



Government of **Western Australia**  
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

Department of Water and  
Environmental Regulation

# Clean Energy Future Fund Round 4

Ro Richardson  
Manager CEFF  
29 January 2026



# Agenda

Topic	Time
<p>What Government wants - CEFF objectives</p> <p>What CEFF offers – will the Fund suit your project?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Key Fund details</li></ul> <p>What CEFF wants – will your project suit the Fund?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eligibility criteria (applicant, project and costs)</li><li>• Merit criteria</li><li>• Ministerial priorities</li></ul> <p>What next – the process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How to apply</li><li>• Assessment process</li><li>• Getting support</li></ul>	30 mins
Questions	30 mins

## Fund Objectives

Wording of Objectives	Link to Benefits Merit Criteria
Significant, cost-effective reduction in greenhouse gas emissions below projected (or baseline) emissions as a direct result of the clean energy project	Emissions reduction
Design, deployment, testing or demonstration of innovative clean energy projects likely to deliver community benefits or lead to broad adoption and significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions	Other benefits + Potential for wider adoption

## Key Fund Details

Parameter	Value
Grant size	\$100,000 to \$4 million (GST exclusive)
Total funds available	\$9 million for this funding round
Maximum grant %	25% of eligible project costs
Maximum time to spend funds	5 years
Grant payment method	Paid by milestone in arrears
Application closing date	8 am AWST, Monday 20 April 2026
Applicants notified of outcome	Estimated late 2026
CEFF contact details	08 6364 6988   <a href="mailto:ceff@dwer.wa.gov.au">ceff@dwer.wa.gov.au</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.wa.gov.au/ceff">www.wa.gov.au/ceff</a>

# Eligibility Criteria - Applicant

## Eligible Entities

- an Australian corporation or Aboriginal corporation
- a local government entity
- government research organisation
- university
- a consortium with an eligible entity as lead applicant.

## Ineligible Entities

- a school
- a trust or trustee
- a Federal or State government department
- a sole trader or individual
- an overseas organisation
- an unincorporated association.

Applicant eligibility	Requirements
ABN and GST	Have an Australian Business Number (ABN) and be GST registered.
Sanctions	Must not be listed in the Australian trade sanctions consolidated list.
Fit and proper persons	The members of the management team must be fit and proper persons.
Definition of applicant	The party that signs funding agreement, delivers milestones, receives payments.

# Eligibility Criteria - Project

## Eligible Projects

- reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the production or use of stationary energy
- energy control or management systems
- renewable energy generation
- energy storage
- energy efficiency (can include electrification)

## Ineligible Projects

- projects that are already underway.
- ceasing closing down a business to reduce emissions.
- business as usual activities (i.e., normal operation of an existing business or venture).
- early-stage research i.e., Technical Readiness Level 1 to 5 (see applicant guidelines section 10)
- projects not involving specific sites/locations in WA
- road, rail, waterborne or air transport (other than charging infrastructure)

Project eligibility	Requirements
Funding limits	Request <= 25% of eligible costs, >=\$100k, <=\$4 million
Timing	Notified as winner, <= 6 months to sign funding agreement, <= 6 months to start project <= 5 years to finish
Technology	Must be permissible by law

## Eligibility Criteria - Costs

### Eligible Costs

- Capital costs of equipment for the project
- Essential enabling equipment
- Essential non-equipment expenditure including design, professional services, transport, installation
- Project management and grant administration costs

