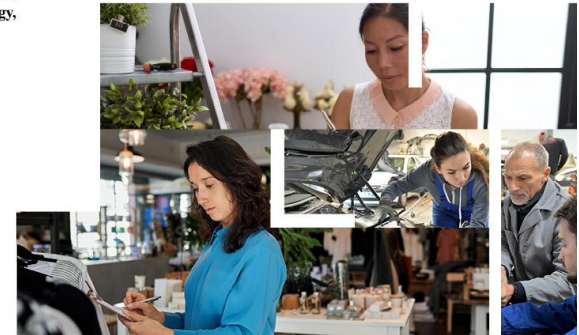


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Closing soon

Energy efficiency grants
valued up to \$25,000 for
small to medium businesses

[Learn more](#)

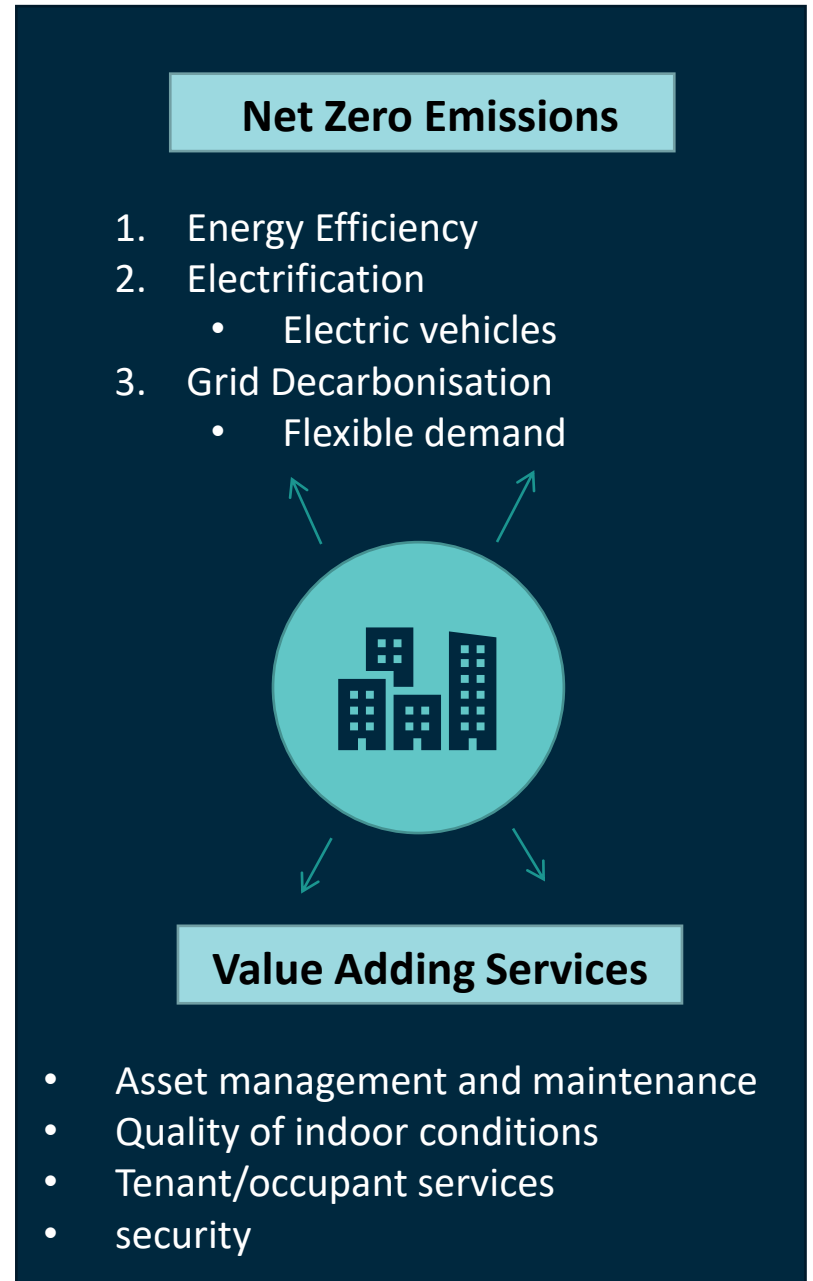


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Australia is investigating digitalisation opportunities

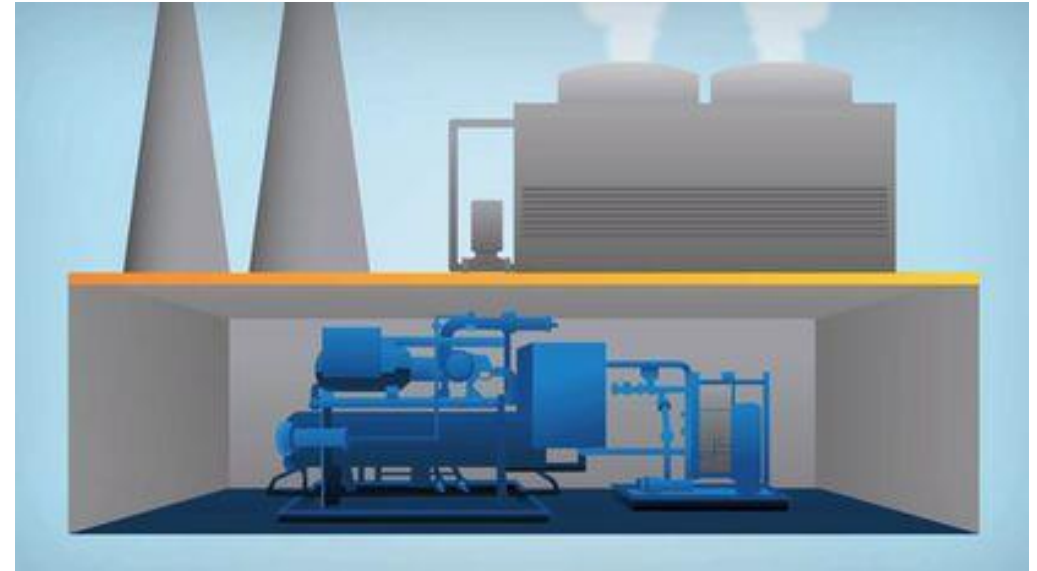
Digitalisation in buildings is a priority for Australia and we are engaging domestically and internationally in this area.

