Australian Government
Clean Energy Regulator

ANNUAL REPORT
2025–26

















CLEAN
ENERGY
REGULATOR

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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia and recognise their enduring connection to land, waters and community. We pay our respects to the people, the cultures and the Elders past and present. We also acknowledge the First Nations deep tradition of stewardship that has guided the care of this country for tens of thousands of years.

About this report

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This document must be attributed as the *Clean Energy Regulator Annual Report 2025–26*. The Clean Energy Regulator asserts the right to be recognised as the author of the original material, and material used attributed as 'Source: Clean Energy Regulator'.

This report describes our performance from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

We report on results achieved against our intended purpose, outcome, deliverables and performance criteria, which are detailed in our *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan* and the *Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26*. We also describe our management and accountability structures, our workforce and financial performance, including audited financial statements, in accordance with *Resource Management Guide No. 135: Annual reports for non-corporate Commonwealth entities.*

Our annual reports are available on the Australian Government's Transparency Portal – transparency.gov.au.

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Thank you to all the Clean Energy Regulator staff involved in contributing to the 2025–26 Annual Report.

Letter of transmittal

Australian Government
Clean Energy Regulator

The Hon Chris Bowen MP
Minister for Climate Change and Energy

Senator the Hon Murray Watt MP
Minister for the Environment and Water

Senator the Hon Josh Wilson MP
Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy

Dear Ministers

I am pleased to submit the Clean Energy Regulator Annual Report 2025–26 in accordance with subsection 40(1) of the *Clean Energy Regulator Act 2011* for presentation to Parliament.

The report covers the operations of the Clean Energy Regulator for the financial year ended 30 June 2026. It was prepared for the purposes of section 46 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013,* in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 and Resource Management Guide No. 135 – Annual reports for non-corporate Commonwealth entities*,* published by the Department of Finance.

The report includes the Clean Energy Regulator audited financial statements as required by section 43 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

As the Accountable Authority of the Clean Energy Regulator, I can advise that no significant issues have been identified or reported to the Minister under paragraph 19(1)(e) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* in relation to non-compliance with the finance law in relation to the entity.

In addition, as required by section 10 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014, I certify that the Clean Energy Regulator has:

- prepared fraud and corruption risk assessments and control plans
- mechanisms in place for preventing, detecting incidents of, investigating or dealing with, and recording and reporting fraud and corruption, that meet the agency's specific needs
- taken all reasonable measures to appropriately deal with fraud and corruption.

The report also addresses the Regulator's reporting obligations under section 172 of the *Nature Repair Act 2023* for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

Yours sincerely



Tony Chappel
Chair, Clean Energy Regulator

29 September 2026

Chair’s review



While I joined the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) following the conclusion of the 2025–26 reporting period, I have been impressed by the agency's achievements during a year marked by significant growth, transition and delivery. Throughout the year, the CER continued to play a critical role in supporting Australia's clean energy transformation through the effective administration of schemes and markets that drive emissions reduction and encourage investment in renewable energy.

The achievements outlined in this Annual Report reflect the strong foundations established across the agency through the leadership of former Chair, David Parker AM, who retired at the end of the reporting period after 9 years at the helm. I acknowledge Mr Parker's substantial contribution to the CER and his role in positioning the agency to successfully deliver its expanding responsibilities while responding to a rapidly evolving policy and operating environment. I also acknowledge the fine stewardship of Carl Binning who acted as Chair/CEO prior to my arrival on 14 September 2026.

The CER continued to deliver effective regulatory outcomes throughout 2025–26 while adapting to emerging challenges, new policy priorities and increasing stakeholder expectations. The agency's success continues to be underpinned by the dedication, capability and integrity of our people, whose commitment to public service excellence reflects the very best traditions of APS stewardship. As Chair and CEO, I look forward to building on these achievements and working with our people and stakeholders as the agency continues to support the renewal and modernisation of Australia's energy system and its broader economic transformation.

In 2025–26, the schemes we administer achieved abatement of 88.5 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO_2-e). This level of abatement represents a substantial proportion of Australia's total annual emissions of 446 Mt CO_2-e and reflects the strength of the policy frameworks, markets and regulatory systems that have been developed and refined over many years. The continued performance of these long-established schemes highlights their maturity, resilience and enduring contribution to Australia's climate and energy objectives.

This high level of abatement was supported by a record 23.1 million Australian carbon credit units (ACCUs) issued, 64,953.2 gigawatt hours (GWh) of renewable electricity from generators registered under the Large-scale Renewable Energy Target (LRET) and a further 3.4 gigawatts (GW) of installations under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES). The renewable electricity generated through our schemes displaces fossil fuel generation, avoiding an estimated 65.5 Mt CO_2-e from the power system in 2025–26.

The second compliance year of the reformed Safeguard Mechanism continued to deliver positive outcomes. Over 2024–25, emissions from safeguard facilities reduced from 136 Mt CO_2-e to 132.8 Mt CO_2-e. In total, 139 facilities surrendered 2.6 million Safeguard Mechanism Credit units (SMCs) and 10.8 million ACCUs to manage their excess emissions. Following these surrenders, total net emissions dropped by 5.5% from 2023-24 to 2024–25 to 120.3 Mt CO_2-e.

A significant portion of renewable capacity in the SRES over the period was due to the Cheaper Home Batteries Program (CHBP), implemented on 1 July 2025, which contributed 12.4 GWh for the financial year. Australians are embracing battery storage in record numbers. The rapid uptake of battery technology reflects a broader transformation occurring across Australia's electricity system, as consumers increasingly become active participants in energy generation, storage and management. This democratisation of energy is reshaping the way electricity is produced and consumed, creating a more distributed, flexible and resilient energy system.

The Guarantee of Origin Scheme (GO) commenced in November 2025. GO is a voluntary certification framework that certifies the emissions intensity of products, such as hydrogen, throughout their life cycle through Product Guarantee of Origin (PGO) certificates, and renewable electricity generation and consumption through Renewable Electricity Guarantee

of Origin (REGO) certificates. Over time, PGO is expected to expand to include a range of products such as biomethane, green metals, low emissions fuels and other low carbon products made in Australia. The first REGO certificates were approved in April 2026, and PGO received its first participant registration in June 2026.

There are now 2 registered projects under the Nature Repair Market scheme, which became operational in March 2025. The scheme reflects the growing recognition that healthy ecosystems are critical enablers of healthy and prosperous communities. In this context, repair and restoration of natural systems is important for supporting biodiversity, ecosystem resilience and the long-term health of Australia's landscapes. The first project registered is located at Cooplacurripa Station in north-east New South Wales and the second project is in Doon Doon, Northern New South Wales. The Nature Repair Market encourages eligible participants including landholders and First Nations people to protect and restore Australia's natural environment. It also enables people and businesses to invest in nature repair projects that generate tradeable certificates.

In November 2025, the CER was tasked with becoming the Consumer Energy Resources National Technical Regulator (CENTR). The regulator will administer the implementation of nationally consistent technical standards and requirements for technologies such as rooftop solar, home batteries, electric vehicles (EV), EV chargers and smart appliances. These standards will help technologies connect to, and operate within, Australia's electricity system safely, reliably and efficiently. A nationally consistent regulatory framework will help reduce fragmentation, improve interoperability between technologies and support consumer participation in energy markets. It will also strengthen the reliability of the energy grid as the uptake of consumer energy resources continues to accelerate. CENTR represents a significant new function for the agency and will help ensure millions of consumer energy resources operate safely and cohesively.

Our program of technology modernisation continues to transform how we administer Australia's emissions reduction, reporting and certificate schemes. During the year, we consolidated more services onto a common digital platform, with our Online Services portal now providing a single-entry point for participants across our schemes. We also expanded the information available through our Data Services platform. By increasing access to authoritative emissions and market information, we are supporting transparency, informed participation and confidence in the schemes and markets we administer.

The Unit and Certificate Registry has further strengthened its role as foundational infrastructure underpinning Australia's environmental and carbon markets. Continuing to expand its capabilities, the registry now holds and manages multiple types of environmental units and certificates with a combined value exceeding $2 billion, providing secure, trusted infrastructure that supports a deep, liquid, well-informed and high-integrity carbon market.

In early June 2026, the agency released its first internal artificial intelligence (AI) strategic position statement. At its core, the statement reflects our commitment to implementing AI carefully and accountably and in ways that strengthen the integrity of our work – not just make us more efficient. This includes requiring appropriate expert oversight and ensuring AI is not used to make adverse decisions about people, organisations or scheme outcomes. The CER operates in an environment where trust, integrity and transparency are fundamental. As AI use increases, we aim to ensure it contributes positively to these principles, within appropriate controls, oversight and assurance in line with government requirements.

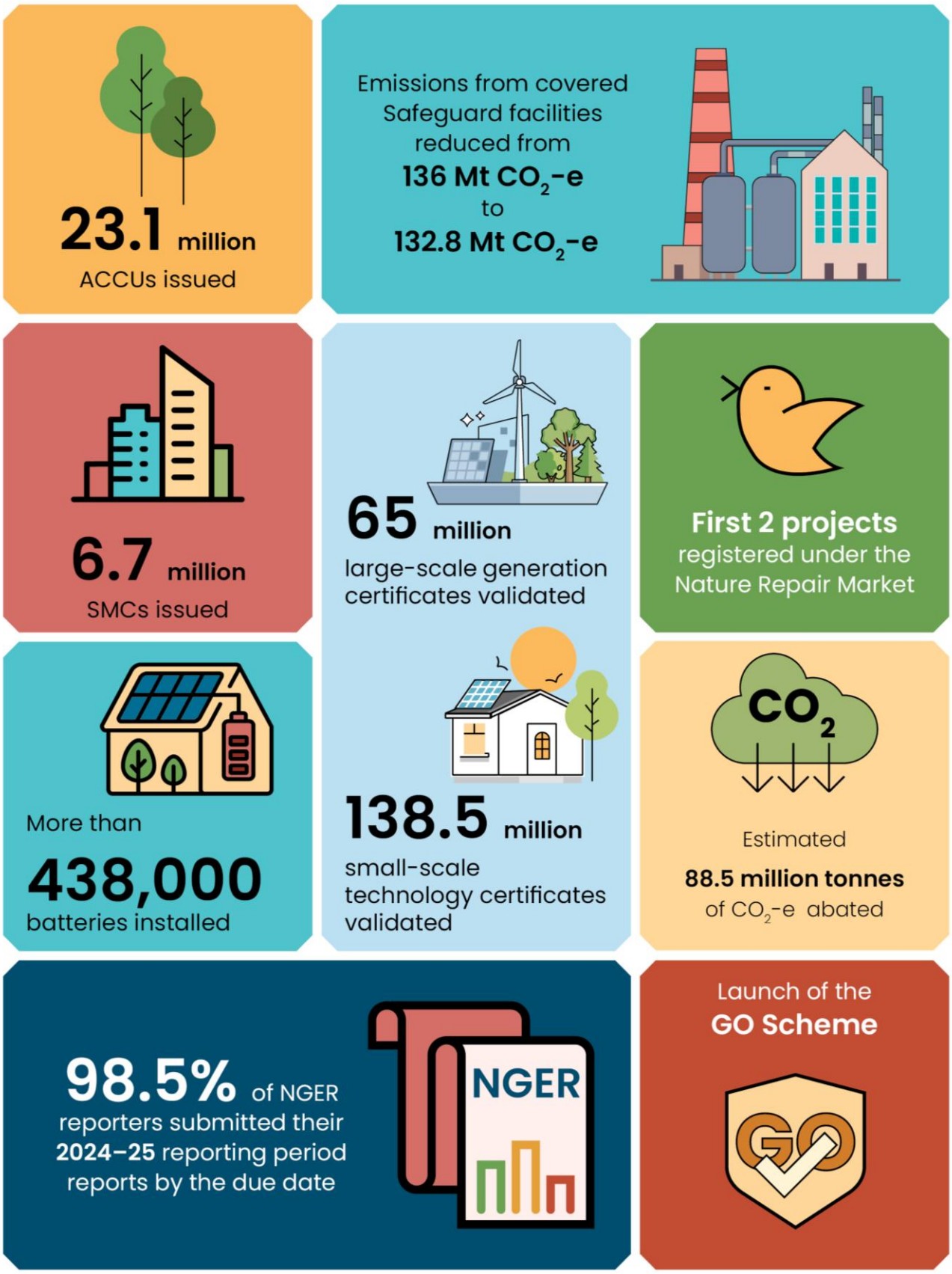
Our achievements in 2025–26 demonstrate the agency's continued ability to deliver effective regulation while adapting to a changing operating environment. At the same time, the emergence of new functions such as CENTR, together with forthcoming initiatives including mid-scale solar programs and the continued expansion of consumer energy resources, position the agency at the forefront of Australia's clean energy transition. As we look ahead, we are well placed to support Australia's transition to a low-emissions economy by investing in our people, digital infrastructure and data capabilities. Our focus will remain on delivering trusted, efficient and transparent regulation and strengthening the integrity of the schemes and markets we administer.



Tony Chappel
Chair, Clean Energy Regulator

2025–26 highlights

Figure 1: 2025–26 highlights





Agency overview

Our purpose

Established on 2 April 2012 by the *Clean Energy Regulator Act 2011*, the CER is a non-corporate Commonwealth entity and statutory authority. As set out in the *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan,* our purpose is to accelerate carbon abatement for Australia.

During 2025–26, we undertook our regulatory responsibilities with integrity, transparency and a commitment to best practice.

Outcomes

We are responsible for contributing to the delivery of 2 outcomes for the Australian community as set out in the *Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26*:

Outcome 1: Contribute to a reduction in Australia's net greenhouse gas emissions, including through the administration of market-based mechanisms that incentivise reduction in emissions and the promotion of additional renewable electricity generation.

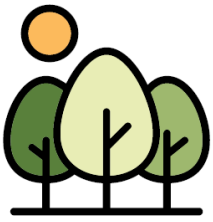
Outcome 2: Contribute to the sustainable management of Australia's biodiversity through the administration of market-based mechanisms that incentivise the preservation and improvement of diverse ecosystems.

We deliver our purpose and outcomes through priorities aligned with our key activities:

- Upholding integrity and transparency by providing assurance over scheme data, contracts, units and certificates; publishing transparent information and insights; setting clear expectations; and communicating proportionate regulatory responses.
- Delivering effective regulatory and enabling services by using data analysis, compliance monitoring, risk-based approaches and continuous improvement to make robust decisions and deploy resources to best effect.
- Raising awareness and supporting productive engagement by providing education and guidance, encouraging active participation—including by First Nations peoples—and building strong stakeholder relationships and partnerships.
- Strengthening capability and infrastructure by maintaining skilled people, encouraging innovation, and investing in reliable, resilient and adaptable systems that support current and emerging requirements.

Schemes

The Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) develops the policies for our schemes. We administer and report on these schemes.



Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme

The ACCU Scheme was established under the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011* (CFI Act). The ACCU Scheme encourages people and businesses across a range of sectors to run projects that reduce or avoid emissions, or store carbon. Participants can earn ACCUs that can then be sold on the secondary market or to the Australian Government through a carbon abatement contract.

We administer the ACCU Scheme by:

- providing education and guidance
- assessing applications for project registration
- assessing project reporting
- ensuring scheme compliance
- issuing ACCUs
- managing carbon abatement contracts
- publishing the ACCU Scheme project and contract registers.



National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme

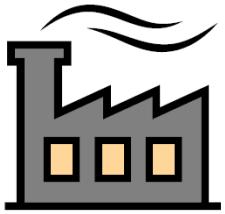
Established under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007* (NGER Act), the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting (NGER) Scheme is a single, national framework that requires Australia's largest companies to report information about their greenhouse gas emissions, energy production and energy consumption.

The NGER data helps:

- inform the public about emissions and energy flows by corporations in Australia
- inform government policy, programs and activities at national and state and territory level
- the Australian Government meet its international reporting obligations and measure its progress against international commitments.

In administering the NGER Scheme, we:

- register and deregister companies for reporting
- provide education, advice and guidance
- collect reports using the Emissions and Energy Reporting System (EERS)
- monitor and enforce compliance
- apply the audit framework
- administer the National Greenhouse and Energy Register
- publish and disclose NGER data.

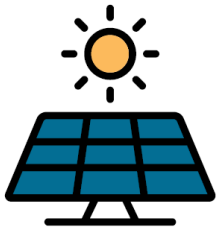


Safeguard Mechanism

The Safeguard Mechanism is designed to ensure that Australia's largest facilities reduce their emissions in line with Australia's emissions reduction targets. The Safeguard Mechanism applies to facilities that emit more than 100,000 tonnes of CO_2-e covered emissions in a year. Safeguard facilities are required to keep their annual emissions at or below a declining baseline. Facilities with annual emissions below their baseline are eligible to earn SMC units. Facilities that exceed their baseline may surrender ACCUs and/or SMCs to meet their Safeguard obligations.

We regulate the Safeguard Mechanism by:

- making emissions-intensity determinations (EID)
- assessing excess emissions management applications
- monitoring and enforcing compliance
- issuing SMCs
- publishing Safeguard facility data
- providing education and guidance.



Renewable Energy Target

Established under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* (REE Act), the Renewable Energy Target (RET) consists of 2 certificate schemes that encourage additional electricity generation from renewable sources. The objectives of the schemes include reducing emissions in the electricity sector and ensuring that renewable energy sources are ecologically sustainable.

Large-scale Renewable Energy Target

The LRET incentivises the development of renewable energy power stations in Australia through a renewable energy certificate (REC) market for the creation and sale of large-scale generation certificates (LGCs).

We administer the LRET by:

- managing registration of participants
- managing the creation, registration, transfer and surrender of LGCs
- accrediting large-scale renewable energy projects as power stations
- determining the liability of electricity retailers to surrender LGCs
- monitoring compliance of liable entities and power stations
- facilitating market transparency by publishing information about LGCs.

Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme

The SRES supports the installation of small-scale renewables, such as household solar rooftop panels, solar water heaters and air source heat pumps. Under the CHBP which commenced on 1 July 2025, the SRES was extended to include solar batteries.

Under the scheme, eligible systems can earn small-scale technology certificates (STCs) based on how much electricity they generate or displace.

We administer the SRES by:

- educating industry on how the scheme works
- managing registration of participants
- reviewing STC applications
- managing system inspections
- keeping the register of solar water heaters
- determining the liability of electricity retailers to surrender STCs
- ensuring scheme compliance and taking compliance action where necessary
- facilitating market transparency by publishing information about STCs.

Guarantee of Origin

Established under the *Future Made in Australia (Guarantee of Origin) Act 2024*, the GO Scheme is a voluntary assurance scheme that tracks and verifies the emissions intensity of Australian-made products, such as hydrogen, and renewable electricity. By helping producers demonstrate verified low-emissions credentials, the scheme supports Australia's transition to a low-emissions economy, encourages investment in low-carbon products and renewable electricity, and helps meet growing domestic and international demand.

The scheme has 2 distinct parts:

- Renewable Electricity Guarantee of Origin – REGO tracks and verifies the origin of renewable electricity through digital certificates.
- Product Guarantee of Origin – PGO provides trusted information about a product's production process and its emission intensity throughout its lifecycle.

We administer the GO Scheme by:

- assessing and approving applications
- registering certificates
- ensuring scheme compliance
- publishing certificate and scheme information to support market transparency
- providing a platform for REGO certificate transfer and retirement.

Nature Repair Market

The *Nature Repair Act 2023* established the framework for the Nature Repair Market, a voluntary national biodiversity market scheme that encourages people and businesses to invest in projects that restore and protect our natural environment.

We administer the Nature Repair Market by:

- promoting the scheme through information, education and engagement with potential participants
- assessing applications to register, vary or cancel projects
- assessing biodiversity reports
- issuing biodiversity certificates
- performing ongoing assurance, monitoring and compliance activities
- maintaining the public register of biodiversity projects and certificates.

Registries

We support market integrity by ensuring units and certificates are validly created, generated, issued, registered and tracked. Our registries provide the trusted record of units and certificates across our schemes, supporting transparency, reducing the risk of duplication or misuse, and giving participants, market users and the public confidence in the accuracy and integrity of scheme records.

Portfolio and ministers

The CER operated within the Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water portfolio during the 2025–26 reporting year. As at 30 June 2026, 2 ministers and one assistant minister had responsibilities for this portfolio:

- the Hon Chris Bowen MP, Minister for Climate Change and Energy
- Senator the Hon Murray Watt, Minister for the Environment and Water
- the Hon Josh Wilson MP, Assistant Minister for Climate Change and Energy.