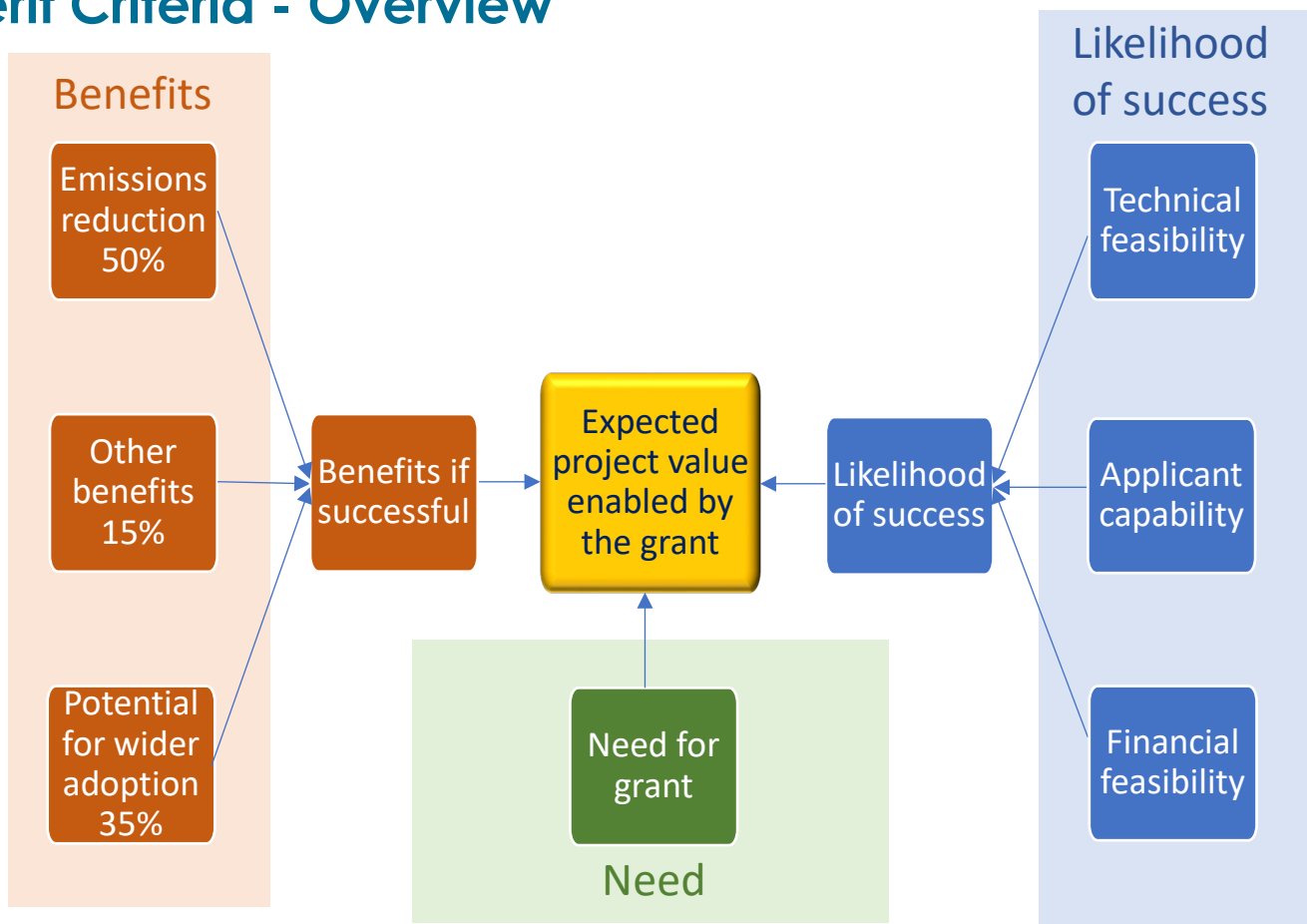
### Ineligible Costs

- Purchase of land
- Venture capital extended to third parties
- Purchase of carbon credits
- Costs associated with core business or business-as-usual activities
- Works already financially committed, underway or completed when the funding round closes
- Applying for the grant or signing the funding agreement

Applicant guidelines has more detail.

