



Capacity Investment Scheme – Tender 7 National Electricity Market Generation

Capacity Investment Scheme (CIS) Tender 7 is seeking 5 gigawatts (GW) of renewable electricity generation in the National Electricity Market (NEM)

Tender timing

Tender 7 – NEM Generation is a competitive tender process for renewable generation projects seeking long-term revenue support from the Australian Government through a Capacity Investment Scheme Agreement (CISA).

The information contained in this note is indicative only. Full tender details, including eligibility and merit criteria, will be published in the Tender Guidelines and Proforma CISA when bids open.

Indicative tender dates	
Registration opens	7 October 2025
Bids open	14 October 2025
Registration closing	25 November 2025
Bid closing	9 December 2025
Announce successful bids	May 2026 (indicative)

An online Q&A process will open when bids open and close 5 business days before the bid closing date.

Tender targets

Tender 7 has an indicative target of 5 GW of renewable generation in the NEM. This includes the following indicative targets in NEM jurisdictions:

NEM jurisdiction	Minimum target (GW) *
NSW	1.7
Victoria	1.0
Tasmania	0.3
Unallocated	2.0
Total	5.0

*Subject to assessed merit of projects

In accordance with the Australian Government's Renewable Energy Transformation Agreements (**RETA**) with jurisdictions:

- NSW capacity is capped at approximately 2 GW, but may be increased if any NSW projects awarded in previous tenders withdraw;
- Victorian solar and solar-hybrid projects are not eligible in this tender due to a cap on these technologies, as requested by the Victorian Government. For future

tenders, there is not intended to be a cap on solar-hybrid projects in Victoria;

- South Australia does not have a minimum target because its RETA allocation is likely to be met by previous tenders.

Unallocated capacity in this tender may be met by projects across the NEM, including in Queensland and South Australia, based on the assessed merit of projects.

Tender process

As previously announced, CIS tenders will move to a single-stage bid and assessment process. Proponents are required to prepare and submit all aspects of their bid during the bid submission period, from 14 October to 9 December 2025. For more information on the single stage process and other recent changes to CIS tenders refer to the [Department's website](#).

Eligibility criteria

Eligibility Criteria will be published in the Tender Guidelines. Indicative criteria include (but not limited to) that a project must:

- be fuelled by an eligible renewable energy source under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000 (Cth)*;
- have a minimum capacity of 30 MW;
- have a connection enquiry response or executed agreement with a Network Service Provider;
- be suitably progressed with the relevant State or Territory planning application process;

- not be identified as committed or existing in AEMO's October 2024 Generation Information publication; and
- not be subject to an existing CISA or Long-Term Energy Service Agreement (LTESA).
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The full list of Eligibility Criteria will be available in the Tender Guidelines.

Merit criteria

Bids that satisfy all Eligibility Criteria are assessed and scored against Merit Criteria. Indicative Merit Criteria and weightings are:

Indicative merit criteria (MC)		
MC1	Financial value, system reliability and system benefits	50%
MC2	Project deliverability and timeline	12.5%
MC3	Organisational, resource, and financing capability	12.5%
MC4	First Nations participation and benefits sharing	12.5%
MC5	Social outcomes and community benefits sharing	12.5%

Projects assessed as low merit on any individual MC may not be further assessed.

Commercial Operations Date

Projects with earlier, credible plans to secure remaining approvals and delivery milestones to achieve Commercial Operations Date will be considered higher merit under Merit Criterion 2.