Statements of Expectations and Intent

The Ministerial Statement of Expectations (SOE) to the CER was issued by the Hon Chris Bowen MP on 16 October 2024. It outlines the Australian Government's expectations for how we will perform our functions and exercise our powers. It emphasises our role as a steward of Australia's carbon and emerging nature markets, with a strong focus on transparency, market confidence and effective engagement with participants and stakeholders. It also highlights the importance of ensuring First Nations Australians have access to economic opportunities arising from the transition to net zero.

An addendum to the Ministerial SOE was issued on 14 December 2025, outlining additional expectations for how the CER will deliver the whole-of-government policy objective for Commonwealth regulators to better balance risk mitigation with efficiency, growth and productivity.

Our Regulator Statement of Intent (SOI) details our response to the Ministerial SOE and outlines how we will continue to meet expectations.

The SOE and SOI are published on our website at cer.gov.au/statements-expectations-and-intent.

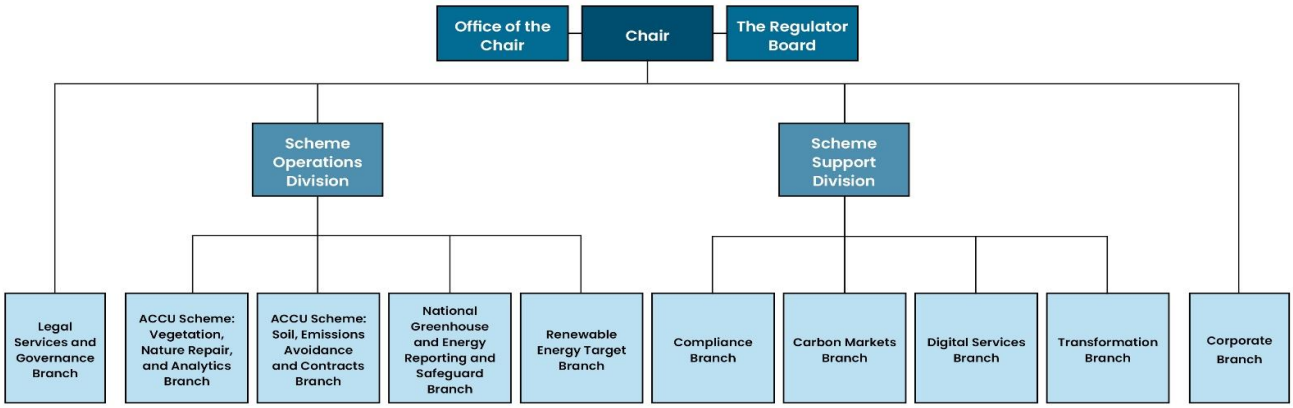
Organisational structure

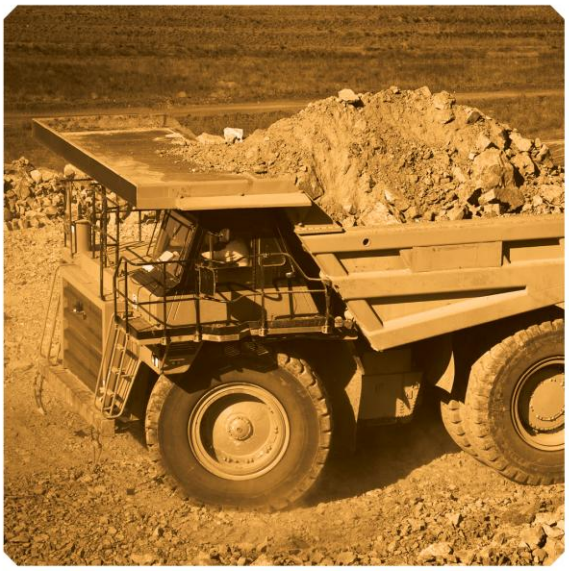
The CER is made up of:

- a government-appointed Regulator Board – which sets the strategic direction for the agency and is accountable for regulatory decisions
- agency staff who carry out day-to-day operations and support the Regulator Board in performing its duties.

Our organisational structure, shown in Figure 2, supports the effective administration of the legislation we are responsible for by bringing together scheme delivery, compliance, assurance, digital, data and corporate capabilities. This structure enables consistent regulatory decision-making, market integrity and flexibility to respond to new responsibilities and operating changes.

Figure 2: Organisational structure as at 30 June 2026





Management and accountability

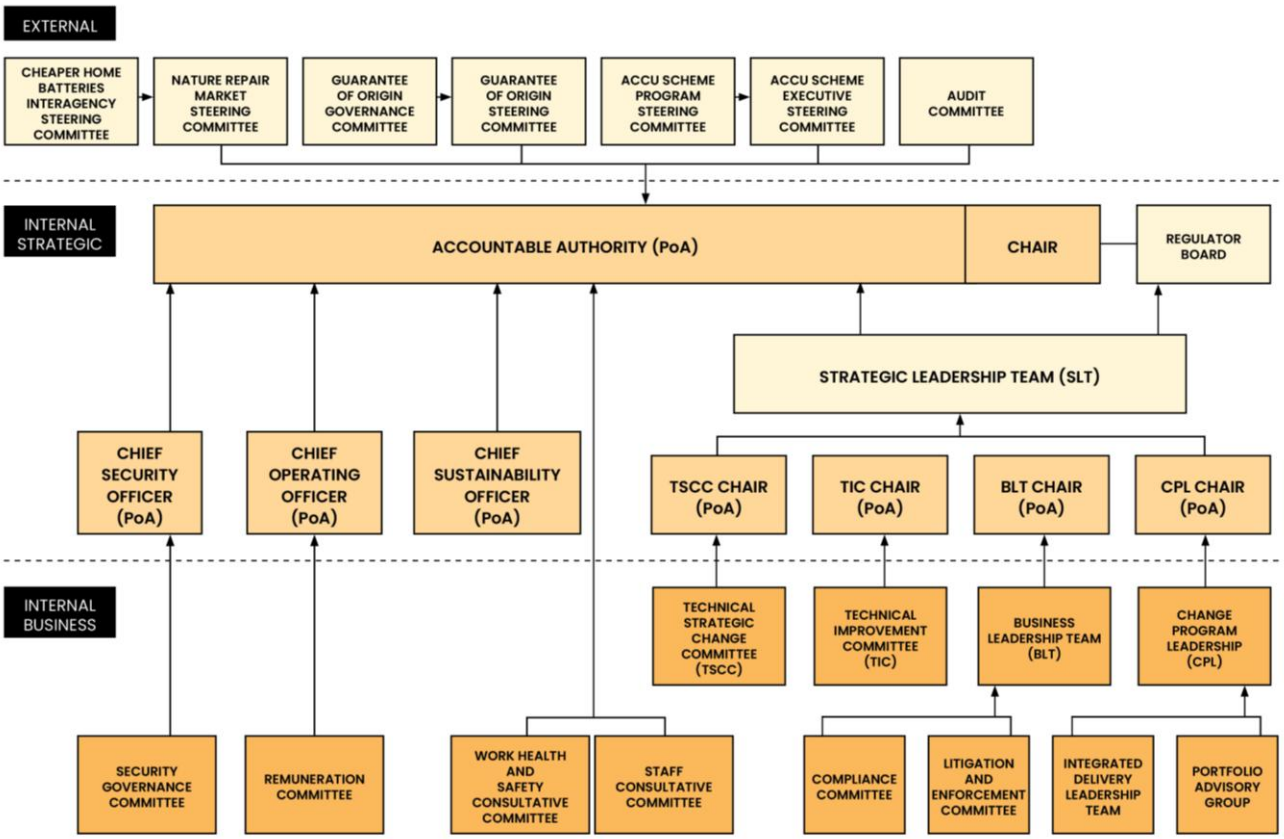
Corporate governance

The agency's governance framework outlines the principles, processes and responsibilities that enable us to reflect the highest standards of integrity in meeting our legislative, policy and regulatory obligations.

The framework is an essential part of our compliance with the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act) and puts in place effective planning, risk management and accountability mechanisms to ensure we meet our legal requirements and the expectations of government, scheme participants and the public. The framework sets out leadership roles and responsibilities, our corporate and governance committee structure, plans, policies, assurance processes, and important interdependencies and relationships.

The governance committee structure shown in Figure 3 provides a foundation for strong leadership and effective, collaborative decision-making across the agency through good governance and clear lines of accountability. Our governance structure and processes comply with statutory requirements and are regularly reviewed to ensure they remain effective.

Figure 3: Our governance committee structure as at 30 June 2026



Note: Positions of Accountability (PoA) have responsibility for ensuring the exercise of good judgement to appropriately escalate matters in a timely manner.

Our primary strategic planning document, the *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan* (see cer.gov.au/corporate-plan) outlines our program objectives and the key activities that will enable us to achieve our purpose. Each business unit also develops plans to provide a clear line of sight between our purpose and objectives and the contribution of each staff member, section, branch and division within the agency.

The Strategic Leadership Team, Regulator Board and Audit Committee are responsible for monitoring agency performance. The annual performance statement section of this report details the results achieved against the performance measures published in our corporate plan and Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26.

Accountable Authority

The Chair of the CER, Mr David Parker AM, was the agency's Accountable Authority for the 2025–26 reporting period. Mr Carl Binning was Acting Chair from 3 July 2026 until 13 September 2026. Mr Tony Chappel commenced as Chair and Accountable Authority of the CER on 14 September 2026.

Regulator Board and executive committees

Regulator Board

The Regulator Board determines the agency's strategic direction, monitors our performance and is accountable for regulatory decisions made under the legislation we administer.

Members of the Regulator Board are appointed under the *Clean Energy Regulator Act 2011* by the responsible minister and are each required to have substantial experience or knowledge and significant standing in a relevant field. The Chair holds office on a full-time basis. All other members hold office on a part-time basis.

The Regulator Board members for 2025–26 were:

- Mr David Parker AM, Chair
- Ms Anna Hancock (appointed to a 3-year term commencing on 3 February 2025)
- Ms Jo Sheppard (appointed to a 3-year term commencing on 3 February 2025)
- Mr Oliver Costello (appointed to a 3-year term commencing on 3 February 2025)
- Mr Matt Cahill (appointed to a 3-year term commencing on 4 April 2025).

The Regulator Board met 7 times in 2025–26.

Figure 4: Chair and members of the Regulator Board as at 30 June 2026



Left to right: Mr Oliver Costello, Mr David Parker AM (Chair), Ms Anna Hancock, Ms Jo Sheppard and Mr Matt Cahill.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee provides independent advice to the Chair, as the Accountable Authority, on the appropriateness of these agency functions:

- financial reporting
- performance reporting
- system of risk oversight and management
- system of internal control.

The Audit Committee is comprised of 3 members: an independent Chair, Geoff Knuckey and 2 external members Josephine Schumann and Anne Brown. Appendix D provides details on the full Audit Committee membership for 2025–26.

Also attending every committee meeting are the Chief Operating Officer, Chief Risk Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Manager Internal Audit and a representative from the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO). The Audit Committee Charter is available on our website at cer.gov.au/audit-committee.

In 2025–26, the Audit Committee met 6 times.

Strategic Leadership Team

The Strategic Leadership Team is responsible for the leadership and management of the agency on a day-to-day basis. The team meets fortnightly to discuss, consider and advise the Chair on strategic and performance matters in relation to the PGPA Act and the *Public Service Act 1999* (PS Act).

As at 30 June 2026, the Strategic Leadership Team comprised:

- David Parker AM, Chair (as the Accountable Authority under the PGPA Act and Head of Agency under the PS Act)
- Carl Binning, Executive General Manager, Scheme Operations
- Jane Wardlaw, Acting Executive General Manager, Scheme Support
- Louise Parrott, General Counsel and Chief Risk Adviser
- Liza Pegorer, Chief Operating Officer, Chief Security Officer and Chief Sustainability Officer.

Scheme implementation and oversight committees

Scheme-specific governance forums support implementation and oversight of the CHBP, Nature Repair Market, ACCU Scheme and GO scheme. These cross-agency committees bring together senior representatives from the CER and DCCEEW to provide strategic oversight, guide scheme design and implementation, manage risks and benefits, and escalate or resolve issues that may affect delivery.

Risk management

Our Risk Management Framework enables us to engage with risk and harness opportunities in a positive and transparent way, consistent with the Commonwealth Risk Management Policy. The framework applies a consistent and effective approach to risk management and aims to:

- support the agency with risk-informed decision-making
- outline key responsibilities and assist all employees with identifying risks and opportunities so we can achieve our objectives and meet our statutory obligations
- facilitate innovation within a structured risk-managed environment.

Our risk management activities across the agency in 2025–26 focused on:

- working with all areas of the agency to ensure our strategic, enterprise and operational risks are reflective of our current operating environment
- providing risk guidance and support during the implementation of new schemes
- updating risk management systems and revising reporting for improved transparency of risk management across the agency
- ongoing support for the delivery of the agency's change initiatives
- implementing the Control Assurance Plan through the commencement of effectiveness reviews of critical agency controls.

A risk report is provided to the Regulator Board and Audit Committee each quarter.

Fraud and corruption control

Our Fraud and Corruption Control Framework sets out the strategic and operational approach we take in managing internal fraud and corruption risks. The framework is supported by the Fraud and Corruption Control Plan which outlines the activities we will undertake to maintain and strengthen our fraud and corruption controls.

The framework and plan detail our strategies to prevent, detect, respond to, monitor and report internal fraud and corruption, and provides information for all staff and contractors on their role in identifying and addressing internal fraud and corruption risks. It provides assurance that we are managing identified internal fraud and corruption risks and complying with our obligations under section 10 of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 (PGPA Rule) as well as the Commonwealth Fraud Control Framework.

During 2025–26, our internal fraud and corruption control activities focused on:

- reviewing and updating the Fraud and Corruption Control Framework and Fraud and Corruption Control Plan to maintain and strengthen our fraud and corruption controls
- expanding our fraud and corruption control effectiveness testing program
- regularly raising awareness around fraud and corruption risks.

The Audit Committee is provided with a fraud and corruption report each quarter.

Internal audit

Our Internal Audit Charter sets out the framework for the agency's internal audit function. Internal Audit provides independent and objective assurance and advice to the Accountable Authority and the Audit Committee on the effectiveness of controls that support the agency to manage risk and achieve its objectives. Each year, we develop a risk-based Internal Audit Work Program (IAWP) to prioritise areas of significant operational and financial risk and outline planned audit coverage. The IAWP is designed to remain flexible to respond to emerging risks and changing priorities.

Internal Audit also tests the effectiveness of critical controls to provide management with evidence that the agency's control environment is operating effectively. This includes assessing whether the right controls are in place to manage key risks and whether those controls are working as intended. Results are discussed with the relevant business areas and summarised for the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee receives quarterly updates on completed audits, progress against the IAWP and the implementation status of agreed recommendations from internal and external audits.

Conflict of interest

All our employees and members of the Regulator Board are required to complete a conflict of interest declaration upon starting with the agency, annually, and ad hoc when their situation changes, including when starting a new role. This is an obligation under the PS Act and the PGPA Act, which require our employees and Board members to take reasonable steps to avoid any conflict of interest – real, potential or perceived – in connection with their employment.

It is standard practice for members at Regulator Board and governance committee meetings to declare any conflicts of interest before committee proceedings commence.

New employees are educated on their obligations during mandatory induction sessions, and we use a variety of internal channels to regularly remind employees of the need to disclose details of any material personal interest if their circumstances change.

All conflict declarations are managed appropriately and recorded in a register.

Finance law compliance reporting

Our approach to monitoring compliance with the finance framework, including financial delegations, procurement rules, PGPA Act and PGPA Rules, consists of:

- identifying existing controls and frameworks that serve to evidence our compliance, and reviewing these annually for suitability, robustness and currency in ensuring agency compliance
- where existing controls are considered insufficient to serve as evidence of compliance on their own, agency managers and executive completing a bi-annual declaration attesting to compliance for their cost centre
- the Accountable Authority reviewing all instances of non-compliance and notifying the minister of any significant issues that may affect the agency
- the Audit Committee reviewing the appropriateness of the system of internal controls and frameworks and the instances of non-compliance.

During 2025–26, we had no significant issues of non-compliance with finance law reported to the minister.

Business continuity management

During 2025–26, the agency strengthened its business continuity and resilience arrangements through a comprehensive review of our business continuity framework. The review considered governance and operating models for critical incident management, supporting documentation, practical resources and the business continuity test schedule to ensure arrangements remain fit for purpose and align to our current operating environment.

Key activities included updating the Business Continuity Plan, developing a new Business Continuity Framework and workflow, preparing a new Critical Incident Management Plan and developing a draft Business Continuity Exercise Test Schedule. Together, these updates provide clearer roles, responsibilities and decision points for responding to disruption events and maintaining critical business functions.

Information governance

Our Information Governance Framework was developed to assist the agency to strategically manage information assets. The framework supports our staff to understand their responsibilities in information management and ensure they are supported by fit-for-purpose technology and defined processes.

The framework aligns with the National Archives of Australia (NAA) Information Management Standard, which supports Australian Government agencies to create and manage information assets effectively. We participate in the annual NAA 'Check-up' survey designed to measure maturity and performance in managing information assets (records, information and data). Feedback from the survey helps identify what we need to focus on as we strive to improve our information management.

In 2025, our overall maturity score was 3.33 out of 5, broadly consistent with our 2024 score of 3.37. The results indicate improvements in metadata and reusability of information, while appraisal and disposal continue to present an area for improvement. We are addressing these through information governance uplift initiatives, including improved lifecycle management and targeted remediation activities. During 2025–26, we continued to progress modernisation initiatives where they deliver clear value, taking a pragmatic, risk-based approach aligned to future operating models and evolving technologies.

Freedom of information

The CER is subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act) and is required to publish information to the public as part of the Information Publication Scheme (IPS). This requirement is set out in section 8 of the FOI Act. Our IPS Agency Plan is available on our website at cer.gov.au/IPS-agency-plan. It sets out what information we will publish in accordance with the IPS requirements.

External scrutiny

Our operations are subject to examination by tribunals or courts, parliamentary committees, the Commonwealth Ombudsman and the ANAO.

In 2025–26, there were no judicial decisions, decisions of administrative tribunals or decisions by the Australian Information Commissioner that impacted the agency's operations. We made a submission to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit inquiry into the Commonwealth Financial Statements 2023–24. Our operations were not subject to any Commonwealth Ombudsman inquiries.

We appeared before the Senate Environment and Communications Legislation Committee on 2 occasions and were released from appearing on 2 occasions during 2025–26.

Digital services

We operate as a trusted, high-performing digitally enabled regulator. Through our digital services, participants can apply to take part in our schemes, report on their activities, manage their obligations and claim units and certificates. Transparent, secure and user-focused services support confidence in our administration and make it easier for participants to engage with our schemes efficiently and reliably.

To support participation and compliance, we maintain a commitment to secure, reliable and resilient digital systems. Our approach to system security is embedded in system design, reliable and secure operation and ongoing improvement, helping to protect sensitive information, maintain service continuity and support participant confidence. Through contemporary technology, risk-based controls and alignment with Australian Government security standards, we continued to strengthen the integrity and resilience of the systems and registries that underpin our regulatory functions.

The availability of these systems and registries is critical to service continuity, participant confidence and timely access to our services. In 2025–26, our online systems and registries were available for 99.7% of the time, excluding periods of planned maintenance.

During 2025–26, we continued to strengthen our digital capability through ongoing system improvements, increased automation and the adoption of emerging technologies. Our Change Program continued to drive the agency's digital transformation by delivering a more seamless and coherent user experience, reducing time and costs for participants and building a capable workforce to support new ways of working and digital service delivery. As systems moved into operation, we actively monitored performance and applied security controls to keep our services reliable and secure.

Our Registry Interoperability Project was built on previous feedback from stakeholders who expressed strong support for enhanced digital interoperability with CER systems. In 2025–26, we identified use cases and needs for interoperability, as well as the relevant legal, information technology and security considerations. Further information is provided in the analysis of key performance indicator (KPI) 4.4 – Case study A – Building a future-ready carbon unit and certificate registry to support deep, liquid and transparent carbon markets, including through interoperability with third-party platforms in the annual performance statement section.

During 2025–26, the Change Program delivered:

- updates to the REC Registry to support CHBP requirements
- implementation of the 'Tell us Once' identity verification solution, introducing a single trusted identity status in our systems
- the new EERS system to enable NGER participants to meet their reporting obligations
- functionality to enable participants to register their profile or facility under the GO Scheme
- migration of ACCU Scheme processing and management from legacy Australian National Registry of Emissions Units (ANREU) into Online Services and the Unit and Certificate Registry
- enhancements to our Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system to improve visibility and access.

These improvements are also simplifying our technology environment. As new and enhanced platforms mature, older systems are being retired where they are no longer needed, reducing duplication and supporting more secure, reliable and sustainable digital services. This reflects the success of our foundational digital work and the advancement of contemporary systems that can support core functions in a more streamlined way.