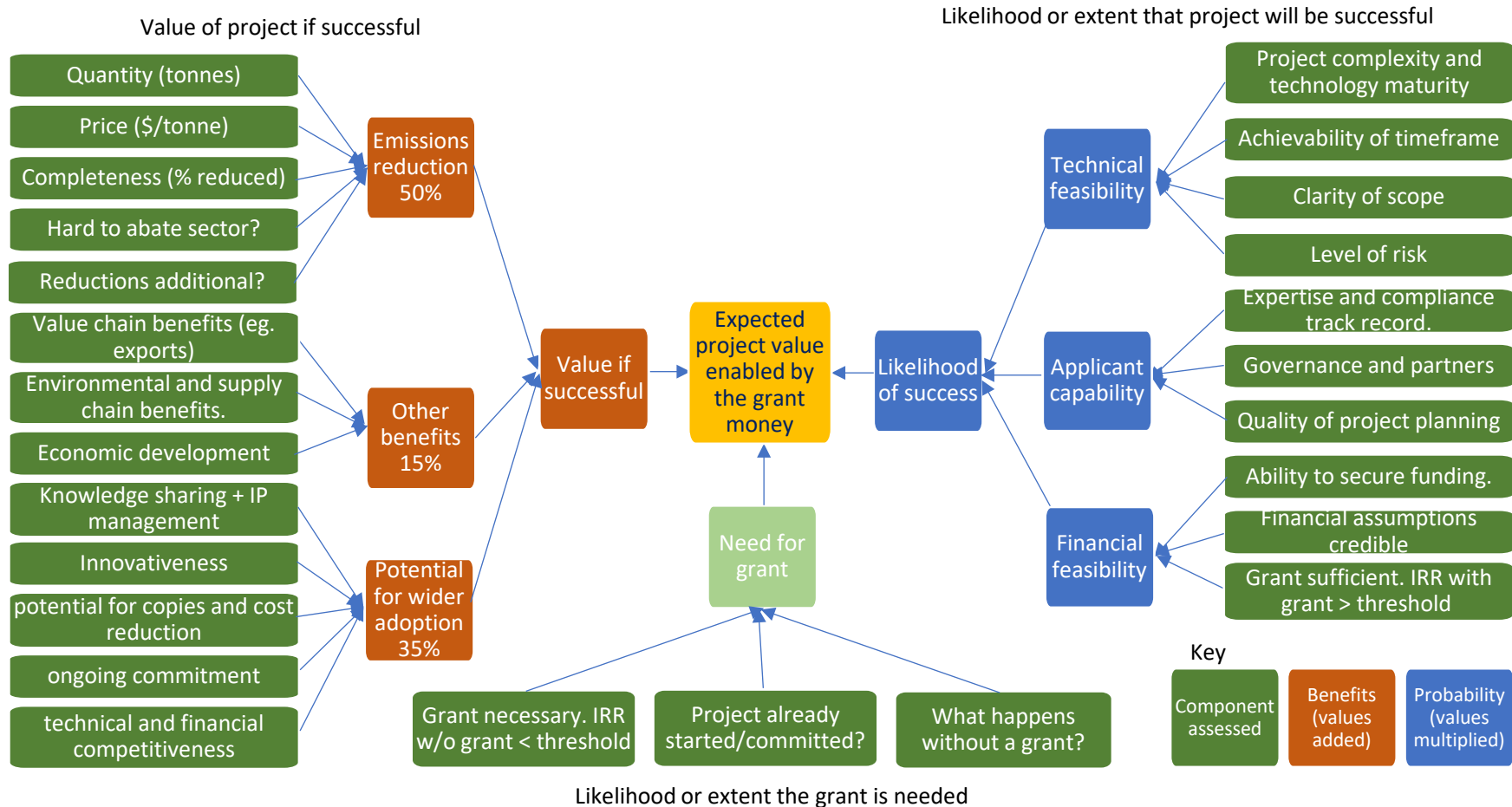
The funding agreement has a table to pre-agree which costs are eligible.

# Merit Criteria - Overview





# Proposal Assessment System



## Merit Criteria – Benefits - Emissions Reduction 50%

Attribute	What is measured
Quantity	The number of tonnes of CO <sub>2</sub> equivalent saved each year, by 2030, by 2050 and over the project lifetime
Price	The CEFF cost, and total project cost, for each tonne saved
Completeness	The percentage of emissions that are removed from the process or facility
Residual emissions	Plans or options to reduce residual emissions to meet net zero targets
Hard to abate	Abatement in difficult industries is more valuable
Additional	Abatement should be additional to business as usual or legal obligations.