- Australia has produced a report – Scoping the Digital Innovation Opportunity for Energy Productivity in Non-Residential Buildings.
- The report found significant potential of digitalisation to create energy performance improvements that could save 6.6 megatonnes per year of CO₂ emissions.
- The report will be released soon. We will update the secretariat once the link becomes available on [energy.gov.au](https://www.energy.gov.au)



Australia is investigating industrial heat pumps, which will support our uptake of renewables

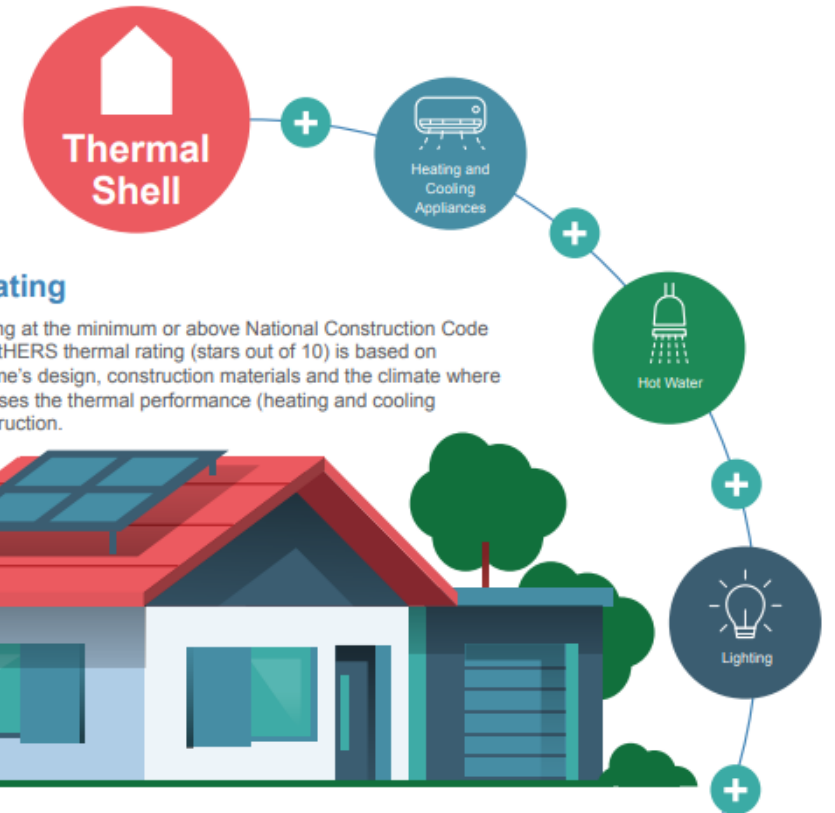
- Australia has a high uptake of heat pumps in residential buildings, with around 80% of homes having air conditioning. Many are reverse-cycle.
- We are looking to accelerate and expand use of large-scale heat pumps in industry.
- This will support our significant uptake of renewables.
- Australia proposed a policy exchange workshop on heat pumps for the IEA's Energy Efficiency Hub.



We have updated our Energy Efficiency requirements for new homes

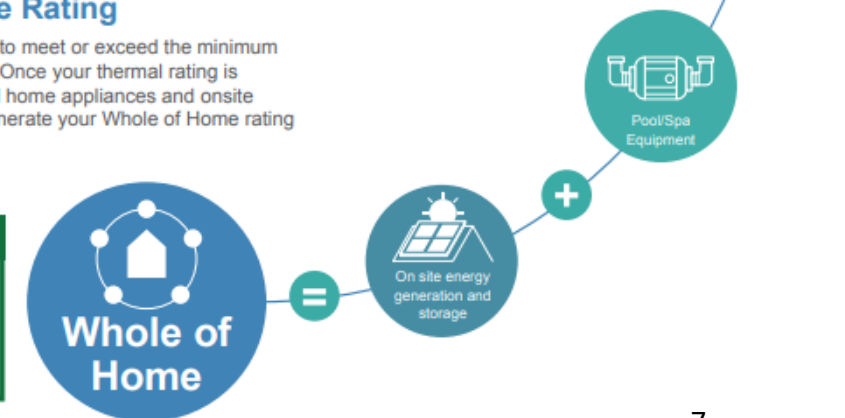
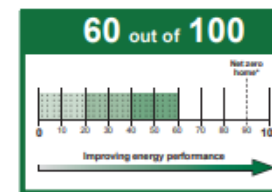
From October 2023 all new Australian homes will have to meet more stringent energy efficiency requirements.

- From the equivalent of 6 stars to 7 stars based on modelling of the building shell.
- A new 'Whole of home' energy budget will be introduced based on an assessment of the energy efficiency of:
 - heating and cooling
 - hot water
 - pool and spa pumps
 - lighting
 - solar PV and batteries.



Whole of Home Rating

It is a NCC requirement to meet or exceed the minimum Whole of Home ratings. Once your thermal rating is established you can add home appliances and onsite energy generation to generate your Whole of Home rating out of 100.





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Thank you

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