Data and analytics

Our ongoing investment in data and analytics capability is critical to effective, efficient and trusted regulation. We rely on high-quality, timely and accessible data to administer schemes, monitor markets, manage risk and support confident decision-making. We treat data as a strategic asset and strengthen how it is governed, used and shared.

During 2025–26, we improved access to reliable and consistent data across schemes, helping staff identify risks earlier, target regulatory effort more effectively and provide clearer insights to participants and stakeholders. Stronger in-house data, analytics and geospatial capability also improved productivity, reduced reliance on external delivery and supported more timely access to trusted data and insights.

Further detail on how our data and market information support transparency, confidence and informed participation is outlined in the annual performance statement section.

Artificial intelligence

AI is increasingly being used by scheme participants. It is also an important enabler of greater productivity and transparency across the agency. We are adopting AI in a considered and responsible way to support our people to deliver our regulatory functions more effectively, while safeguarding the integrity of the schemes and markets we administer.

Our updated AI Transparency Statement (available at cer.gov.au/AI-transparency-statement) was published on 19 February 2026. It sets out how we use AI in carefully managed and transparent ways to support our work. It explains that we use AI to improve the quality, efficiency and integrity of our regulatory functions, including by analysing data, detecting anomalies and streamlining internal processes. It makes clear that decisions affecting people, organisations or scheme eligibility are made by agency staff, not AI. The statement outlines how we assess and manage risks, apply ethical principles, build staff capability through training, and align our use of AI with relevant legislative, policy and standards commitments.

The agency's Technical Strategic Change Committee advises the Strategic Leadership Team on whole-of-agency impacts of significant change, including the responsible adoption, use and risk management of AI across the agency. Our Strategic AI Position Statement sets out how staff are expected to approach and use AI in their work, supported by a risk-based approach that prioritises effort and controls where potential impacts are highest. The position statement is an internal

requirement that supports compliance with whole-of-government AI settings and complements the agency's AI vision and enterprise risk, security, privacy and records frameworks.

Detail on our work to build AI capability in the agency is provided in the analysis of KPI 4.3 – Case study B - Building towards AI maturity in the annual performance statement section.

Environmental performance

Our 'Discovery House' office in Canberra supports efficient and sustainable operations through its 5.5-star NABERS energy rating, 5-star water rating, energy efficient technologies and metering. Its sustainability features support water conservation and lower-emissions commuting, including efficient bathroom facilities, bike cages and end-of-trip facilities. During 2025–26, we continued to reduce our environmental impact through practical improvements to energy efficiency, waste management, procurement, staff engagement and travel practices. Our climate action reporting is included in Appendix E.

Our people

Our people bring the skills, commitment and diverse perspectives we need to deliver our purpose. We support them by investing in their capability, wellbeing and engagement, and by creating an environment where they can contribute effectively.

As at 30 June 2026, the agency had 508 employees. Appendix B provides statistics on our workforce.

Culture

Our culture is shaped by the values, principles and behaviours our people demonstrate every day. In 2025–26, we continued to reinforce a culture that supports practical decision-making, constructive challenge, accountability and collaboration. Our cultural statement describes how we aspire to undertake our role – to be practical, grounded, quick and commercially savvy. Our cultural anchors (see Table 1) provide a shared framework for how we work with each other and respond to new challenges and opportunities.

Table 1: Our cultural anchors

Our cultural anchors	
Delivering outcomes	Our people care about delivering agency objectives because our purpose matters.
Trust and accountability	Our people trust each other because we are all accountable for our actions.
Role clarity	Our people know who does what because role clarity is vital for productive collaboration.
Active development	Our people actively develop themselves and others because lifting capability makes a difference.

APS Employee Census 2025

The 2025 APS Employee Census provided valuable feedback on our workplace culture, leadership, wellbeing and engagement. We used the results to identify strengths and areas for improvement, and to inform practical actions that support inclusion, capability and the way we work together.

Recognising achievement

Every year, we recognise the outstanding contributions made by our employees through the annual Awards of Excellence program. The program acknowledges teams and individuals who are recognised for delivering quality outcomes while embodying the agency's culture and APS values.

In June 2026, 5 awards were presented to recognise excellence in stewardship, leadership, innovation, diversity and inclusion, and collaboration. The Regulator Board Outstanding Achievement award was presented to the implementation team for the CHBP, recognising their exceptional contribution to delivering a high-impact scheme that advanced the agency's purpose and supported better outcomes for Australians.

Building capability

During 2025–26, we continued to invest in our people and to build the capability needed to deliver our objectives in a changing operating environment. Our People Capability Framework provides the foundation for capability development across all roles in the agency. Employees are encouraged to maintain an active development plan and access learning that supports current and future capability requirements.

Our employees have access to a mix of formal and informal development opportunities through the agency-led programs on LearnHub and the Australian Public Service Commission's APS Academy. These opportunities supported the skills and knowledge needed to work effectively in the APS and deliver the agency's regulatory responsibilities.

During 2025–26, we continued to support employee development through our Executive Shadowing program. The program connects employees with Senior Executive Service (SES) leaders to share knowledge, strengthen professional networks and support career development. It provides a practical way for employees to build confidence and capability and contribute to a culture of active development.

Financial support and/or study leave was provided to 9 employees during 2025–26 for study aligned with their individual development plans. This investment supports both individual growth and the capability of the agency and broader APS.

Performance management

Our performance management framework supports employee development by setting clear expectations and encouraging ongoing conversations about performance, progress and capability needs.

During 2025–26, we progressed implementation of the APS SES Performance Leadership Framework. Information on this implementation is provided in the analysis of KPI 4.3– Case study A – Embedding the SES Performance Leadership Framework in the annual performance statement section.

Diversity and inclusion

We are committed to an inclusive, accessible and respectful workplace where people with different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives are valued and able to contribute. Diversity strengthens our workforce, improves the experience of our staff and supports more effective engagement with scheme participants. Our 2025–2027 Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and Action Plan provides the framework for advancing this commitment.

In 2025–26, we continued to focus on practical actions that support inclusion, strengthen workforce diversity and help all employees feel heard, respected and supported. Key actions included:

- promoting fair, equitable and accessible recruitment practices through targeted initiatives to improve workforce diversity and support retention
- providing flexible working arrangements to help employees balance work and personal commitments
- arranging diversity-related training to build awareness and support an inclusive workplace culture
- maintaining and strengthening diversity and inclusion networks through increased collaboration and communication across the agency
- supporting timely and practical workplace adjustments to help employees work safely, accessibly and effectively
- using workforce data and APS Employee Census results to monitor progress and align agency practices with relevant APS diversity strategies
- delivering tailored First Nations cultural capability training for the Regulator Board and SES officers
- building on recruitment strategies to attract people from the broader community, including targeted campaigns for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, people living with disability and older workers.

Our diversity and inclusion networks make an important contribution to agency culture. These include the First Nations Network, Gender Equity Network, Disability and Neurodivergence Network, Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Network, Pride Network, and Wellbeing Network.

These networks provide advocacy, peer support and practical advice, raise awareness through key initiatives, support culturally appropriate practices, and work with other government agencies and stakeholders to improve diversity and inclusion outcomes.

Gender equality reporting

In December 2025, we delivered our annual Gender Equality Report to the Workplace Gender Equality Agency under requirements for Commonwealth public sector employers with 100 or more employees to report against 6 gender equality

indicators. The reporting program enables benchmarking and comparisons between employers in the public and private sectors.

Following the Workplace Gender Equality Agency's merger of the public and private sector reporting programs, the lodgement timeframe for 2026 reports was brought forward to 31 May 2026. With an approved extension, we prepared our 2026 Gender Equality Report for lodgement in July 2026.

Disability reporting mechanism

Australia's Disability Strategy 2021–2031 is the overarching framework for inclusive policies, programs and infrastructure. The strategy sets out where practical changes will be made to improve the lives of people with disability so that they can participate in all areas of Australian life. This reflects the aims of incorporating the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into Australia's policies and programs that affect people with disability, their families and carers. All levels of government have committed to deliver more comprehensive and visible reporting under the strategy. A range of reports on the strategy's actions, progress and outcomes are published on the Australian Government Disability Gateway at disabilitygateway.gov.au/ads.

Disability reporting is included in the Australian Public Service Commission's State of the Service reports and the APS Statistical Bulletin. These reports are available at apsc.gov.au.

Work health and safety

We are committed to providing a safe, healthy and inclusive work environment for all employees, whether they work in the office, from home or off site. Our duty of care is to ensure the health and safety of employees by meeting our obligations under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* (WHS Act).

Our Work Health and Safety (WHS) Policy outlines responsibilities, goals, mechanisms for communicating and resolving WHS matters, and our approach to risk management. We provide complex case management support in partnership with third-party providers, employees and managers for non-compensation matters.

Our WHS Consultative Committee supports a participatory approach to preventing work-related injury and illness through cooperation between employee representatives and the agency. We continue to review WHS policies and guidance with the committee.

Our commitment to health, safety and wellbeing is supported by initiatives including these delivered during 2025–26:

- an employee assistance program that provides free and confidential counselling services to all employees and their families
- workstation assessments that provide the correct set-up and ensure safe use of equipment
- access to flu vaccinations and heart, skin and hearing checks for all employees
- online learning modules on workplace health, safety, bullying and harassment to educate and inform staff, which are provided annually
- a network of trained mental health first aid officers, first aid officers, health and safety representatives, and workplace harassment contact officers to support employees in the workplace.

These initiatives supported continued safe work practices across the agency. During 2025–26, there were no notifiable incidents reported to Comcare under section 38 of the WHS Act and no notices were issued under part 10 of the WHS Act. There were no WHS investigations conducted during the year in relation to the agency's business or undertakings.

Employment conditions

The Clean Energy Regulator Enterprise Agreement 2024–2027 sets out the terms and conditions of employment for all non-SES employees. As at 30 June 2026, 497 employees were covered by the enterprise agreement. Of these, 12 non-SES employees had an individual flexibility agreement in place.

Employment conditions for 11 SES officers are outlined by individual determinations made under section 24(1) of the PS Act. The position of Chair is a statutory appointment with conditions of employment determined by the Remuneration Tribunal.

Details of non-salary benefits available to our employees are in the enterprise agreement. Salaries for non-SES employees are shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Salary ranges APS 1 to EL 2 as at 30 June 2026

	Minimum salary ($)	Maximum salary ($)
APS 1	57,566	65,293
APS 2	68,560	73,158
APS 3	76,302	82,598
APS 4	85,745	90,465
APS 5	93,612	98,332
APS 6	102,268	116,424
EL 1	125,863	143,171
EL 2	150,252	176,995

In 2025–26, no performance payments in the form of one-off bonuses were awarded to SES officers. Non-SES officers who achieve a performance outcome of 'meets' or 'exceeds' expectations are recognised by incremental salary advancement, consistent with conditions outlined in the enterprise agreement. Executive remuneration information is provided at Appendix C.

Strategic Commissioning Framework

In 2025–26, we continued to bring core work in-house in line with the APS Strategic Commissioning Framework. Our targets for 2025–26 aimed to bring $500,000 (excluding GST) of core work in-house in the ICT and Digital Solutions and Data and Finance job families. This target was partially achieved in 2025–26.

We converted one position from external labour to APS employment and the reduction in supplier expenditure for these targeted conversions is $56,160 (excluding GST). This is lower than our target under the Strategic Commissioning Framework. While the agency has continued to reduce reliance on external labour and build APS capability in line with the framework, contractor utilisation increased during 2025–26 to support a significant digital transformation program and the delivery of new and expanded agency functions. Consequently, overall expenditure on external contractors increased from $33 million to $38 million in 2025–26.

Procurement

Our approach to purchasing and procurement is consistent with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (CPRs) and is designed to promote fairness, equity and value for money. The rules are applied to our operations through the Accountable Authority Instructions and procurement policies. This operational guidance is available to all employees via the agency's intranet and centralised procurement team. We have reviewed our internal procurement policies, and our compliance aligned with the CPRs. Further information on our procurement activities can be found on the AusTender website (tenders.gov.au/app/list).

During 2025–26, the CER entered into 209 contracts through undertaking the procurement methods and approaches summarised in Table 3.

Table 3: Overview of procurement contracts in 2025–26

Procurement method and approach	Number of contracts
Open tender	149
– Procurements undertaken through a standing offer	145
Limited tender	60
– Limited tender above the procurement threshold	3
– Limited tender where only one supplier was approached	54
Total contracts entered into	209

During 2025–26, the CER had 21 instances of non-compliance with the PGPA Act, internal delegations, CPRs or audit control recommendations (summarised in Table 4). None of these instances were considered significant.

Table 4: Overview of non-compliance with the CPRs or audit control recommendations in 2025–26

Non-compliance type	Summary of non-compliances	Number of occurrences	Status
Non-compliance with PGPA Act, internal delegations and CPRs, including late reporting	Most non-compliances relate to late reporting (4), commitment of relevant money (10) and other (3).	17	Resolved
Government Procurement Judicial Review (GPJR) findings	Not applicable.	0	Not applicable
ANAO audit report findings	Contract reporting on AusTender during 2024–25 noted some inconsistencies with contract values.	1 finding	Marked as resolved in 2025–26
Internal audit findings	Improvement is required to ensure alignment and compliance with whole-of-government requirements and best practice, particularly in relation to the CER's contract management activities, and supporting policy, procedure and guidance documents.	3 findings	In progress

Consultancy and non-consultancy contract expenditure reporting

Decisions for engaging consultants in 2025–26 were made in accordance with relevant internal policies, the PGPA Act and related regulations such as the CPRs. We engage consultants when we need specialist expertise or when independent research, review or assessment is required. The agency generally selects consultants using panel arrangements.

Reportable consultancy contracts

As shown in Table 5, 17 new reportable consultancy contracts were entered into during 2025–26, involving a total actual expenditure of $836,725.10 (GST inclusive). In addition, there were 4 ongoing reportable consultancy contracts entered into during a previous reporting period that were active during 2025–26, involving a total actual expenditure of $311,932.50 (GST inclusive).

Table 5: Total reportable consultancy contract expenditure in 2025–26

Reportable consultancy contracts	Number of contracts	Expenditure ($m)
New contracts entered into during the reporting period	17	0.84
Ongoing contracts entered into during a previous reporting period	4	0.31
Total	**21**	**1.15**

Table 6 shows the organisations that received the largest share and organisations that received at least 5% of our total expenditure on reportable consultancy contracts during 2025–26.

Table 6: Organisations receiving a share of consultancy expenditure, 2025–26

Organisation	Expenditure ($m)	Proportion of 2025–26 total consultancy spend
Bevington Consulting Pty Ltd	0.37	32.28%
ACIL ALLEN PTY LTD	0.23	19.74%
Indigimation Pty Ltd	0.10	8.58%
Jacobs Group (Australia) Pty Ltd	0.10	8.35%
Christopher Graham Locke	0.08	6.78%
ASX Operations Pty Ltd	0.08	6.53%
Bond University Limited	0.06	5.00%

Annual reports contain information about actual expenditure on reportable consultancy contracts. Information on the value of reportable consultancy contracts is available on the AusTender website at tenders.gov.au.

Reportable non-consultancy contracts

As shown in Table 7, 192 new reportable non-consultancy contracts were entered into during 2025–26, involving a total actual expenditure of $40,282,385.33 (GST inclusive). In addition, 136 ongoing reportable non-consultancy contracts were active during the period, involving a total actual expenditure of $28,716,563.93 (GST inclusive). The majority of these contracts and associated expenditure related to ICT projects.

Table 7: Total reportable non-consultancy contract expenditure in 2025–26

Reportable non-consultancy contracts	Number of contracts	Expenditure ($m)
New contracts entered into during the reporting period	192	40.28
Ongoing contracts entered into during a previous reporting period	136	28.72
Total	**328**	**69.00**

Table 8 shows the organisations that received the largest shares and organisations that received at least 5% of our total expenditure on reportable non-consultancy contracts during 2025–26.

Table 8: Organisations receiving a share of non-consultancy expenditure, 2025–26

Organisation	Expenditure ($m)	Proportion of 2025–26 total non-consultancy spend
Chalfont Consulting Pty Ltd	9.83	14.25%
DIGITAL61 PTY LTD	4.84	7.02%
DATA#3 LIMITED	4.78	6.93%
Pragma Partners Pty Ltd	4.59	6.65%
Jones Lang LaSalle (ACT)	3.66	5.31%
NTT Australia Pty Ltd	3.64	5.27%

Annual reports contain information about actual expenditure on reportable non-consultancy contracts. Information on the value of reportable non-consultancy contracts is available on the AusTender website at tenders.gov.au.

Small and medium-sized enterprises and Indigenous business support

We support small business participation in the Australian Government procurement market. Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and small enterprise participation statistics are available on the Department of Finance website (finance.gov.au/government/procurement/statistics-australian-government-procurement-contracts-).

We support SMEs by:

- complying with the Commonwealth Procurement Framework
- inviting SMEs to respond to approaches to market from relevant Standing Offers, where applicable, for procurements valued under $125,000
- implementing the Indigenous Procurement Policy, noting that many Indigenous businesses are also SMEs
- using the Commonwealth Contracting Suite for low-risk procurements valued under $200,000
- using credit cards for procurements valued under $10,000
- applying Australian Industry Participation Plans in whole-of-government procurement, where applicable
- providing procurement information in clear, plain language and in an accessible format through adopting the Small Business Engagement Principles
- facilitating efficient and on-time payment to suppliers using electronic systems or other processes.

The CER recognises the importance of ensuring that small businesses are paid on time. Further information on payment times can be found at cer.gov.au/about-us/our-policies.

Australian National Audit Office access clauses

All contracts of $100,000 (inclusive of GST) or more awarded during 2025–26 included a provision for the Auditor-General to have access to the contractor's premises.

Exempt contracts

In 2025–26, the Accountable Authority did not exempt any standing offer or contract in excess of $10,000 (inclusive of GST) from being published on AusTender, noting that ACCU Scheme carbon abatement contracts are already exempt.

Assets management

We manage assets in accordance with our asset management framework, Accountable Authority Instructions and relevant accounting standards. During 2025–26 we undertook:

- a stocktake of our asset base
- a desktop valuation of the agency's assets (excluding intangibles) through an independent expert in accordance with the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) 13 – *Fair Value Measurement*
- asset impairment testing and a review of the useful life ('re-life' assessment) of our assets, including ICT and non-ICT property, plant and equipment and intangibles, as required by AASB 116 – *Property, Plant and Equipment*, AASB 136 – *Impairment of Assets* and AASB 138 – *Intangible Assets*.

The outcomes of these activities are reported in the finances section of this report.



Annual performance statement

Introductory statement

I, Tony Chappel, as the Accountable Authority of the Clean Energy Regulator, present the agency's 2025–26 annual performance statement, as required under paragraph 39(1)(a) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act).

This statement reports our performance in 2025–26, including results against the performance measures in our *Corporate Plan 2025–29* and the *Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26*, and analysis against our purpose.

In my opinion, this performance statement is based on properly maintained records that accurately reflect the performance of the Clean Energy Regulator and comply with subsection 39(2) of the PGPA Act.



Tony Chappel
Chair, Clean Energy Regulator
29 September 2026

Analysis of our performance

The 2025–26 annual performance statement is an assessment of the agency's performance against our purpose in the *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan* and the *Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Portfolio Budget Statements 2025–26*.

The CER has built a strong reputation as a delivery-focused regulator and trusted steward of Australia's clean energy and carbon markets, able to stand up complex schemes, respond quickly to emerging issues and maintain confidence while getting things done. In 2025–26, the agency's performance was shaped by the following major policy, scheme and system changes, including the launch of new schemes, updates to existing schemes, digital system transitions and important market milestones:

- From 1 July 2025, batteries became eligible under the SRES through the CHBP.
- New information was published around the operation and regulation of ACCU Scheme projects, made possible by an amendment to the Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Rule 2015.
- NGER reporting transitioned to the new EERS in Online Services, modernising data entry for reporters.
- The second compliance year of the reformed Safeguard Mechanism.
- A record 65.0 GWh of renewable electricity was approved for LGCs under the LRET, including from an additional 3.7 GW of renewable power generation.
- The GO Scheme was launched in November to track and verify the origin of low-emissions products and energy.
- The first business to receive approved REGO certificates was Ecovantage, a registered participant that creates certificate projects that reduce energy or carbon emissions.
- The first PGO participant was registered. Hiringa Sundown will look to certify its renewable hydrogen produced at the Good Earth Green Hydrogen and Ammonia facility in Moree, New South Wales.
- The first ACCUs were issued for abatement at the Moomba carbon capture and storage ACCU Scheme project in South Australia.
- The fourth and fifth independent reviews of Human Induced Regeneration (HIR) gateway checks were completed by Associate Professor (Honorary) Cris Brack, a forestry expert from the Australian National University.
- The first 2 Nature Repair Market scheme projects were registered to restore and protect our natural environment.
- ACCUs were migrated to the Unit and Certificate Registry, marking the next step in transitioning all units and certificates onto a single platform.
- Permanent exit arrangements for fixed delivery carbon abatement contracts under the ACCU Scheme were announced, providing eligible contract holders with an alternative pathway to exit their delivery obligations from 1 July 2026.
- Additional photographic evidence requirements were introduced from 1 March 2026 to improve assurance over critical labelling in solar battery installations.
- Two new savanna fire management methods under the ACCU Scheme commenced in April 2026. These methods account for carbon abatement from improved fire management practices in northern Australia.
- Changes to battery rebates under the CHBP began on 1 May 2026.
- The CENTR was announced in the May 2026 Budget.
- The *Quarterly Carbon Market Report: methods* document was published to provide transparency on how estimates and projections are developed.