## Merit Criteria – Benefits - Potential for Wider Adoption 35%

Attribute	What is measured
Knowledge sharing	The extent and value of knowledge that will be shared.
IP management	The extent and value of intellectual property to be licensed to others.
Innovation	The degree of innovation or the extension beyond common practice in WA
Cost reduction and replication	The potential for cost reductions for future projects and the likelihood of similar projects by the applicant or by others
Ongoing commitment	Assesses the applicant's ongoing commitment to the project, the technology and future projects
Competitiveness	What are the technical and financial advantages and disadvantages of this technology against existing or developing competitors

## Merit Criteria – Benefits - Other Benefits 15%

Potential benefits	Examples
Environmental benefits	reduced pollution (except emissions reduction – measured separately)
Benefits to the electricity network	grid stability or long-duration energy storage or ancillary services
Economic development	jobs or new industries, or increased supply chain resilience
First Nations benefits	employment, economic empowerment, or other benefits
Value chain benefits	benefits to suppliers or customers
Any other benefits	any other benefits to WA

## Merit Criteria – Likelihood of Success – Technical Feasibility - 1

Attribute	What is measured
Project complexity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• different disciplines, technologies or expertise areas that are needed</li><li>• external factors beyond your control</li><li>• potential regulatory or compliance requirements</li><li>• range and number of stakeholders</li></ul>
Technology maturity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How complex are the main innovations of the project?</li><li>• Which tools or technologies exist, and which must be developed?</li><li>• What is the Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of the project?</li></ul>
Realistic timeframe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What factors influence the start date?</li><li>• What factors influence the duration or finish date?</li><li>• How confident are you in these dates, and what are the consequences of taking longer?</li></ul>

## Merit Criteria – Likelihood of Success – Technical Feasibility - 2

Attribute	What is measured
Clarity of scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the project's goals and deliverables?</li><li>• What is in scope?</li><li>• What is out of scope?</li><li>• What scope is still to be determined?</li></ul>
Risk and insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How big are risks and how well are they managed?</li><li>• What insurances are needed for the project and what is their status.</li></ul>
Climate change	How will you manage risks from a changing climate (floods, droughts, fires, heatwaves, etc.) over the project life?

## Merit Criteria – Likelihood of Success – Applicant Capability

Attribute	What is measured
Expertise and track record	The expertise, capability and track record of the organisation, key staff and partners.
Governance and project partners	How will you oversee, account for and control the project, and partners and how project decisions will be made?
Project delivery plan	How do you plan to manage delivery of the project and to evaluate its success?

## Merit Criteria – Likelihood of Success – Financial Feasibility

Attribute	What is measured
Funding sources	Detail in financial model. High level information on likelihood of securing funds in application form. Can the balance of funds be found?
Financial model	Are assumptions supported and realistic? Are the financial model validations showing any issues? Would the grant be sufficient? Once the project is built, is it viable to operate?
Other financial feasibility info	Other supporting evidence that the project capital can be found, and the project will be viable.
Other likelihood of success info	Is there any other information on the project's likelihood of success?



## Merit Criteria – Need for the Grant

Attribute	What is measured
Project status	Has it already started? What financial or other commitments have been made?
Threshold for investment?	Is the project viable without the grant? Is the grant necessary?
What happens without a grant?	Can you run a smaller or less ambitious project without a grant?
Other info	Any other reasons the project needs the grant.

## Ministerial Priorities

Priority for innovative clean energy projects that:

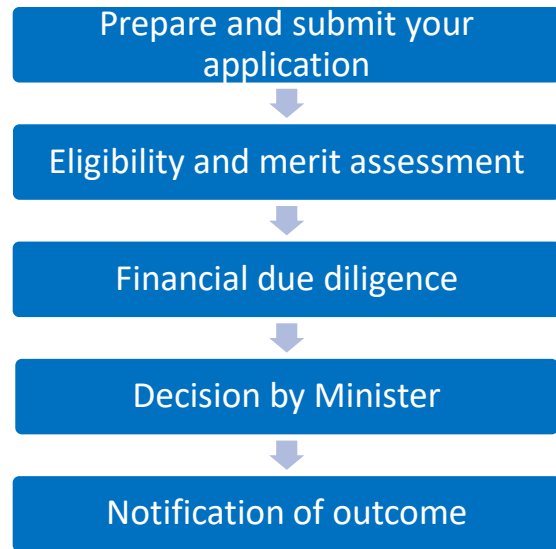
1. include meaningful participation by First Nations people.
2. add value to WA minerals and support green exports.
3. are on fringe of grid or off-grid.
4. that improve the security and resilience of networked electricity supply.
5. decarbonise existing industry or create new low-emissions industries.
6. enhance energy productivity and reduce emissions from the built environment or manufacturing.
7. that replace diesel electricity generation with renewable energy.
8. deliver long-duration energy storage (10+ hours) by 2030.
9. support WA manufacturing and maximise local content