The CER's performance in 2025–26 was shaped by rapid change across Australia's clean energy system, including record growth in household batteries and solar, the launch of new schemes, maturing carbon markets and significant digital and registry upgrades. These changes introduced new policy settings, increased application volumes and required the agency to scale operations, strengthen compliance controls, and help participants understand and meet their obligations.

The CHBP exceeded expectations during the year, adding significant new storage capacity and helping shift renewable electricity from daytime generation to evening use. We supported this outcome by implementing the program through the established SRES, strengthening systems and data-sharing arrangements, and working closely with DCCEEW, state and territory regulators, industry bodies and distribution network service providers. As uptake increased, we expanded inspections, introduced additional photo evidence requirements for critical labelling and used data and AI to support efficient assessment and targeted compliance activity. We also completed the system changes needed for the 1 May 2026

rebate changes and communicated the new arrangements to stakeholders, supporting a clear and consistent rollout of the new rebate arrangements.

For the GO Scheme, we delivered the systems, processes and guidance needed to support registration and certificate issuance for PGO and REGO certificates. The first REGO certificates were approved during the year, demonstrating early operational capability.

Together, these achievements show the CER's ability to translate complex policy into practical scheme delivery. Close collaboration with DCCEEW, early engagement with participants and industry, and internal readiness across compliance, assessment, registry and service delivery functions helped ensure new and expanded schemes were implemented effectively while maintaining confidence in Australia's clean energy and carbon markets.

During 2025–26, high levels of compliance across the clean energy schemes we administer reinforced the integrity and effectiveness of Australia's emissions reduction framework:

- Safeguard Mechanism compliance remained strong, with 205 of 208 covered facilities meeting their obligations by the 1 April 2026 deadline.
- 98.5% of NGER reporters submitted their reports by the 31 October 2025 deadline.
- Under the RET, all 134 liable entities met their 2025 lodgement obligations. For the first time, no entity incurred an STC shortfall, reflecting the maturity of the SRES and strong participant cooperation.
- Reporting under the ACCU Scheme continued to improve, with higher quality applications helping reduce processing times.

These results show most participants are meeting their obligations, while the CER continues to strengthen controls, monitor emerging risks and take targeted compliance action where needed, including for non-compliant battery labelling, late reporting and installation standards.

Productivity improvements

In 2025–26, we lifted productivity by using data, digital tools and improved processes to reduce manual effort, improve consistency and maintain timely services as operational demands increased.

Our Change Program supported this shift by modernising service delivery, automating transactions and adapting systems for new and changing scheme requirements. As new capability came online, it also enabled older systems to be progressively retired, reducing duplication and administrative complexity for participants and staff.

We also strengthened data and analytics capability through more automated publication processes, improved validation frameworks and better self-service access to CER datasets. Early AI use cases further supported productivity by reducing repetitive work, automating analytics and reporting, and improving internal workflows.

Together, these improvements support the Australian Government's productivity agenda. They allowed us to focus our resources on higher-value regulatory work and deliver clearer, more efficient services to participants.

Stakeholder survey

Our stakeholder survey provides an important annual view of how scheme participants and other interested parties experience the CER as a regulator. Run independently each year since 2014, the survey helps us understand stakeholder confidence and satisfaction with our services, provides results for some of our performance measures, and identifies opportunities to improve the way we support participation, compliance and market confidence.

The 2026 survey had 749 respondents, with results showing positive movement across key measures of stakeholder satisfaction, confidence and trust. Among respondents, satisfaction and confidence improved across several areas compared to the 2025 survey:

- 84% were satisfied with how we perform our function as a regulator, up from 82%
- 92% agreed that the agency is trustworthy, up from 90%
- 87% agreed that we are doing a good job, up from 83%
- 85% were satisfied overall with their interactions with our people, up from 82%
- 75% agreed that our website was useful, up from 72%.

The survey also helps identify where stakeholders need clearer information, more timely support or improvements to our services and systems. These insights will inform how we continue to strengthen engagement, reduce unnecessary administrative burden and improve the participant experience.

Summary of performance measure results

The CER's 2025–26 performance reporting is instructed by the objectives, deliverables and performance measures set out in our corporate plan and the 2025–26 Portfolio Budget Statement. Overall, we performed well in 2025–26, demonstrating that we are achieving our objectives.

Following is a snapshot showing the outcomes of our performance measures aligned with each objective. A detailed analysis outlining the factors that contributed to the results, including where targets were not achieved, is provided in the performance results section.

Objective 1: A trusted, relevant and expert institution

Performance measures		Target	2025–26 result
KPI 1.1	No significant breaches of government, administrative, legal and policy requirements	Zero	Zero
KPI 1.2	Improvements to the way we use and share data	Qualitative analysis	Achieved
KPI 1.3	Level of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of market information	Qualitative analysis	Achieved

Objective 2: Efficient and effective administration

Performance measures		Target	2025–26 result
KPI 2.1	Proportion of applications processed within statutory or agreed timeframes (excluding Nature Repair Market and GO Scheme)	≥ 99.5%	94%
KPI 2.2	Proportion of Nature Repair Market and GO applications processed within statutory or agreed timeframes	≥ 90%	100%
KPI 2.3	Proportion of investigations completed within timeframes	≥ 80%	93.3%
KPI 2.4	Level of carbon abatement delivered by CER administered schemes (ACCU Scheme and RET)	≥ 76 Mt CO_2-e	88.5 Mt CO_2-e*
KPI 2.5	Net covered emissions from the operation of each designated large facility does not exceed its Safeguard Mechanism baseline for the latest reporting year (2024–25)	100%	98.6%

* estimated

Objective 3: Engaged, active and compliant participants

Performance measures		Target	2025–26 result
KPI 3.1	Compliance levels by regulated and liable entities	≥ 95%	99.4%
KPI 3.2	Level of participant satisfaction with engagement and guidance provided	≥ 80%	73.5%
KPI 3.3	Practical and timely guidance and outreach activities with our participants	Qualitative analysis	Achieved

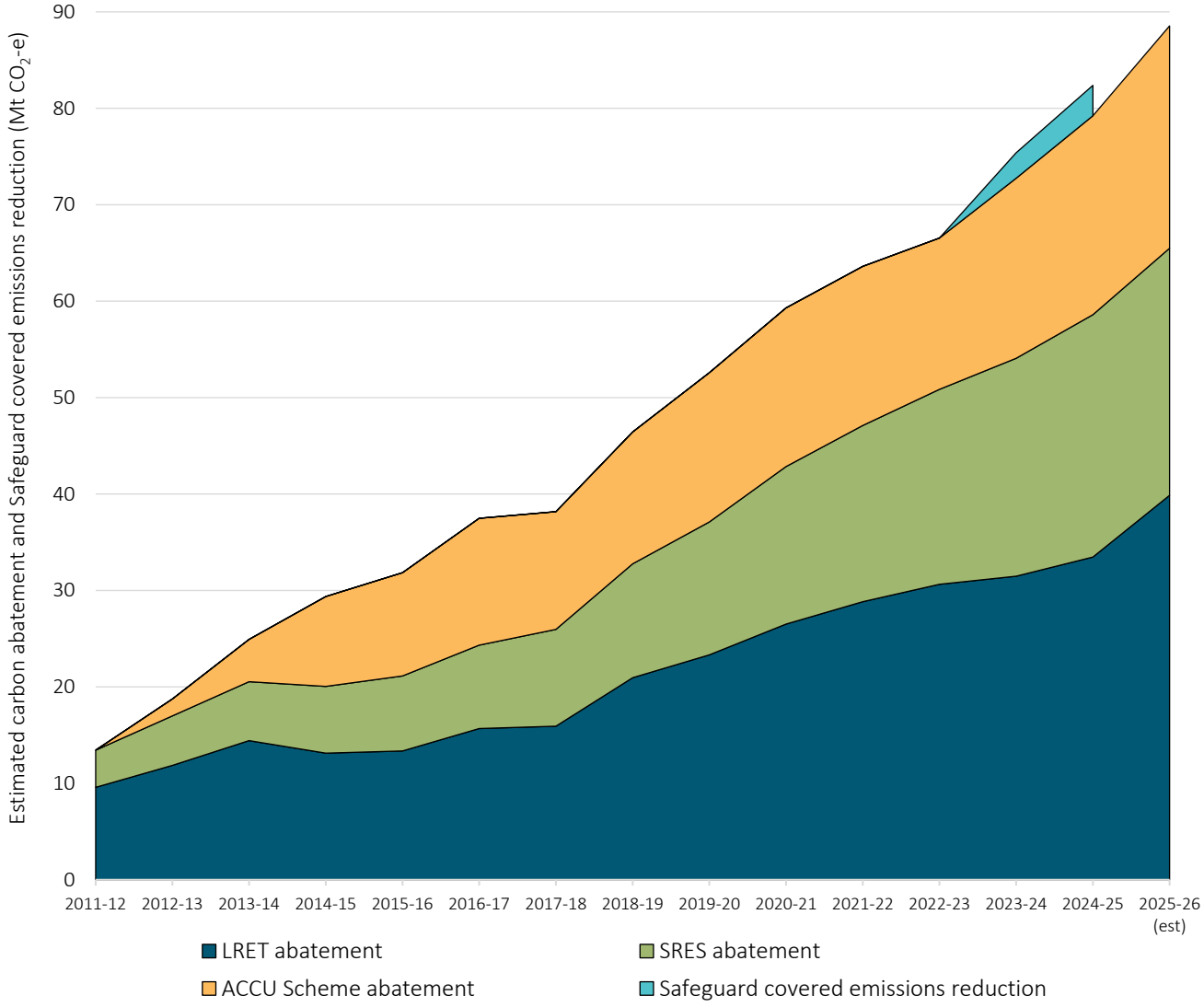
Objective 4: Secure and enduring regulatory infrastructure

Performance measures		Target	2025–26 result
KPI 4.1	Level of participant satisfaction with agency processes and systems	≥ 80%	72%
KPI 4.2	Systems are available and secure as required by scheme participants, government standards and legislated need	≥ 99.5% availability and zero significant security breaches	99.7% availability and zero significant security breaches
KPI 4.3	Flexibility and adaptability in our staff to meet current and future requirements	Qualitative analysis	Achieved
KPI 4.4	Market, registry and data support services were delivered on time and met stakeholder expectations	Qualitative analysis	Achieved
KPI 4.5	GO systems, processes and guidance are delivered to a satisfactory level of functionality for scheme launch	Qualitative analysis	Achieved

Scheme performance

Our purpose is to accelerate carbon abatement for Australia. In 2025–26, we delivered on our purpose through the administration of a range of schemes that measure, manage, report and offset Australia's carbon emissions. As shown in Figure 5, carbon abatement from the schemes we administer was an estimated 88.5 Mt CO_2-e in 2025–26, comprising abatement from the ACCU Scheme and estimated abatement from the LRET and SRES. Safeguard Mechanism covered emissions have decreased by 5.8 Mt CO_2-e in the two years since the scheme was reformed. This contribution is relatively modest but represents the beginning of a multi-decade transition to lower industrial emissions. Information on estimation methods and assumptions are detailed in the note below.

Figure 5: Carbon abatement from the ACCU Scheme and the RET, and Safeguard covered emissions reduction



Note: Carbon abatement is estimated (est) based on the time of issuance for ACCUs, an estimate of LGC generation and an estimate of generation and electricity displacement from small-scale technologies, regardless of the source of demand for the units and certificates. These are estimates as of 30 June 2026, and historical figures may change retrospectively. To convert the renewable generation into a carbon abatement equivalent value, each megawatt hour (MWh) is multiplied by the average emissions intensity factor of the Australian electricity network. This is sourced from the National Greenhouse Accounts Factors (dcceew.gov.au/climate-change/publications/national-greenhouse-accounts-factors-2025). This approach provides an estimate using the average emissions intensity calculated over the full financial year. This does not consider the location nor timing of electricity generation and consumption. For instance, renewable electricity generated at night may have a different abatement impact compared with electricity generated in the middle of the day. Details on the calculation methodology for estimated abatement are set out in the *Quarterly Carbon Market Report: methods* document, available at cer.gov.au/QCMR.

Safeguard Mechanism covered emissions are determined from NGER reporting data. Covered emissions data for 2025–26 will become available following the NGER report submission deadline on 2 November 2026. Changes in covered emissions are caused by a combination of changes in production, operational circumstances, and onsite decarbonisation. For guidance on how to interpret changes in covered emissions, see the 2024–25 Safeguard Mechanism data insights publication at cer.gov.au/safeguard-facility-data.

ACCU Scheme

The ACCU Scheme supports projects that avoid the release of greenhouse gas emissions or remove and sequester carbon from the atmosphere. Projects can involve:

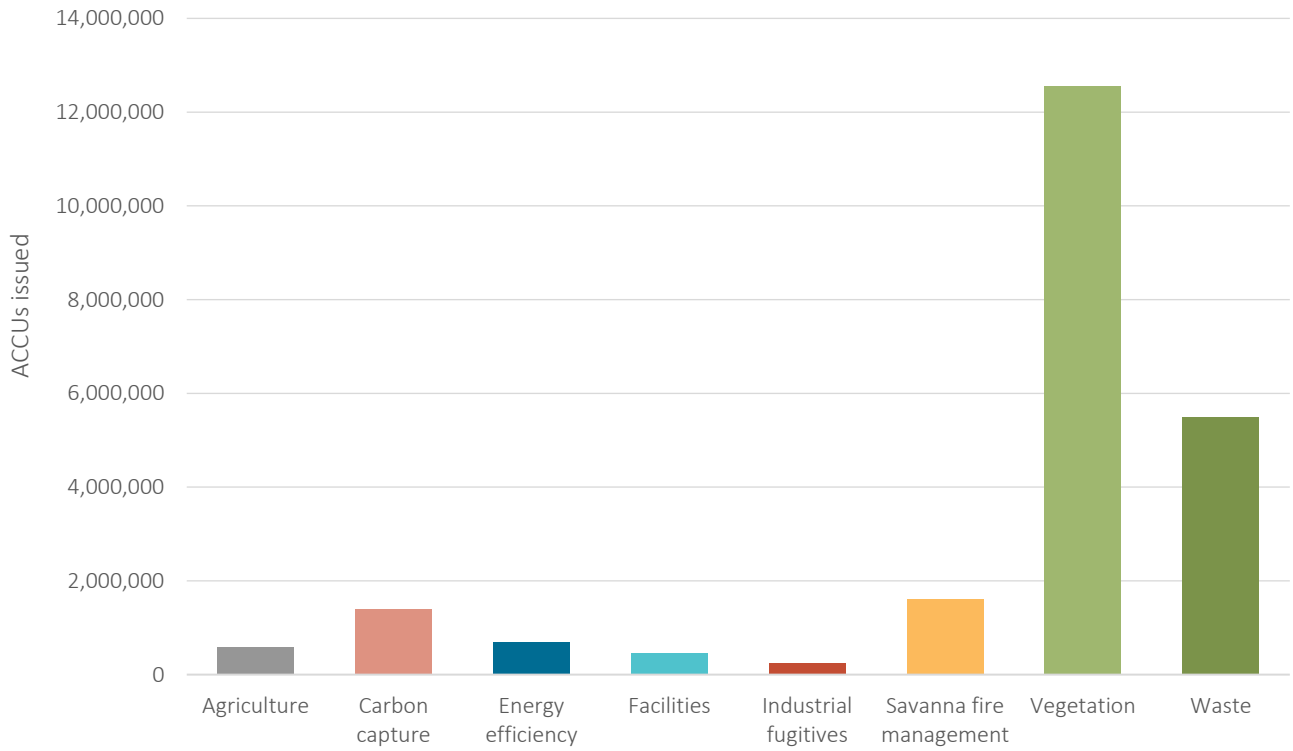
- changing the way vegetation is managed to store more carbon
- changing land management practices to avoid the release of greenhouse gas emissions
- installing new technology or upgrading equipment to reduce energy use or methane emissions.

Participants can earn an ACCU for every tonne of CO_2-e emissions stored or avoided by a project. ACCUs can be sold to private sector buyers and governments to generate income.

During 2025–26, we received over 300 applications to register new projects in the ACCU Scheme and processed 1,121 crediting applications.

There was a record 23.1 million ACCUs issued during 2025–26, an 11.8% increase from 20.6 million issued in 2024–25. Of these, 12.5 million (54.4%) were from vegetation projects and 5.5 million (23.9%) were from waste projects. Figure 6 shows the ACCUs issued per method type for 2025–26.

Figure 6: ACCUs issued by method type, 2025–26



Note: Data is based on the year of ACCU issuance.

A total of 1.6 million ACCUs were delivered under contract in 2025–26, to the value of $20.9 million. Since the announcement of the Permanent Exit Arrangement on December 2025, 974,000 ACCUs have been delivered into the cost containment measure. At 30 June 2026, the cost containment measure held 6 million ACCUs.

In 2025–26, 12.0 million ACCUs were cancelled. This was driven by the 10.9 million ACCUs surrendered for Safeguard purposes.

Renewable Energy Target

In 2025–26, there was an average of 45% renewable energy generation in Australia's 2 largest electricity grids, the National Energy Market and Western Australia's South-West Interconnected System.

Our administration of the RET supports the uptake of renewables in Australia. New renewable energy capacity delivered

across Australia totalled 7.1 GW in 2025–26, a decrease on the 2024–25 result of 7.6 GW, noting:

- there were 3.7 GW of approved new renewable energy power stations, lower than the 4.7 GW in 2024–25
- 3.4 GW[∇] of rooftop solar capacity – an increase of 16% from 2.9 GW in 2024–25.

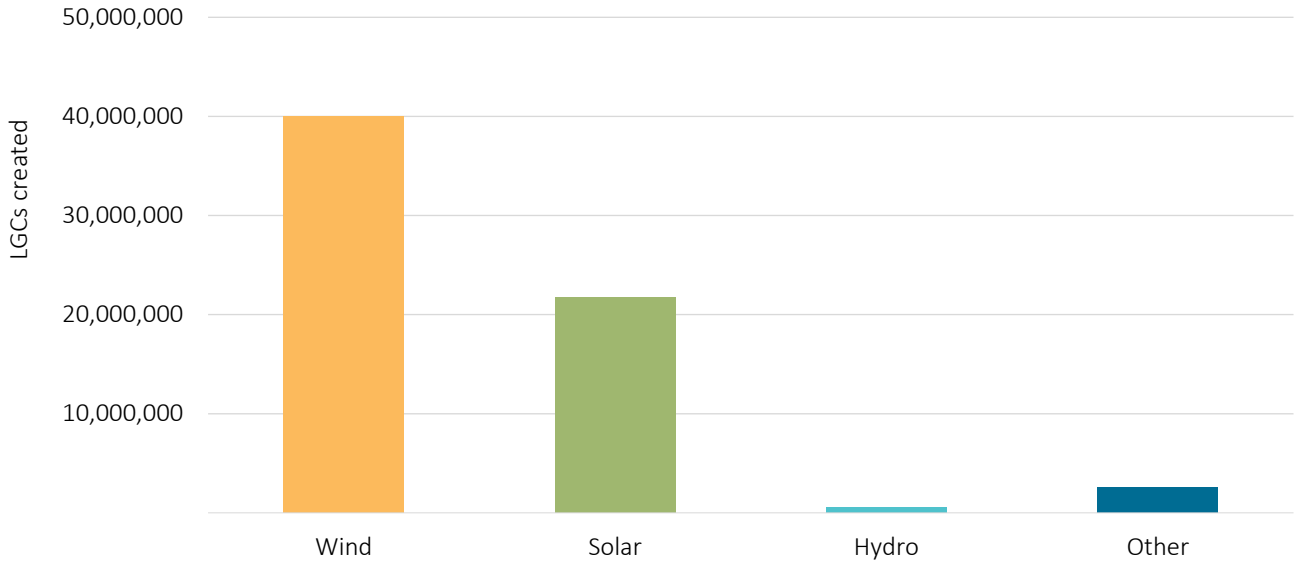
Large-scale Renewable Energy Target

The LRET incentivises investment in renewable energy power stations like wind and solar farms. These power stations can create LGCs for the eligible renewable electricity they produce. They can sell LGCs to liable entities (mainly electricity retailers) or companies that want to demonstrate renewable energy use for voluntary purposes.

Liable entities must purchase a certain percentage of electricity from renewable sources each year. They comply with this by buying LGCs and surrendering them to the CER.

The total LGC validations in 2025–26 was a record 65.0 million[∇], a 21% increase from 53.7 million in 2024–25. Figure 7 shows the LGCs created by technology type in 2025–26.

Figure 7: LGCs created by technology type, 2025–26



Note: One LGC is equivalent to 1 MWh of renewable electricity. Data refers to the number of validated LGCs by the year of generation. This is an estimate as of 30 June 2026 and historical figures may change retrospectively.

The 'Other' category includes agricultural waste, bagasse, biomass-based components of municipal solid waste, black liquor energy crops, food processing waste, food waste, landfill gas, sewage gas and biomass-based components of sewage waste from processing of agricultural products and wood waste.

There were 17.6 million LGCs surrendered for non-RET purposes in 2025–26, a 49% increase to the 11.8 million in 2024–25. This was driven by strong growth in LGCs voluntarily surrendered by businesses and organisations to reduce scope 2 emissions, including to meet 100% renewable commitments.

The CER's pipeline of committed large-scale renewable generation projects reached 7.6 GW at 30 June 2026. In 2025–26, 3.7 GW of large-scale capacity reached final investment decision (FID), an increase from 3.5 GW in 2024–25. FIDs depend on a range of commercial and planning factors. This means that the number and capacity of projects reaching FID is inherently lumpy.

Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme

The SRES incentivises households and businesses to install small-scale renewable energy systems, including rooftop solar panels, solar batteries and air source heat pumps. The value of the STCs created from installing eligible systems offsets a proportion of the installation cost. Liable entities (mainly electricity retailers) must surrender STCs to the CER each year.

[∇] Estimate based on available data.

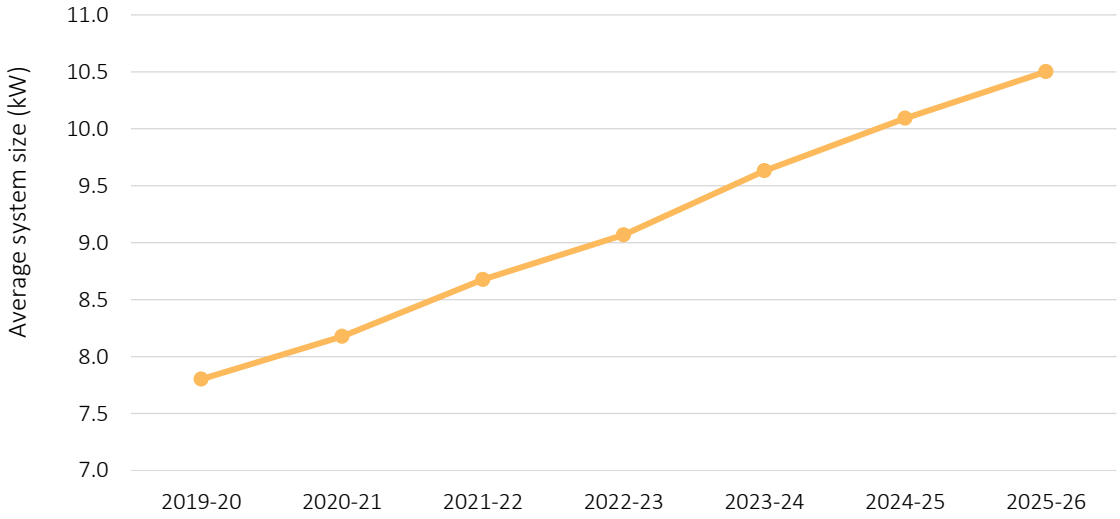
In 2025–26, 26.4 million STCs were created. This excludes STCs created for solar batteries, which are purchased by the government and are not available to liable entities to meet their SRES liability.

From 1 July 2025, solar batteries became eligible under the SRES through the CHBP. Total storage capacity installed under the program reached 12.4 GWh across more than 438,000 validated installations.

The program influenced broader small-scale renewable energy trends across the year. Battery applications were comparable with rooftop solar applications in the early months of the program, and 49% of batteries installed during 2025–26 were installed alongside a new rooftop solar system or an upgrade to an existing system. This suggests the program may have encouraged additional rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) installations that may not otherwise have occurred.

There was a projected 3.4 GW of small-scale solar PV capacity installed in 2025–26, a new financial year record. This was driven by an increase in the average system size, which rose 0.4 kilowatts (kW) to 10.5 kW, as shown in Figure 8. There were an estimated 322,000 PV systems installed during the year with larger systems making up a higher proportion of the total installed capacity. Systems sized 15–40 kW accounted for an estimated 23.7% of installed capacity, up from 15.8% in 2024–25. Conversely, systems sized 5–10 kW made up 29.8% of installed capacity, down from 35.3% in 2024–25. Capacity attributable to 10–15 kW systems was broadly consistent at 38.0% in 2025–26, compared to 38.8% in 2024–25.

Figure 8: Average size of small-scale rooftop solar installed



GO Scheme

The GO Scheme provides a framework for tracking the origin of renewable electricity and low-emissions products. This ensures their production and consumption are accurately accounted for. Once a business is registered in the scheme, they can create REGO certificates or PGO certificates.

Despite the scheme only launching in November 2025, the first REGO certificates have been issued. The first renewable energy facility to receive approved REGO certificates is Ecovantage, a registered participant that creates certificates for projects that reduce energy or carbon emissions.

National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme

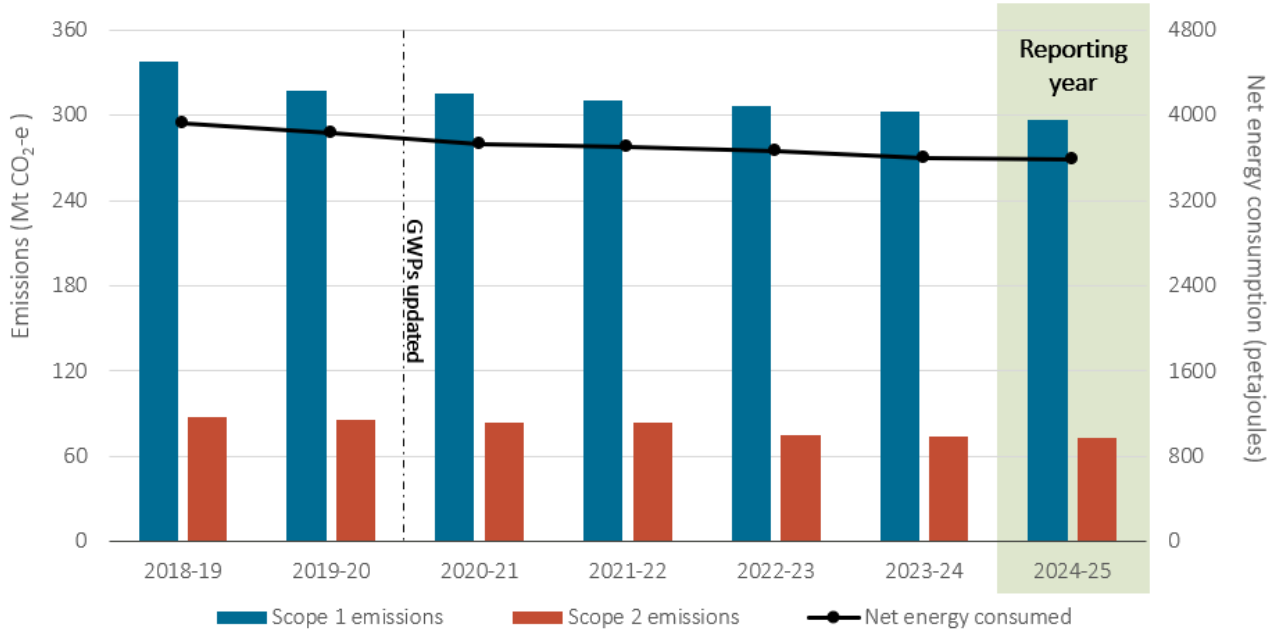
The NGER Scheme is a single national framework for reporting company information about greenhouse gas emissions, energy production and energy consumption. Australian companies that meet certain thresholds must report their emissions and energy information to us by 31 October each year. By the 2025 deadline, 98.5% of NGER reporters had submitted their 2024–25 reporting period reports.

For the 2024–25 reporting year, 978 corporations reported a total of:

- 296.6 million tonnes of direct (scope 1) greenhouse gas emissions (CO_2-e) – a decrease of 6.4 Mt CO_2-e compared to the previous year
- 73 million tonnes of indirect (scope 2) greenhouse gas emissions (CO_2-e)
- 3,595 petajoules of net energy consumed.

The decrease in overall scope 1 emissions for 2024–25 was led by emissions reductions in the electricity generation, and oil and gas extraction, production and processing sectors. Figure 9 displays the reported emissions and energy data from 2018–19 to 2024–25.

Figure 9: National overview of reported emissions and energy data by reporting year



Note: GWP – Global warming potential.

This data covers approximately 68% of Australia's total emissions. Emissions from agricultural, forestry, private vehicle transport and residential activities are not collected under the NGER Scheme and therefore not included in this data. Further highlights from the 2024–25 NGER reporting data are on our website at cer.gov.au/NGER-data.

Safeguard Mechanism

The Safeguard Mechanism applies to any facility in Australia that emits more than 100,000 t CO_2-e of covered scope 1 emissions in a financial year. This includes facilities across a range of sectors – including coal mining, metal ore mining, oil and gas extraction, manufacturing, and transport. In 2024–25, covered emissions from safeguard facilities made up 29.9% of Australia's total emissions.

The scheme continues to progress well in line with expectations and policy settings. For the 2024–25 compliance period, there were 208 facilities covered under the Safeguard Mechanism and 98.6% met their Safeguard obligations. We published the full details from the 2024–25 reporting period on our website at cer.gov.au/safeguard-facility-data.

The scheme sets limits, known as baselines, on the greenhouse gas emissions of covered facilities. These baselines generally decline by 4.9% each year, placing downward pressure on industrial emissions to meet Australia's emissions reduction targets. If a facility's net emissions number is over its baseline, its responsible emitter is required to manage excess emissions.

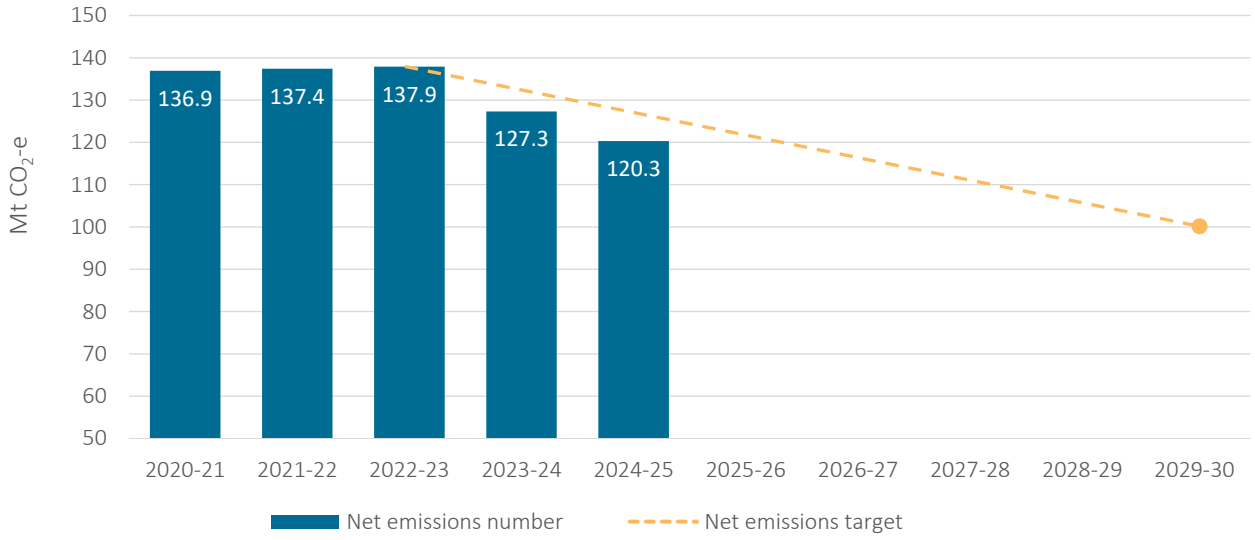
Safeguard facilities can manage excess emissions by surrendering either one ACCU or one SMC per t CO_2-e by which their net emissions number exceeds their baseline. For the 2024–25 compliance period, 139 facilities surrendered 10.8 million ACCUs and 2.6 million SMCs – totalling 13.4 million units surrendered altogether. This was an increase of 49% of unit surrenders from 2023–24.

Responsible emitters can also manage their excess emissions by accessing the scheme's flexibility measures, if their circumstances meet the eligibility criteria. This reporting year, 10 facilities used flexibility provisions under the scheme:

- 7 new trade-exposed baseline adjustment determinations to receive a reduced baseline decline rate for up to 3 financial years
- 2 new multi-year monitoring period declarations that gives a facility up to 5 financial years to implement a decarbonisation project that will reduce its cumulative emissions below its cumulative baseline for the period
- one new borrowing adjustment determination that helps a facility manage their emissions across 2 financial years.

Total net emissions for the reporting year were 120.3 Mt CO_2-e following the surrender of ACCUs and SMCs – a 5.5% reduction from 127.3 Mt CO_2-e in 2023–24. Under the Safeguard Mechanism, net emissions must reduce to 100 Mt CO_2-e by 2029–30. Figure 10 displays how this is tracking.

Figure 10: Net emissions target



Nature Repair Market

The Nature Repair Market is a national biodiversity market scheme. It encourages people and businesses to invest in projects that restore and protect our natural environment. The Nature Repair Market is delivering improved biodiversity outcomes, for example, by:

- planting trees on farmland
- re-establishing vegetation along waterways
- protecting and managing existing habitat or native vegetation
- encouraging the use of biodiversity-related Indigenous knowledge, guided by the knowledge owners.

The first method available under the scheme is the *replanting native forest and woodland ecosystems* method. This method covers projects designed to improve biodiversity by planting a mix of local species on a previously cleared area. Registered projects are publicly visible on the Biodiversity Market Register on our website.

DCCEEW has announced 2 additional methods under the scheme. These will be the *Enhancing Native Vegetation* (ENV) method and the *Protect and Conserve* (P&C) method. Drafting of both methods are underway and we are working closely with DCCEEW to provide feedback as appropriate. Both ENV and P&C will be designed to enable biodiversity certificates to be used as environmental offsets under the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act).

Reports about activities of the Regulator

In accordance with section 172 of the *Nature Repair Act 2023*, we must report on activities conducted by the CER during a financial year. During 2025–26, to support the Nature Repair Market, we released a new online registration form, new web content and both written and video case studies. We also attended a range of conferences and information sharing sessions to raise awareness of the scheme. In line with the functions of the CER, we have been working closely with potential proponents to support them through the application process, including our online systems, and to understand the requirements of the first method and associated legislation.

Under section 110 of the Nature Repair Rules 2024, we must also report on specific activities such as the number of biodiversity projects registered, project variations, project cancellations, and biodiversity certificates issued during the reporting year. As at 30 June 2026, there is a total of 2 registered Nature Repair Market projects, with 4 applications to register projects on hand. There are no project variations, cancellations, or certificate issuances to report during this period.

Performance results

OBJECTIVE 1: A TRUSTED, RELEVANT AND EXPERT INSTITUTION



We publish relevant, accurate and timely data and other information to promote and enhance a well-functioning, vibrant and liquid carbon market and to inform future policy development. In doing so, our agency relies on and supports productive and collaborative relationships across governments, states and territories, and industry and stakeholder bodies.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Deliverables

Support transparency by progressively populating the new data platform that enables dynamic access to CER datasets.

The data and information we publish supports informed decision-making and contributes to transparent, efficient and well-functioning carbon markets. During 2025–26, we continued to establish Data Services (data.cer.gov.au) as the source of truth for externally shared CER datasets by:

- populating the platform with new datasets, including GO Registered Persons data and REGO facility and certificate register data
- designing and delivering authorisation and authentication capabilities for restricted datasets
- automating the publication of priority datasets to improve timeliness and reduce manual effort
- providing secure application programming interface (API) access to complement existing open APIs.

During 2025–26, we published the following to Data Services:

- 3 GO Scheme datasets
- 58 public NGER datasets
- 18 Safeguard Mechanism datasets
- 5 updated RET datasets
- 7 NGER datasets available to restricted data users.

During the year, we identified a performance risk associated with scaling the platform to support large datasets, which has delayed publication of the NGER historical dataset until quarter one of 2026–27.

As at 30 June 2026, Data Services hosted more than 180 datasets, supported by a comprehensive business glossary that helps users interpret key terms and concepts consistently. Users can view, sort and filter tabular data in their browser, download datasets in comma-separated values (CSV) and Parquet formats, and access APIs for each dataset.

Together, these enhancements have broadened the range of datasets available through Data Services and made CER data easier to access, find, understand and use. The 2026 stakeholder survey results show satisfaction with Data Services increased to 89% in 2026, up from 71% in 2025, reflecting a positive response to the platform's expanded functionality and improved usability.

For more on how Data Services improves access to trusted market information, see KPI 1.2 Case study A – Data accessibility supports the integrity of well-functioning markets.

Schedule of stakeholder engagement through the delivery of webinars, forums, and attendance at key industry/sectors conferences and events.

During 2025–26, we delivered a broad program of stakeholder engagement through webinars, workshops, field days and industry forums to support understanding of scheme requirements, strengthen relationships and promote informed participation across the sectors we regulate.

ACCU Scheme

The Be ACCUrate program remained an important part of our engagement with ACCU Scheme participants, providing targeted guidance to support participation, compliance and confidence in the scheme. This engagement included webinars on post-crediting period guidance and permanence obligations, and support for participants transitioning to the new *Reducing methane emissions from landfill gas* method 2025. The program also expanded with a workshop held in April 2026 that focused on integrity and innovation in the ACCU Scheme and Nature Repair Market. Together, these

activities helped participants better understand their obligations, prepare for regulatory change and engage with ACCU Scheme developments.

Our engagement also supported stronger connections with regional, Indigenous and land-sector stakeholders. Participation in Henty Field Days and sponsorship of the Savanna Fire Forum and Indigenous Carbon Farming Forum in Darwin enabled direct engagement with participants and communities involved in carbon and nature markets. Presentations at the forums included a workshop on the *Environmental plantings* method and potential to stack ACCU Scheme projects with Nature Repair Market biodiversity projects. Early planning with the Indigenous Carbon Industry Network also supported our participation in future forums and strengthened relationships with Indigenous stakeholders.

Participation in the Carbon Market Institute Carbon Farming Industry Forum in May 2026 further strengthened our engagement with industry on priority issues by:

- contributing to a workshop on building long-term market and policy stability
- presenting on the role of audits in the ACCU Scheme and participating in a workshop to explore opportunities to streamline and improve audit processes
- supporting a presentation by Associate Professor Brack on the integrity of the HIR method.

RET

Our engagement with RET stakeholders primarily focused on providing education and guidance on the CHBP, the 1 May 2026 battery rebate changes, new photographic evidence requirements for battery installations and compliance expectations for agents and installers. This was delivered through:

- targeted webinars
- industry forums, including the Industry Advisory Implementation Committee (IAIC) we established that meets monthly to share guidance, hear feedback and collaboratively address implementation issues
- bilateral discussions and regular forums with state and territory safety regulators, consumer affairs and fair-trading bodies that focused on implementation issues, regulatory expectations and emerging risks
- installer industry nights that cover current topics in the solar and battery space
- participation in key events, including presentations and a booth at Energy Next in July 2025 and All Energy Australia in October 2025.

These forums helped us to stay informed about industry developments and hear directly from stakeholders. Insights gained through these engagement activities informed education materials, tools and processes that supported CHBP participants.

Additional information on CHBP engagement is provided in RPP 3 Case study B: Cheaper Home Batteries Program – a collaborative approach to program delivery in the regulator performance section.