## How to apply

1. Download the Applicant Guidelines and all required application documents from the CEFF website [www.wa.gov.au/ceff](http://www.wa.gov.au/ceff).
2. Begin completing your application using the provided templates.
3. Attend the webinars on the program, and the financial model.
4. Complete your application in full, ensuring all supporting documents are attached.
5. Submit by email to [ceff@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:ceff@dwer.wa.gov.au). Deadline: before **8:00 am AWST**, Monday 20 April 2026

**NOTE the early Monday morning deadline!**

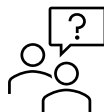
# Assessment Process



Applicants notified by email



Successful applicants invited to enter a Funding Agreement



Unsuccessful applicants may request feedback from DWER

## Getting support

1. Check if your question is answered by the Applicant Guidelines.
2. If your question is about the financial model, attend the webinar.
3. Send your question by email to [ceff@dwer.wa.gov.au](mailto:ceff@dwer.wa.gov.au).
4. Phone for support on 08 6364 6988.
5. **NOTE: Ro will be on leave from Tuesday 3 March to Friday 10 April inclusive. Please try to seek support before or after this time.**

# Questions



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# Clean Energy Future Fund Round 4 – financial model

Ro Richardson  
Manager CEFF  
2 February 2026



## Agenda - CEFF R3 Financial Model

Topic	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Financial Model Objectives</li><li>Conventions and Colours</li><li>Sequence of Steps</li><li>Project Model Tab</li><li>Funding Tab</li><li>Input-Output Tab</li><li>Other Tabs</li></ul>	30 mins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Questions</li></ul>	30 mins



# Financial Model Objectives

## Reasons CEFF uses the financial model

Clarity on project scope, costs, benefits, emissions, etc.

Comparable data across applications and technology types

Assessment of project emissions, energy and financial viability

Capturing reasoning or sources for each assumption

As a tool for applicants to optimise their projects

To build assessor confidence in the planned project

## Colour Conventions

Colour coding
Green is for user input.
Light green is for values with a default, but you can type over.
Peach is for energy.
Grey is for greenhouse gas (CO2 equivalent) emissions.
Gold is for money.
Yellow highlighting is for values typed over a formula.

- All money numbers are excluding GST.
- Use the “Justification for assumptions” columns to help assessors have confidence in your numbers.

# Conventions and Disclaimer

There are two copies of the spreadsheet, a **blank template** and a **worked example**. It is easier to understand the worked example.

The **worked example is not real**. I have chosen input values to give specific outputs. You are responsible for finding your own values.

The **spreadsheet is not locked**. You can **add or delete** rows or columns if needed. You may need to copy formulae from neighbouring cells. You are **free to use it as you wish**.

The **Department of Water and Environmental Regulation takes no responsibility** for any use of this template outside of the Clean Energy Future Fund (CEFF) grant application process.

Use **current year Australian dollars excluding GST** for all money values.

**Emissions factors** for the relevant grid found here: [Australia's emissions projections 2025 – DCCEEW](https://www.dcceew.gov.au/climate-change/publications/australias-emissions-projections-2025) or <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/climate-change/publications/australias-emissions-projections-2025>

If your **project covers two stages**, e.g., front end engineering and design, financial investment decision then construction, I recommend **completing two copies of the spreadsheet**, one for the design step, with outputs and revenue empty, and a second for the proposed commercial scale project. In this case, spread your milestones and grant across both stages.

## Sequence of Steps

Project Model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Assumptions</li><li>2 Construction or capital costs</li><li>3 Timing and grant allocation</li><li>4 Operating inputs or costs</li><li>5 Operating outputs or savings</li><li>6 Decommissioning</li><li>7 Net benefits (outputs less inputs)</li><li>8 Cash flow</li></ul>
Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>9 Funding</li><li>10 CEFF parameters</li></ul>
Input-output Explorer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>11 Validation</li><li>12 Project summary</li><li>13 In-kind contributions</li></ul>
Other tabs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>14 Milestone Table</li><li>15 Charts</li><li>16 Eligible Costs</li></ul>

## The Main Tabs – Show in Excel

# Questions

# Thank you