Our participation at the 2026 Smart Energy Conference and Exhibition in May, provided an important opportunity to engage with renewable energy sector stakeholders and strengthen awareness of emerging developments in consumer energy. We were able to engage directly with stakeholders at the CER booth, answering questions and identifying key industry themes and participate in panels on:

- whether consumer energy can support achievement of the RET, reflecting on the current state of the SRES and our role in reaching the target
- the first year of the CHBP, with a presentation on the changes that affected installers.

NGER Scheme

NGER and Safeguard teams delivered targeted engagement during the year to raise awareness of reporting obligations and better understand barriers to compliance. This included explaining our NGER audit program at DCCEEW's public *Review of NGER Method 2 for estimating fugitive emissions from open-cut coal mines* webinar, and meeting with peak bodies and members such as Data Centres Australia and Freight Trade Alliance. We also attended industry events, including the Sustainability Reporting Summit and Business Sustainability Live. Insights from these engagements are being used to inform updates to guidance material and support for the 2025–26 reporting period.

Auditor program

Audit and assurance workshops held in November 2025 strengthened auditors' understanding of our schemes and created valuable opportunities for engagement between auditors and agency staff. Seventy auditors attended sessions, which covered the Nature Repair Market, Soil Carbon Method, NGER Scheme, PGO and the new Audit Standard on Sustainability Assurance (ASSA) 5000. The workshops continue to play an important role in the CER's communication approach by supporting knowledge sharing, clarifying regulatory expectations and strengthening understanding of scheme requirements.

Together, these activities demonstrate a structured and responsive engagement program that helped improved scheme literacy, supported participant readiness and strengthened relationships across the sectors we regulate.

Performance measures

KPI 1.1 No significant breaches of government, administrative, legal and policy requirements.
Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Indicator of the agency's ability to meet governance requirements by operating within Australian Government administrative, legal and policy boundaries.

Target Zero

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
Zero significant breaches	Zero	Zero	Zero

Analysis of 2025–26 result

We conduct ongoing compliance monitoring across the agency to ensure alignment with regulatory requirements and internal policies, including:

- PGPA Act
- PS Act
- *Privacy Act 1989*
- *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013*
- FOI Act
- WHS legislation
- Commonwealth Fraud and Corruption Control Framework
- Protective Security Policy Framework
- Legal Services Directions
- Disclosure and secrecy provisions.

KPI 1.2 Improvements to the way we use and share data.
Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale The CER must build on data quality and accessibility to promote and enhance a well-functioning, vibrant and liquid carbon market.

Target Qualitative analysis via pre-selected case studies

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
The case studies below outline our achievement of this performance measure.	Qualitative result detailed in the Annual Performance Statement 'Objective: A trusted, relevant and expert institution'.		

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Case study A – Data accessibility supports the integrity of well-functioning markets

During 2025–26, we improved the way we govern, publish and share data to strengthen transparency and confidence in the markets we administer. This work focused on building stronger data foundations, improving access to timely, consistent and trusted information, and embedding the culture, governance and accountability needed to support informed participation and well-functioning markets.

We operate complex schemes and markets where confidence depends on accurate, timely and transparent information. In the past, data publication was often manual and resource-intensive, with inconsistent definitions and metadata across schemes. Updates were less frequent, access was more limited, and external users could find it difficult to integrate our data into their own systems. These factors limited transparency, increased operational risk and reduced the usefulness of the data for participants seeking to make informed decisions.

To address these challenges, we established stronger foundations for the way data is governed, managed and shared through our Data Policy and Governance Framework. The framework clarifies data ownership, stewardship and accountability across the agency, standardises metadata and business definitions across datasets, aligns to ISO 11179 (an international metadata standard) and embeds data stewardship within business areas. This created a shared

understanding that data is a strategic asset, not simply a by-product of administration.

With these foundations in place, Data Services provided the platform to put them into practice. The centralised platform provides open and controlled access to datasets, metadata and APIs, giving users multiple ways to access CER data, including downloads, cloud-based access and system-to-system integration. It also provides a consistent capability across our major schemes.

Data Services has also improved the timeliness, quality and efficiency of data publication. Automated data pipelines have reduced manual handling, while publication frequency has increased from periodic updates to daily publication for relevant datasets. Pre-publication quality assurance and metadata validation have strengthened confidence that the data is reliable, current and fit for purpose at the point of use.

During 2025–26, amendments were made to the Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Rule 2015 that enabled us to expand the project-level information collected and published through the ACCU Scheme project register on our website. Details of how this data improved scheme transparency is outlined in KPI 4.4 Case study B – Making it simpler for our stakeholders to consume and analyse our data.

All of these improvements strengthen market integrity in several ways:

- More transparent and consistent information reinforces our role as a trusted source of information.
- Timely, standardised datasets support better decision-making and price discovery.
- API-enabled access strengthens interoperability by allowing CER data to be integrated into external systems, supporting more efficient and connected markets.
- Automation reduces manual handling, lowering the risk of error and reducing regulatory overhead.

This work reflects the regulator performance principles by supporting continuous improvement, strengthening confidence and enabling risk-based regulation. It demonstrates that data accessibility is driven by culture and enabled by technology. Through stronger governance, accountability and shared standards, we improved transparency, supported well-functioning markets and reinforced our role as a steward of trusted market information.

Case study B – Our use of data to improve our efficiency as a regulator

Our Compliance Branch has improved regulatory efficiency by strengthening how risk data is captured, shared and used through the development of a structured Risk Assessment Tool (RAT) used to support participant assessments.

The RAT has improved visibility of risk information by bringing previously dispersed data into a more consistent assessment approach. This has reduced duplication and supported more efficient evidence-based decision-making. The tool consolidates key data inputs into a single, structured framework. It brings together participant history, compliance findings, external intelligence and behavioural indicators to support consistent, data-driven risk assessments. This enables staff to more quickly identify higher-risk applicants and target regulatory effort where it is most needed.

This has improved efficiency by streamlining assessment workflows and reducing rework. Staff now apply a consistent methodology, supported by clearer visibility of relevant data, improving the timeliness and quality of advice provided to decision-makers.

The RAT has also enhanced data sharing within the agency. By standardising how risk information is captured and recorded, it supports greater transparency and consistency across teams. Risk insights can be more easily understood, compared and communicated, improving coordination within the Compliance Branch and with other areas of the agency.

Importantly, the tool supports more robust and defensible decision-making. It strengthens the link between identified risks and regulatory responses, ensuring decisions are clearly grounded in structured data and applied consistently and proportionately.

This initiative reflects the agency's commitment to risk-based, data-driven regulation and continuous improvement. By better targeting regulatory effort, the RAT reduces unnecessary burden on lower-risk participants and supports the integrity of the schemes we administer.

More information on our compliance activities and reporting during 2025–26 is detailed the regulator performance section.

KPI 1.3 Level of satisfaction with the quality and timeliness of market information.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Providing quality, relevant and timely information increases transparency and confidence in the operation of markets and underpins our role as a trusted, relevant and expert institution.

Target Qualitative analysis

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
Activities undertaken to achieve this performance measure are outlined in the analysis below.	Qualitative result detailed in the Annual Performance Statement 'Objective: A trusted, relevant and expert institution'.		

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Regular carbon market reporting provides information on compliance, voluntary carbon market trends and opportunities, and helps inform market decisions.

We publish our Quarterly Carbon Market Report (QCMR) and associated data workbooks to provide our stakeholders and the wider public with the latest information from Australia's carbon markets. The QCMR has been published regularly since 2019 and is the leading source of data on supply and demand across the full set of environmental, renewable energy and carbon markets the CER administers.

In 2025–26 we also published the first release of the *Quarterly Carbon Market Report: methods* document. Reflecting our commitment to transparency, this document complements the QCMR by providing additional detail behind the estimates and projections presented in the QCMRs and provides interested readers with a deeper understanding of how we analyse carbon abatement and market outcomes, including key assumptions and limitations.

In 2025–26 we also published a consolidated summary of the key compliance dates and related data across all of our schemes to support market participants, particularly those with an interest in easily accessing information about multiple schemes in the one place.

The key monthly data that we publish to inform markets and other interested stakeholders about the progress of our schemes includes:

- SRES installation postcode data, including small-scale installations and capacity by postcode
- LRET data, including information about approved power stations, committed and probable projects and total LGCs in the REC Registry
- ACCU Scheme project, voluntary cancellation and carbon abatement contract data on the ACCU Scheme project and contract register.

These publications complement other mandatory data publications across our schemes, which also inform markets and scheme participants and the public.

We survey our stakeholders each year to assess satisfaction across several key areas, including the market information we provide. In 2026, 749 respondents gave feedback on our performance.

We asked 2 questions in the survey about our market updates – the results of these were:

- 84% agreed that our market updates were relevant and/or useful
- 79% agreed that our market updates were timely.

OBJECTIVE 2: EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATION



We administer our schemes in an efficient and effective way to encourage participation and compliance, reduce costs and meet the objectives of the legislation to accelerate carbon abatement.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Deliverables

Strengthen our ACCU Scheme risk-based assessment framework.

With more than 2,500 registered projects, the ACCU Scheme continued to grow in 2025–26. Application levels also continued to rise, increasing demand on assessment processes and reinforcing the importance of a scalable, risk-based approach to scheme administration. During the year, we received 2,026 ACCU Scheme applications, up from 1,969 in 2024–25, an increase of 3%. As application volumes grew, maintaining scheme integrity while supporting timely assessment and predictable issuance of high-integrity ACCUs remained a key priority.

To support this, we strengthened our risk-based assessment framework to triage applications according to complexity and risk. The framework enabled assessment teams to focus regulatory effort on more complex or higher-risk applications at key milestones during a project's crediting period, while processing routine and lower-risk applications more efficiently.

We implemented the framework through an adaptive management approach, trialling changes to assessment processes, refining risk settings and better aligning effort with areas of highest risk. This included identifying key risks across methods, improving application pathways and supporting project proponents through targeted education as part of the Be ACCUrate engagement series.

This project also delivered the following practical system and process improvements:

- tailored application forms
- an assessment platform within the CRM system
- smart automation and risk detection capability.

These improvements helped position the framework to adapt as the application profile shifted during the year. While lower-risk applications continued to be processed more efficiently, there was an increase in higher-risk applications in quarter 3 driven by increased uptake of the *Plantation Forestry* method and the first reporting by HIR projects registered before the 2023 method sunset. These application types generally required additional assessment because of their complexity and method-specific assurance requirements. This increased pressure on assessment team resourcing and highlighted the need for further refinement of enabling tools and processes.

Overall, the approach strengthened the agency's stewardship of ACCU Scheme integrity by targeting regulatory effort to the areas of greatest risk while supporting more efficient processing for routine applications. Early indicators of success include reduced processing times for routine applications, fewer requests for further information, greater certainty and predictability of ACCU issuance and continued improvement in scheme compliance.

Facilitate safeguard facilities to produce robust decarbonisation plans.

During 2025–26, we strengthened our engagement and compliance risk monitoring to support safeguard facilities to understand their obligations and plan for emissions reduction. Robust decarbonisation plans are an important indicator of a facility's preparedness and ability to manage future compliance as baselines decline in line with Australia's emissions reduction targets.

To inform and drive decarbonisation activities, we release a range of information and data to the market including the QCMR, Safeguard Data Insights documents and annual Safeguard data at the facility level.

Early engagement with safeguard entities showed a generally well-informed cohort that was broadly prepared for the 2024–25 compliance period. This was reflected in another strong compliance outcome, with 205 of 208 covered facilities compliant with the requirement not to be in an excess emissions situation by the 1 April 2026 compliance deadline.

Release a new version of EERS for NGER reporters.

During 2025–26, we released a new version of the EERS for NGER reporters, modernising a core reporting system that had been in use since 2012–13. The new EERS went live on 1 July 2025 for all reporters preparing and submitting their 2024–25 reports, marking a significant milestone in improving the reporting experience and establishing a more modern, reliable and future-ready platform.

By moving EERS to Online Services, the new platform improves the efficiency, flexibility and usability of emissions and energy reporting. It provides like-for-like reporting capability with enhanced functionality, including bulk data upload to reduce manual data entry, stronger pre-submission validations to help reduce errors and API integration that will support connections with reporter systems.

These improvements make it easier for reporters to collect, manage and submit data, while strengthening data accessibility and reliability. The platform also provides a stronger foundation for future scheme initiatives, including the GO Scheme. User feedback on the new system has been positive, with the updated interface and reporting functionality improving the reporting experience. In the 2026 stakeholder survey, 84% of respondents were satisfied with the EERS, up from 73% in 2025.

During the year, we completed the final phase of the multi-year migration program, transferring 3 years of detailed data, 8 years of summary data and 2,148 documents from the legacy system into CRM system. This ensured continuity of reporting records and enabled the legacy system to be decommissioned.

NGER data publications for the 2024–25 reporting year were released on 27 February 2026, providing transparency on corporate emissions and energy information and supporting Australia's international reporting obligations.

Performance measures

KPI 2.1 Proportion of applications processed within statutory or agreed timeframes (excluding Nature Repair Market and GO Scheme).
Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Efficient processing of applications supports effective scheme administration and delivers value to participants by streamlining their experience and meeting their expectations.

Target ≥ 99.5%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
94%	92.9%	85.3%	92.1%

Analysis of 2025–26 result

In 2025–26, we continued to balance timely application processing with our responsibility to uphold scheme integrity. While the performance measure remained deliberately ambitious, our focus shifted to embedding more targeted, data-informed approaches that help direct effort to the areas of greatest risk and impact.

For ACCU Scheme applications, we strengthened the risk-based assessment framework to better target regulatory effort to higher-risk applications and process routine applications more efficiently. This included improving systems and processes – such as tailored forms, CRM-based assessment tools, automation and risk detection capability – to support timely assessment and scheme integrity. More information is provided in the deliverable result Strengthen our ACCU Scheme risk-based assessment framework.

Against a backdrop of continued growth in scheme applications, the target was not achieved. Our teams processed more than 6,200 applications included in this performance measure, a 15% increase compared with 2024–25.

Key outcomes included:

- processing 55% more REC Registry applications than in 2024–25 due to the CHBP
- finalising 99% of ANREU applications within the 90-day deadline
- managing a 73% increase in Safeguard Mechanism applications in 2025–26, compared to the previous year
- completing 100% of LRET power station accreditation and RET Emissions-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) exemption certificate applications within the required timeframe
- processing 100% of NGER applications within the timeframes required.

The 2026 stakeholder survey found satisfaction with CER's application process increased to 63%, up from 56% in 2025. Stakeholders valued accessible online systems, clear communication and responsive support, while identifying opportunities to reduce duplication and complexity, improve guidance and status updates, and provide more consistent, proportionate and timely decision-making.

KPI 2.2 Proportion of Nature Repair Market and GO applications processed within statutory or agreed timeframes.
Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan and 2025–26 Portfolio Budget Statements*

Rationale Effective administration of the Nature Repair Market and GO Scheme is supported by the efficient processing of applications, delivering value to participants by streamlining their experience and meeting their expectations.

Target ≥ 90%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
100%	n/a*	n/a – new measure	

*Only Nature Repair Market applications in 2024–25. Two applications were received and processing of both was in progress as at 30 June 2025.

Analysis of 2025–26 result

In 2025–26, we processed all Nature Repair Market and GO applications within the required timeframes while standing up and administering these 2 new schemes. This result reflects the establishment of core operational processes, guidance, systems and assessment pathways to support participants through early scheme implementation.

For the Nature Repair Market, we registered the first biodiversity project in August 2025 and continued to support proponents through a case management approach, helping applicants understand new legislative and method requirements and provide complete information for assessment. This approach, detailed in RPP 3 Case study A: Nature Repair Market – collaboration and engagement in practice, supported the formation of the new market with 2 projects

registered and 4 applications under assessment as at 30 June 2026.

For the GO Scheme, we processed early participant and facility applications following commencement on 3 November 2025. This included applications for REGO registered persons, REGO facilities and the first REGO certificates, supported by new Online Services forms, standard operating procedures, delegations, public guidance and registers in Data Services.

The result demonstrates effective early administration of new schemes in an evolving operating environment. Timely processing was supported by close engagement with applicants, fit-for-purpose assessment processes and targeted guidance to help participants navigate new requirements. These foundations will continue to support efficient administration as application volumes increase and the Nature Repair Market and GO Scheme mature.

KPI 2.3 Proportion of investigations completed within established timeframes.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Timely completion of investigations helps resolve and correct non-compliance.

Target ≥ 80%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
93.3%	80%	84.6%	92%

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Our approach to compliance activities under the schemes we administer is to ensure those activities are undertaken in a manner which is effective, timely and proportionate. The timely completion of investigations into potential non-compliance in our schemes helps maintain high levels of compliance and underpins confidence in the primary carbon and renewable energy markets we operate.

The measurement of this KPI is for the completion of complex investigations within 365 days and routine investigations within 180 days. During 2025–26, we completed 14 of our 15 finalised investigations within the agreed timeframes. The investigation finalised outside KPI timeframes was categorised as complex due to evidentiary challenges and the nature of the offending.

KPI 2.4 Level of carbon abatement delivered by CER administered schemes (ACCU Scheme and RET).

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan and 2025–26 Portfolio Budget Statements*

Rationale An indicator of the effectiveness of our administration of the ACCU and RET schemes.

Target Estimated ≥ 76 Mt CO_2-e

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
88.5 Mt CO_2-e*	79.2 Mt CO_2-e*	69 Mt CO_2-e*	n/a – new measure

*estimated

Analysis of 2025–26 result

The estimated abatement result of 88.5 Mt CO_2-e is based on over 23 million ACCUs issued, 39.9 million LGCs and REGOs and 25.6 million STCs generated. The figure includes estimates of LGCs by generation year and the uptake of small-scale technologies during 2025–26.

Abatement from small-scale batteries is not included in this result due to the source and timing of charging and discharging not able to be reliably determined with available data, and battery-related STCs not being designed as a proxy for abatement. The contribution of batteries to emissions reduction is instead captured implicitly through reductions in grid emissions intensity over time.

Due to reporting lags, historical figures may change retrospectively. Details of the carbon abatement calculations are provided in the scheme performance section.

KPI 2.5 Net covered emissions from the operation of each designated large facility does not exceed its Safeguard Mechanism baseline for the latest reporting year (2024–25).

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan and 2025–26 Portfolio Budget Statements*

Rationale An indicator of the effectiveness of our administration of the Safeguard Mechanism.

Target 100%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
98.6%	98%	n/a – new measure	

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Compliance with the Safeguard Mechanism continues to be high. Of the 208 covered facilities, 205 were compliant with the requirement to not be in an excess emissions situation on the compliance deadline of 1 April 2026.

There were 3 facilities under the operational control of 3 responsible emitters (all of which are related to one corporate group) that did not meet the surrender deadline, resulting in excess emissions situations totalling 317,212 t CO_2-e on 1 April 2026. Of those responsible emitters, one is in liquidation and 2 are in administration.

OBJECTIVE 3: ENGAGED, ACTIVE AND COMPLIANT PARTICIPANTS



We achieve the best outcomes when the entities we regulate can successfully engage with us to participate in the schemes we administer, meet their obligations, and willingly contribute to our information gathering.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Deliverables

Stand up and implement Cheaper Home Batteries program into the SRES, and support post-launch implementation activities and information to the market.

Significant consultation, collaboration and preparation by the agency supported the successful launch of the CHBP on 1 July 2025. Demand exceeded initial expectations, with installation and application volumes higher than anticipated, requiring the agency to scale operations quickly while continuing to process applications using our risk-based framework. As of 30 June 2026, over 438,000 validated solar batteries had been installed across Australia since the program launched, equating to 12.4 GWh of installed storage capacity. This substantial new storage capacity helps to integrate higher levels of renewable generation, supporting Australia's target of 82% renewables by 2030.

Our post-launch administration activities for the program focused on guidance, safety and compliance. Stakeholder engagement helped manage emerging risks and support participant understanding of the program's requirements.

We worked closely with state and territory regulators, distribution network service providers and industry bodies. We implemented the IAIC, which included stakeholders from a variety of government, industry and consumer focused agencies. This included sharing early installation data and insights to support regulatory and safety functions and facilitating the committee's advice to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy. Additional information on our collaboration and engagement is provided in RPP 3 Case study B: Cheaper Home Batteries Program – a collaborative approach to program delivery in the regulator performance section.

Compliance and assurance activities reinforced program requirements and helped maintain integrity. We commenced inspections early and used the results to identify emerging risks, strengthen compliance controls and support continuous improvement across the industry. During the year, 3,424 battery inspections were completed, with each inspection receiving an overall assessment of either adequate, substandard (technical non-compliance) or unsafe. The inspections found:

- 36.53% were adequate and safe
- 62.71% were substandard (technical non-compliance) but safe to remain in operation
- 0.79% were unsafe (includes installation unsafe due to product recall).

The inspections did not identify any issues with the solar batteries themselves. All issues were due to installation practices and substandard workmanship.

We shared inspection data and insights with state and territory electrical safety regulators and key industry bodies to support their roles in ensuring installations are safe, products meet electrical safety standards, and people designing, selling and installing battery systems are appropriately qualified and accredited.

In March 2026, we introduced new photo requirements for solar battery installations after inspections identified labelling as a key area for improvement. Accredited battery installers must provide photo evidence of compliant labelling for every solar battery installed from 1 March 2026.

We are using sophisticated AI as part of our comprehensive assessment process to help ensure all claims meet the new photo requirements. Additional information is provided in RPP 2 Case study: Cheaper Home Battery Program – Labelling requirements in the regulator performance section.

We also implemented changes to the CHBP following the Australian Government's December 2025 decision to expand funding and introduce changes to STC settings. These changes commenced on 1 May 2026 and included tiered support based on battery size and more frequent factor reductions to help maintain an upfront discount of around 30% while reflecting falling battery costs.

The agency completed the required system changes on schedule and communicated the new arrangements to installers, retailers, state and territory fair trading bodies and ombudsmen. These communications reinforced participant obligations, including the need for accurate quotes, responsible scheduling and clear advice to customers about installation timing and potential price impacts.

Together, these activities demonstrate our stewardship of a rapidly scaling program by supporting participant readiness, maintaining compliance oversight and sharing timely data and insights with safety regulators, industry and government. This helped manage implementation risks, support safe and informed participation, and maintain confidence in the integrity of the CHBP as demand exceeded initial expectations.

Administer the Nature Repair Market post scheme launch and provide information to the market.

During 2025–26, we administered the Nature Repair Market following its launch in March 2025 and supported the early operation of this new legislated biodiversity market. A key milestone was achieved on 12 August 2025 with the registration of the first biodiversity project, reflecting the successful establishment of core administrative arrangements and marking the transition of the scheme from implementation to active administration. At 30 June 2026, the scheme had 2 registered Nature Repair Market projects and a further 4 applications under assessment.

We used a case management approach to support prospective proponents, landholders, service providers and interested organisations to understand method requirements, application processes and information needs. This approach, detailed in RPP 3 Case study A: Nature Repair Market – collaboration and engagement in practice, helped stakeholders with projects in the pipeline navigate new scheme requirements, respond to requests for information and provide complete information for assessment. Our guidance and outreach activities outlined in the analysis of KPI 3.3, improved scheme literacy and helped participants understand eligibility, registration, reporting, audit and certificate requirements.

Information about registered projects was published on the Biodiversity Market Register on our website. The register provides transparent information on registered biodiversity projects, project characteristics and related ACCU Scheme projects where relevant.

We worked closely with DCCEEW to support ongoing scheme implementation and method development, including by providing feedback to reduce complexity in future methods, improve accessibility and support broader participation over time.

These activities supported the early operation of the biodiversity market by improving scheme literacy, reducing uncertainty for prospective participants and helping applicants understand legislative and method requirements. They also supported scheme integrity by providing clear, practical and timely information before and during the application process, contributing to a transparent, accessible and credible market for voluntary investment in nature repair projects across Australia.

Stand up the GO Scheme and support implementation activities.

During 2025–26, we prepared for the launch of the GO Scheme by working closely with DCCEEW to establish the scheme's administrative arrangements and develop the processes and system arrangements needed to support early operation. This included online forms, assessment processes, standard operating procedures, delegations, website content and communications, which together established the operational foundations for administering the new scheme.

Alongside this operational readiness work, targeted guidance and outreach helped prospective participants understand the new scheme and prepare to engage with it. Further detail on these activities is included in the analysis of KPI 3.3.

This preparation supported early delivery milestones, including the establishment of the first GO public registers in Data Services. As at 30 June 2026, these covered registered persons, renewable electricity facilities and REGO certificates, with the first certificates approved in April 2026.

Together, these activities enabled the GO Scheme to launch with the systems, processes and participant materials needed to support early operation. Further detail on the GO Scheme launch is included in the analysis of KPI 4.5.

Manage non-compliance and influence participant behaviour.

Our approach to compliance across the schemes we administer is based on 3 core principles:

- Responsibility for complying with legislative requirements rests with scheme participants.
- Our enforcement responses are proportionate to the nature and seriousness of non-compliance and take account of the impact on scheme objectives.
- Where non-compliance is identified, we take appropriate enforcement action using the full suite of powers available to us, consistent with our compliance policy and our education, monitoring and enforcement activities.

We take targeted enforcement action in response to non-compliance to maintain the trust and confidence of scheme participants, stakeholders and the broader community. The actions taken during 2025–26 are outlined in the compliance action section.

To help deter non-compliance, we publish news items on our website about our compliance responses and actions, as well as quarterly compliance updates (cer.gov.au/compliance-approach). These updates highlight the steps we are taking to support the fair and effective operation of our schemes and help participants understand how we are applying our compliance priorities.

By sharing this information, we aim to influence participant behaviour and encourage those who may be unintentionally or opportunistically non-compliant to return to compliance by making clear the consequences of non-compliance.

Develop agency stakeholder engagement operating model.

During 2025–26, we developed a stakeholder engagement operating model to strengthen how the agency engages with scheme participants, industry, communities and other key stakeholders. The model provides a practical framework for more coordinated, consistent and purposeful engagement across the agency, while preserving the direct relationships scheme areas have built with their stakeholders.

Under the model, the central hub will set the overall engagement strategy, lead whole-of-agency engagement, coordinate cross-program priorities and provide clearer reporting on engagement activity and outcomes. Scheme areas will continue to manage direct relationships with participants and stakeholders, ensuring engagement remains informed by scheme-specific expertise and participant needs.

The model will help the agency better share insights, identify common stakeholder issues and provide more connected guidance and information across schemes. This is expected to support a better stakeholder experience by reducing duplication, improving message consistency and helping participants and stakeholders access relevant information more easily.

The project also identified opportunities to further strengthen engagement capability. Recommendations to improve knowledge sharing, strengthen engagement practice and expand the reach of CER analysis and guidance were agreed in principle. These actions will support more informed, timely and effective engagement over time.

Overall, approval of the operating model and commencement of implementation activities provide a foundation for improving how we understand stakeholder needs, coordinate engagement across schemes and deliver clearer, more consistent information to the participants and markets we support.

Performance measures

KPI 3.1 Compliance levels by regulated and liable entities.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan and 2025–26 Portfolio Budget Statements*

Rationale Compliance with scheme regulations is an indicator that participants are active and engaged and supports the integrity of the schemes and the agency as a regulator.

Target ≥ 95%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
99.4%	96.8%	97.2%	95.4%

Analysis of 2025–26 result

This KPI measures the proportion of entities that successfully met their reporting obligations under the NGER Scheme or the RET by the required deadlines, including:

- NGER reports for the 2024–25 reporting year

- LGCs and STCs surrendered (noting that some entities surrender more than is required to avoid shortfall, resulting in a carried forward surplus)
- accredited power stations' submission of Electricity Generation Returns (EGR)
- liable entities lodging Energy Acquisition Statements (EAS).

The 2025–26 result demonstrates continued high levels of compliance across these schemes, exceeding the target of 95% and reinforcing confidence in the integrity and effectiveness of Australia's clean energy regulatory framework. These results indicate that most participants are active, engaged and meeting their obligations:

- 98.5% of NGER reporters submitted their reports by the deadline.
- 100% of EAS were lodged on time.
- All required LGCs were surrendered on time.
- 100% of STCs were surrendered on time and for the first time, no entity incurred an STC shortfall.
- 98.5% of power stations submitted their EGR by the required timeframe.

KPI 3.2 Level of participant satisfaction with engagement and guidance provided.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Providing accurate, timely and relevant guidance and engagement informs and educates our participants to understand their obligations or entitlements to successfully participate in the schemes we administer.

Target ≥ 80%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
73.4%	72.8%	85.9%	88.0%

Analysis of 2025–26 result

This KPI is measured by asking the following attitudinal question in our annual stakeholder survey:

> Based on experiences in the last 12 months, rate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statements:
>
> > The CER engages effectively with its stakeholders.
> >
> > The guidance provided by the CER meets my needs.

While the 2025–26 result did not meet the 80% target, the averaged survey results show that most stakeholders were positive or neutral about our engagement and guidance, with 93.1% either agreeing with the statements or providing a mixed response. The averaged results were:

- 73.4% agreed with the statements
- 19.7% were mixed
- 6.8% disagreed with the statements.

Survey comments show that stakeholders value the CER's professional, clear and practical communication, with guidance and public reporting helping participants understand regulatory expectations and meet their obligations. Respondents particularly appreciated our continued focus on consultation, education and support.

The feedback also identified opportunities to further improve the participant experience through more tailored, detailed and plain English guidance, clearer step-by-step instructions, better website and portal navigation, more proactive updates on deadlines and process changes, and additional training, templates and technical support for complex scheme requirements.

KPI 3.3 Practical and timely guidance and outreach activities with our participants.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Providing targeted and timely guidance and outreach activities enables our participants to successfully participate in the schemes we administer.

Target Qualitative analysis

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
Activities undertaken to achieve this performance measure are outlined in the analysis below.	Qualitative result detailed in the Annual Performance Statement 'Objective: Engaged, active and compliant participants'.		

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Across our schemes, we delivered practical and timely guidance and outreach to help participants understand requirements, prepare accurate and complete information, and meet their obligations. Activities were aligned to key milestones, legislative changes and scheme implementation phases, and delivered through a range of engagement channels, including those outlined in the stakeholder engagement deliverable. This targeted and responsive approach improved scheme literacy, supported participant readiness, strengthened compliance outcomes and helped ensure guidance remained accessible, transparent and informed by participant feedback.

ACCU Scheme

During 2025–26, we delivered targeted guidance and outreach to support current and prospective ACCU Scheme participants to understand scheme requirements, submit accurate applications and meet their ongoing obligations. This supported informed participation, reduced avoidable delays and strengthened the integrity and efficient administration of the scheme.

The Be ACCUrate series remained a key engagement channel, giving participants direct access to agency staff and practical advice on scheme requirements. Sessions covered priority topics, including:

- running a Nature Repair Market project alongside an ACCU Scheme project
- participating in the new *Reducing methane emissions from landfill gas method 2025*
- legal right and eligible interest-holder consent requirements
- post-crediting period guidance and permanence obligations for agents, carbon service providers and landholders
- requirements and deadlines for the *Source separated organic waste* method before it expired on 31 March 2026
- tools and resources to estimate carbon abatement and earn ACCUs under the *Environmental plantings pilot* method
- driving integrity and innovation in the ACCU Scheme and Nature Repair Market through a full-day workshop delivered in person and online.

The Be ACCUrate presentations were published on the agency's YouTube channel, and guidance was updated to reflect common questions and feedback from events. This extends the value of live sessions and turns participant insights into practical support material.

We continued to update and expand the ACCU Scheme guidance library to reflect regulatory requirements and reoccurring issues identified through applications and enquiries. Clearer upfront guidance helps the submission of more accurate applications, reduces the requests for further information, minimises delays and supports smoother scheme administration.

We also ran targeted communication campaigns to inform ACCU Scheme participants of the expiry of methods. The campaigns included:

- emails to scheme subscribers and relevant project proponents
- targeted messaging on relevant method webpages
- publication of an updated guidance about the impact of method expiry on scheme participants.

NGER Scheme

The agency delivers an annual education campaign from July to October to support NGER reporters to meet their reporting obligations. For the 2024–25 reporting period, the campaign provided timely, targeted guidance on legislative changes, the new EERS and submitting complete reports by the deadline. Key activities included:

- a change management campaign for the launch of the new EERS, including emails, videos and guidelines
- updates to guidance material and calculators to reflect changes in NGER legislation
- webinars and training videos to support compliance with NGER Scheme requirements
- updates to the NGER Scheme landing page and reporter support dashboard
- Q&A sessions where reporters could speak directly with NGER teams
- targeted email updates and reminders ahead of key reporting milestones.

A post-campaign survey confirmed the education campaign remains fit for purpose. Timely reporting was also maintained, with 98% of NGER reports submitted by the 2024–25 deadline, consistent with previous periods. This indicates targeted guidance and outreach continued to help participants understand and meet their obligations.

Safeguard Mechanism

During 2025–26, we provided general and targeted guidance and outreach to support safeguard facilities to understand and meet their compliance obligations ahead of the 1 April 2026 deadline. Engagement was aligned to compliance

milestones, with additional support provided to facilities requiring more targeted assistance. We also sent reminder emails to responsible emitters at strategic points during the year.

This guidance and outreach supported continued high levels of compliance with the Safeguard Mechanism. Of the 208 covered facilities, 205, or 98.6%, complied with the requirement to not be in an excess emissions situation by the 1 April 2026 compliance deadline.

We updated website content and guidance documents to provide clear and accessible information for responsible emitters. Key activities included:

- publishing 2 short animations explaining the reformed Safeguard Mechanism and how the scheme operates, including its relationship with carbon markets
- publishing new Online Services walkthroughs and a new exemption guideline, as well as updating a range of existing guidance materials
- publishing an online webinar to support responsible emitters to understand the scheme
- holding a live Q&A event to enable direct engagement with stakeholders
- sending regular emails to responsible emitters about key upcoming dates and requirements.

These resources were consolidated on the new Safeguard Mechanism Resources webpage, giving responsible emitters a single place to access the guidance and support material needed to understand and meet their obligations.

SRES

We delivered a coordinated communications and outreach program to support the commencement of the CHBP within the SRES on 1 July 2025. This included participant guidance, webinars, direct engagement, website updates, targeted communications and education materials to help installers, agents, retailers, consumers and other stakeholders understand eligibility requirements, compliance obligations and scheme processes.

Ongoing engagement with DCCEEW helped ensure our guidance remained timely and aligned with emerging policy settings and market conditions. Advice on battery uptake, installer accreditation, supply chain constraints, system pricing, STC market dynamics and changes to STC eligibility from 1 May 2026 was translated into practical information to help participants understand evolving requirements and adapt their business processes.

We provided weekly scheme updates and data to the Minister's Office to support transparent communication and informed stakeholder outreach. We also delivered targeted emails, website updates, news articles and media engagement to provide participants with timely and practical information about scheme requirements and changes.

These communications were reinforced through our attendance at forums and events outlined in the stakeholder engagement deliverable. These forums provided opportunities to deliver compliance guidance, clarified regulatory expectations, addressed common areas of non-compliance and promoted best practice across the sector.

To support risk-based oversight and incident response, installation and inspection data was proactively shared with key stakeholders, including state and territory safety regulators and emergency services. This capability was significantly enhanced through live, continuous Data Services via API, enabling near real-time access to scheme data and improving situational awareness, coordination and regulatory effectiveness.

Together, these activities supported the successful implementation of a major new program within the SRES by helping participants understand their obligations, respond to changing settings and participate with greater confidence.

LRET

During 2025–26, we supported accredited power stations to understand and meet their LRET obligations through a focused EGR campaign. Building on improvements from previous years, the campaign used earlier engagement, practical guidance and targeted follow-up for historically late reporters. We combined broad participant communications with tailored messaging and direct follow-up to help participants understand reporting requirements, address issues early and submit complete returns on time.

Together, these guidance, outreach and assessment activities supported continued strong compliance outcomes for the 2025 EGR campaign with 96% of returns submitted by the legislated deadline.

As part of ongoing scheme administration, non-compliant power stations were identified and suspended where required. Targeted outreach to disengaged participants supported re-engagement where possible and helped ensure power station accreditation details remained accurate and up to date. This reduces future administrative burden associated with inactive participants and supports the effective operation of the scheme.

We also maintained and updated guidance materials and web content to ensure participants had access to clear and practical information on EGR requirements, certificate creation and reporting obligations. Insights from participant enquiries and campaign delivery informed improvements to guidance and future outreach priorities.

Ongoing engagement with industry through meetings and enquiries also improved awareness of scheme requirements and emerging issues, including market conditions and operational challenges faced by power stations. This helps ensure guidance remains relevant and responsive in a mature and evolving market.

RET liability and EITE exemption

During 2025–26, we delivered targeted guidance and proactive outreach to support liable entities and EITE applicants to understand and meet their obligations. Engagement was timed around scheme milestones, including exemption certificate application deadlines and quarterly surrender deadlines, so participants could prepare early and submit complete and accurate information. We also undertook an additional engagement round with liable entities operating energy storage systems to ensure they understood legislative changes and updated reporting requirements.

This targeted and timely engagement contributed to a continued reduction in requests for further information and enabled assessments to be completed well ahead of milestones. It also improved turnaround times and reduced administrative burden for both participants and internal assessment teams.

Key outcomes included:

- 100% certificate surrender compliance across multiple deadlines
- all EITE applications and energy acquisition statements received on time, including from 2 new applicants
- EITE exemptions issued without delay and assessed within legislative timeframes, supported by effective coordination with participants to provide accurate metering data
- all outstanding debts recovered, reflecting effective internal processes and stakeholder cooperation.

These results demonstrate the value of clear guidance, early engagement and coordinated assessment processes in supporting high compliance, efficient scheme administration and confidence in scheme integrity.

REGO

In the lead-up to and following commencement of the GO Scheme on 3 November 2025, we delivered extensive guidance, communication and stakeholder engagement activities to support the implementation of the REGO component and build participant readiness.

We developed and published a suite of guidance materials to support participation, including website content, public registers, and a participant handbook. These resources provided clear information to prospective participants on registering REGO facilities, creating certificates and understanding compliance obligations.

We proactively engaged with RET participants through targeted consultation and co-design sessions to inform the development of an enhanced user experience within the Unit and Certificate Registry. These engagements enabled developers to better understand user needs and ensure the system was fit for purpose, while also strengthening collaborative relationships with both current and future participants.

To broaden awareness and support participation, we implemented a stakeholder engagement strategy to identify and connect with eligible industry groups, including organisations not currently engaged in CER schemes. This approach facilitated early awareness, gauged interest from existing RET participants in transitioning to REGO and provided tailored 1:1 support to assist participants through the application process.

Further engagement was undertaken with various First Nations entities and councils to support the verification of First Nations attributes within the REGO. These attributes represent a first for any renewable energy certificate scheme, and feedback received through this engagement was positive, highlighting strong interest in and support for this initiative.

We worked closely with industry groups seeking to establish a REGO certificate market, providing guidance on legislative requirements, scheme limitations and key differences between REGOs and LGCs. We also attended multiple industry events and conferences, delivering presentations and engaging directly with stakeholders to improve understanding of the scheme's operation and benefits.

PGO

During 2025–26, we delivered practical guidance and targeted outreach to support prospective participants before and after commencement of the PGO component of the GO Scheme on 3 November 2025. Activities focused on raising awareness, building participant readiness and ensuring stakeholders had access to clear and practical information on scheme concepts, eligibility requirements, reporting processes and certificate registration. This early support helped prospective participants understand the scheme and contributed to the first PGO participant registration in June 2026.

A core part of the approach was engagement with industry through key conferences and events. We participated in major hydrogen, renewable fuels and green metals forums, providing updates on scheme design, implementation timeframes and participant obligations. These engagements enabled direct discussions with prospective participants and supported a shared understanding of how PGO certification can underpin emissions transparency and international market access.

We also attended policy roundtables, including those focused on biomethane, to ensure the scheme framework reflected emerging technologies and production pathways. These discussions with potential participants in developing sectors helped inform practical considerations for integrating new product classes into the PGO framework over time.

We delivered tailored education sessions, such as PGO 101 briefings to stakeholder groups, including members of the Australian Industry Greenhouse Network and the Australian Hydrogen Council, and ran webinars as part of consultation on proposed cost recovery arrangements. These sessions were designed to simplify complex requirements and give the opportunity for industry questions and discussion.

To complement in-person engagement, we expanded participant guidance materials, including detailed user guides and web content explaining key scheme processes such as how to register a person, create a profile and register certificates. A GO explainer video was developed to provide a concise and consistent overview of the scheme, its purpose and how it operates. The video supports engagement at conferences and events, where it can be used at exhibition booths to reinforce key messages and provide an accessible introduction for prospective participants.

Nature Repair Market

During 2025–26, we continued to build awareness and support early participation in the Nature Repair Market following the scheme opening in March 2025. Our outreach focused on helping prospective proponents understand scheme requirements, the first available method, the project registration process and how Nature Repair Market projects may interact with eligible ACCU Scheme projects.

We engaged directly with prospective proponents, landholders, service providers and interested organisations to explain the scheme, respond to questions and support early understanding of application requirements. We also followed up with stakeholders who expressed interest through conferences, meetings and enquiry channels, including offering meetings to walk through key considerations for preparing a Nature Repair Market application.

To support scheme literacy, we developed and delivered Nature Repair Market 101 presentations for internal and external audiences. These sessions explained the purpose of the scheme, the CER's role, the first method, participation requirements, the Biodiversity Market Register and how projects may be delivered alongside eligible ACCU Scheme projects.

We also continued to develop and refine web content, guidance and supporting materials to help participants understand eligibility, project registration, reporting, audit and certificate requirements. This included targeted guidance on First Nations engagement requirements, including mandatory engagement where a project area overlaps with Indigenous land interests, voluntary engagement with relevant First Nations persons, and requirements for using Indigenous knowledge, values or data.

Ongoing collaboration with DCCEEW and internal CER teams helped ensure guidance, communications and operational processes remained aligned with policy settings, method requirements and participant needs. Practical support was also provided for early project applications, including close engagement with proponents to help them navigate new scheme requirements and provide complete information for assessment.

We also maintained and promoted the Biodiversity Market Register, which provides transparent information on registered biodiversity projects, project characteristics and related ACCU Scheme projects where relevant. This supports transparency and helps prospective participants and market stakeholders understand early scheme activity.

Together, these activities supported the early implementation of the new voluntary biodiversity market by improving scheme literacy, reducing uncertainty for prospective participants and helping applicants understand how to meet legislative and method requirements. The approach also supported scheme integrity by providing clear, practical and timely information before and during the application process.

OBJECTIVE 4: SECURE AND ENDURING REGULATORY INFRASTRUCTURE



Our processes, systems and infrastructure must be reliable and resilient, and able to respond flexibly to policy and/or operational changes. They must also be supported by capable, expert and adaptable people to ensure our agency can respond quickly to new policy demands, technological changes and participant expectations.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Deliverables

Continued enhancements to Online Services to improve its external and internal usability, expand its functionality and strengthen its security.

During 2025–26, we continued to enhance Online Services to improve usability, expand functionality and strengthen security for external users. Improvements focused on reducing participant effort, streamlining common transactions and strengthening the resilience of core digital services that support scheme administration.

The agency continued to make enhancements in line with whole-of-government cyber security strategies to help mitigate cyber security incidents arising from a range of cyber threats. These improvements strengthened the security and resilience of online services while supporting ongoing progress towards higher levels of cyber security maturity.

Usability and functionality improvements delivered practical benefits for participants and staff. Enhancements to the Online Services sign-up process substantially reduced error rates and related calls to the Contact Centre. Improvements to the 'Register as an Individual' process and the new 'tell us once' capability reduced participant burden by ensuring participants in the ACCU Scheme, Nature Repair Market, GO Scheme and holders of an ANREU account, do not need to re-verify their identity when registering for more than one of these schemes.

Together, these enhancements demonstrate continued progress in making Online Services more secure, easier to use and better able to support participants and staff.

Feasibility assessment on potential interoperability options between the Unit and Certificate Registry and other market trading platforms and systems.

We completed a feasibility assessment of potential interoperability options between the new Unit and Certificate Registry and other market trading platforms and systems during 2025–26. This work was undertaken to better understand how interoperability could support deep, liquid, transparent and accessible carbon markets, while ensuring any future design remains legally, technically and operationally fit for purpose.

The assessment was informed by a substantial consultation process. Following the release of the consultation paper *Enabling deep, liquid, transparent and accessible carbon markets in Australia* in October 2024, we received 35 submissions and held 10 consultation roundtables with industry associations, brokers and project developers. This was followed by targeted consultation in July and August 2025, including 3 stakeholder workshops attended by 52 participants. Together, these activities helped identify market priorities, test potential operating models and refine our understanding of the practical benefits and constraints of interoperability.

The October consultation showed strong support for a registry that is user-friendly, secure and better connected to external systems. In particular, there was support for enhanced visibility of holdings, access to co-benefit data and API-based access to improve efficiency and enable more timely analysis and trading. The feasibility work also tested interoperability models against legal, technical and cyber security requirements and identified practical use cases for API-led interaction with external systems. During the 2025 feasibility consultations, respondents re-affirmed support for digital interoperability with CER systems, generally welcomed our draft principles for interoperability, and found the characterisation of prototype interoperability models to be accurate.

One important finding was that legislative changes would be required to implement the registry prototype interoperability models for ACCUs and SMCs, particularly private API interactions that would enable automated transactions.

The assessment also identified actions that can proceed within the existing legislative framework. These include a manual trial approach to sharing information with third-party co-benefit certificate registries and the ongoing provision of public APIs for scheme register data, including the ACCU project and contract register.

These actions support the development of more connected market infrastructure and will improve access to information for market participants. The outcomes of the feasibility assessment are also the prioritisation of features and functions to support future interoperability of the Unit and Certificate Registry.

Onboard units and certificates to the new Unit and Certificate Registry.

The Unit and Certificate Registry is a modern, user-friendly system that allows account holders to manage and trade the units and certificates administered by the CER. The registry will progressively bring together CER-administered units and certificates, providing a digital record and authoritative source of holdings and transactions.

In November 2025, we achieved a key milestone with the migration of ACCUs to the new registry. This was a significant step in implementing the registry and established an important foundation for future scheme onboarding and broader registry capability.

The successful ACCU migration demonstrated the agency's ability to deliver a major transition while maintaining momentum across the broader registry program. Further details are provided in RPP 1 Case study: ACCU migration to the Unit and Certificate Registry in the regulator performance section.

The project also positioned the registry to support the onboarding of additional units and certificates. Certified Emission Reduction units migrated from ANREU to the registry in quarter 4 of 2025–26.

Performance measures

KPI 4.1 Level of participant satisfaction with agency processes and systems.
Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Efficient and effective processes and systems enable our participants to interact with us easily and support successful participation in the schemes we administer.

Target ≥ 80%

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
72%	70%	85%	84%

Analysis of 2025–26 result

This KPI is measured by asking attitudinal questions on satisfaction with the agency's systems and processes in our annual stakeholder survey.

SYSTEMS

We asked stakeholders who had used our Online Services, Client Portal, the ANREU, REC Registry, EERS and Data Services platform how satisfied they were with the systems. The averaged results were:

- 74.5% were satisfied or very satisfied
- 22.0% had mixed response
- 3.5% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Respondents cited their experience with technical issues and having to operate between Online Services and the Client Portal as key issues. We are addressing this by continuing to consolidate services into Online Services and decommissioning the Client Portal, reducing duplication and improving the participant experience. There was praise for some of the improvements we had made to our systems including the addition of application forms to Online Services.

PROCESSES

We asked about satisfaction with our regulatory, application, notification and consultation processes and the averaged results were:

- 69.4% were satisfied or very satisfied
- 20.5% were mixed
- 10.1% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied.

Some of the comments we received from stakeholders on our processes were that our notifications were timely and that our engagement with industry in our consultations works well. However, respondents told us that our application process was an area for improvement, particularly around processing times. This is an area that the agency is addressing with enhancements already made to improve online application forms. The feedback provided on our systems and processes is being evaluated as part of our commitment to ongoing improvement.

KPI 4.2 Systems available and secure as required by scheme participants, government standards and legislated need.
Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Maintaining secure systems with ongoing access enables scheme participants to meet their obligations, stakeholders to access scheme and market information and agency obligations to be met.

Target ≥ 99.5% availability and zero significant security breaches

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
99.7% availability Zero significant security breaches	99.4% availability and zero significant security breaches	99.7% availability and zero significant security breaches	n/a – new measure

Analysis of 2025–26 result

We successfully achieved this performance measure by having no significant security breaches during 2025–26 and exceeding the target for systems availability.

However, the agency was impacted by the following critical system issue:

- On 25 June 2026, an IT issue occurred following an update to the REC Registry, resulting in duplicate certificates being created for some RET participants. To maintain the integrity of certificates under the RET, we temporarily made the REC Registry unavailable while the issue was investigated and resolved. Duplicate certificates are no longer being created.
- During the outage, participants were unable to submit applications or complete transactions, although existing certificate application notifications continued. We provided regular public updates, established a contact point for participants with urgent contractual or legislative obligations, and confirmed there were no security concerns and that account information remained safe.
- All duplicate certificates were quarantined and affected account holders contacted directly. We then worked with these stakeholders on next steps to maintain the integrity of certificates under the RET.

During 2025–26, we worked to actively progress sustainable long-term improvements to strengthen the security and resilience of agency systems. We completed the Cloud Gateway initiative, modernising the agency's secure internet access capabilities in line with our Zero Trust Strategy. This new capability also improves alignment with whole-of-government cyber security objectives.

We also continued to strengthen the agency's cyber security posture through a range of initiatives delivered under our broader cyber security and technology modernisation program. These investments enhanced the resilience, security and reliability of agency systems, supporting the protection of information and alignment with whole-of-government cyber security objectives.

KPI 4.3 Flexibility and adaptability in our staff to meet current and future requirements.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale Investment in our people and ongoing development of our workforce ensures we have the right mix of capabilities and behaviours to meet current and future requirements.

Target Qualitative analysis via pre-selected case studies

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
The case studies below outline our achievement of this performance measure.	Qualitative result detailed in the Annual Performance Statement 'Objective: Secure and enduring regulatory infrastructure'.		

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Case study A – Embedding the SES performance leadership framework

The Australian Public Service Commission's SES Performance Leadership Framework supports the APS Reform agenda by strengthening consistency, transparency and accountability in SES performance management. It requires agencies to assess both behaviours and outcomes across performance expectations, assessment, reward and recognition, development, and unsatisfactory performance.

During 2025–26, the agency progressed the implementation of Phase 2 of the framework by updating SES performance management arrangements to better assess both behaviours and outcomes, strengthen feedback and calibration processes, and identify development priorities.

We introduced an annual calibration process to promote consistent assessment of behaviours, performance standards and expectations across the SES cohort, supported by assessment of SES development needs and preparation for the introduction of 360-degree feedback.

For the 2025–26 performance cycle, we developed an interim paper-based SES performance agreement form to capture:

- the Secretaries Charter of Leadership Behaviours (DRIVE behaviours) and APS Values, which together form 50% of the overall rating, with outcomes forming the remaining 50%
- feedback from others, typically direct reports
- development needs identified by the SES employee and their supervisor
- the APS SES 3-point rating scale: On track, Developing to the role and Not on track.

To support consistent implementation of the new requirements, the human resources team developed SES Performance Framework Guidelines for senior executives and supervisors.

The requirement to consider feedback from others will be expanded through 360-degree feedback, which will be undertaken every 3 years. The first cycle will begin in the second half of the 2026–27 performance cycle.

Phase 3 will introduce requirements to share SES performance information during recruitment processes and movements between APS agencies from 2026–27. The agency is working with SES recruitment partners to build these requirements into the referee reporting stage of selection processes, supporting more consistent and evidence-based consideration of SES performance across APS mobility and recruitment decisions.

Case study B – Building towards AI maturity

The CER's rollout of Microsoft 365 Copilot demonstrates how investment in workforce capability has strengthened staff flexibility and adaptability. Through targeted capability building, practical support and responsible adoption practices, staff developed the skills and confidence to use emerging technologies, adapt to changing work requirements and contribute to the agency's ongoing AI maturity journey.

During 2025–26, staff moved from early experimentation with Copilot to more regular use of AI-assisted tools in everyday work. This supported new ways of working across the agency, including using AI to summarise information, generate first drafts, improve productivity and support more efficient knowledge work.

Workforce capability was supported through a structured adoption program, including training, learning clinics, practical guidance materials, manager toolkits and real-world use cases. A network of Copilot Champions and peer-learning communities helped staff share practical examples, learn from each other and apply AI tools in ways relevant to their roles.

Staff demonstrated adaptability by embracing emerging technology while continuing to operate within established governance, privacy, security and accountability frameworks. Responsible adoption was central to the rollout, ensuring staff understood both the opportunities and the boundaries of using AI in a public sector regulatory environment. This included reinforcing our policy that AI supports staff analysis and workflow efficiency, but decisions are made by our people.

The RPP 2 Case study: Cheaper Home Battery Program – Labelling requirements in the regulator performance section provides a practical example of how these capabilities are being applied to improve efficiency while maintaining human oversight in regulatory review.

Continuous feedback mechanisms enabled the agency to refine support, training and adoption approaches in response to staff needs and evolving technology. Overall, the rollout fostered a culture of innovation, continuous learning and experimentation, building transferable AI literacy and digital capability across the workforce and increasing the agency's readiness for future workforce and technology challenges.

KPI 4.4 Market, registry and data support services were delivered on time and met stakeholder expectations.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale The market, registry and data support services we provide are integral in enabling our stakeholders to successfully achieve environmental based outcomes.

Target Qualitative analysis via pre-selected case studies

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
The case studies below outline our achievement of this performance measure.	Qualitative result detailed in the Annual Performance Statement 'Objective: Secure and enduring regulatory infrastructure'.		

Analysis of 2025–26 result

Case study A – Building a future-ready carbon Unit and Certificate Registry to support deep, liquid and transparent carbon markets, including through interoperability with third-party platforms

The base capability for the new Unit and Certificate Registry was released in November 2024. Since then, we have delivered a modern, integrated registry that forms the backbone of Australia's carbon market infrastructure – supporting deeper, more liquid, transparent and accessible markets.

A major milestone was achieved in November 2025, when ACCUs were successfully migrated into accounts within the new registry. This enabled ACCUs and SMCs to be viewed and traded in a single location for the first time, improving market efficiency and participant experience. The inclusion of additional attribute data on ACCUs and SMCs improves transparency and marketability of these units. The registry was further expanded in March 2026 with the opening of the first REGO accounts. In June 2026, the final Kyoto-era Certified Emission Reduction units were migrated, paving the way for the decommissioning of the legacy ANREU system and consolidating market activity onto a single, future-ready platform.

Interoperability has been central to the design. Through targeted consultation, including 3 workshops in July and August 2025 involving registry account holders, trading platforms, and third-party certificate schemes, stakeholders reaffirmed strong support for digital interoperability. We published draft interoperability principles and prototype models, which were broadly endorsed as accurate and practical. This work has identified key use cases, as well as legal, security and technical considerations, noting that some advanced interoperability models will require legislative change.

Within the current framework, we are progressing foundational features such as piloting a data exchange with third-party registries and public APIs, ensuring immediate improvements while planning for future enhancements.

This initiative demonstrates our responsiveness, as administrators of critical carbon market infrastructure, to responding responsibly to user needs for more efficient market infrastructure. By improving transparency and enabling seamless interaction across systems, we are empowering participants to efficiently invest in and manage emissions reduction activities through a high-integrity and scalable carbon market ecosystem.

Case study B – Making it simpler for our stakeholders to consume and analyse our data

Stakeholders rely on our data to understand scheme activity, assess market opportunities and make informed decisions. Recommendation 4 from the 2022 Independent Review of ACCUs called for greater transparency, data access and data sharing across the ACCU Scheme, with a default position of making data public where appropriate. This included the expectation that stakeholders should be able to understand how carbon abatement is calculated, not only the outcomes reported.

During 2025–26, amendments made to the Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Rule 2015 enabled us to expand the project-level information collected and published through the ACCU Scheme project register on our website. Supported by improved online data collection through Online Services, these changes strengthened our capability by increasing the type and quality of project data captured and improving how that data is prepared for publication.

The enhanced project register now provides more structured and analysis-ready project-level information, giving users a clearer and more practical view of project activity and how emissions reductions are calculated. The additional information includes:

- project activity descriptions
- relevant suppression mechanisms
- crediting and permanence period start and end dates
- modelling start dates for each carbon estimation area
- the estimation or modelling approaches used to determine abatement.

The analysis accompanying the new data helps stakeholders interpret the information in context, showing how individual data points relate to projects and broader scheme outcomes. This improves usability and reduces the need for additional interpretation or clarification.

This has been complemented by providing more historical data on ACCUs in the QCMR data release workbook.

We also ran consultation to support the transition of the project register to our Data Services platform, further improving accessibility for users.

Together, these improvements make ACCU Scheme data easier to access, consume and analyse. They strengthen transparency by enabling stakeholders to independently assess how ACCUs are generated rather than relying on high-level summaries. More complete and consistent project data makes the basis for credit issuance clearer, supports comparison across projects, and enables more informed participation, purchasing and investment decisions.

For the CER, the more complete and consistent project data improves visibility of scheme activity, supports comparison across projects and strengthens the evidence base for data-driven, risk-based regulation, including maintaining compliance safeguards and administering the scheme.

KPI 4.5 Guarantee of Origin systems, processes and guidance are delivered to a satisfactory level of functionality for scheme launch.

Source: *2025–29 Clean Energy Regulator Corporate Plan*

Rationale This new performance measure demonstrates our commitment to ensuring that the systems, processes and guidance are in place for the GO Scheme launch date and participants can successfully apply to participate in the scheme.

Target Qualitative analysis

2025–26 result	2024–25 result	2023–24 result	2022–23 result
Activities undertaken to achieve this performance measure are outlined in the analysis below.	n/a – new measure		

Analysis of 2025–26 result

The GO Scheme commenced on 3 November 2025, establishing a trusted framework for verifying renewable electricity and the emissions intensity of low-emissions products. The launch marked a significant achievement for the CER, with core systems, processes and stakeholder materials delivered on schedule to support scheme commencement.

Implementation focused on ensuring operational readiness while aligning with our performance principles, in particular collaboration and engagement. This was reflected in a strong emphasis on transparent communication, accessible guidance, and responsive support for participants as they prepared to enter the scheme.

By 3 November 2025, key delivery milestones had been achieved, enabling a smooth transition into scheme operation:

- Digital systems and service readiness through Online Services and CRM functionality built and tested, including:
  - Registered Person application form
  - REGO Facility registration forms
  - hydrogen PGO profile forms
  - integrated workflows to support application processing and participant interaction.
- Governance and internal processes established, including:
  - risk assessment to evaluate the adequacy of controls in mitigating risks associated with cross-scheme participation and improper creation of certificates
  - standard operating procedures to guide consistent administration
  - internal training, change management and alignment across delivery teams.
- Participant education and communications undertaken, including:
  - public web content published, providing clear and accessible guidance
  - GO explainer video developed to support understanding of scheme objectives and processes
  - launch of communications materials to raise scheme awareness.
- Cost recovery framework:
  - A GO cost recovery implementation statement was developed, consulted on and approved by Assistant Minister Wilson for publication ahead of scheme commencement to enable scheme cost recovery from launch in-line with government policy and Department of Finance guidelines.

Consistent with CER best practice, the implementation prioritised early and ongoing engagement with stakeholders. Communication products were designed to be practical and easy to navigate, supporting participants to understand scheme requirements and confidently engage with the scheme from day one.

Proof of success was demonstrated with the first participant registration under the REGO Scheme received on the day the scheme commenced.

The successful launch reflects a coordinated, cross-functional effort and demonstrates our commitment to modern, transparent and collaborative administration. These foundations position the scheme to support increased participation and future expansion, while maintaining trust and confidence among stakeholders.



Regulator performance

Regulator performance principles

We are committed to meeting the regulator performance principles (RPP) outlined in the government's Resource Management Guide – Regulator Performance (RMG128):

RPP 1. **Continuous improvement and building trust**: Regulators adopt a whole-of-system perspective, continuously improving their performance, capability and culture to build trust and confidence in Australia's regulatory settings.

RPP 2. **Risk-based and data-driven**: Regulators manage risks proportionately and maintain essential safeguards while minimising regulatory burden and leveraging data and digital technology to support those they regulate to comply and grow.

RPP 3. **Collaboration and engagement**: Regulators are transparent and responsive communicators, implementing regulations in a modern and collaborative way.

The case studies below help demonstrate our commitment to those principles and our role as a regulator. Additionally, each of our performance measures are aligned to the RPPs and the results are detailed in the performance results section.

RPP 1: Continuous improvement and building trust

During 2025–26, we continued to strengthen the systems, controls and assurance processes that support confidence in Australia's carbon markets. Our focus on continuous improvement was directed to modernising core market infrastructure, improving data governance and enhancing the transparency, security and auditability of the schemes we administer.

The following case study demonstrates how the migration of ACCUs to the new Unit and Certificate Registry supported market integrity and built trust. Through detailed planning, reconciliation, parallel validation, stakeholder engagement and independent assurance, the migration reduced reliance on legacy systems and created a stronger foundation for future scheme delivery.

RPP 1 Case study: ACCU migration to the Unit and Certificate Registry

In 2025–26, the CER completed a major uplift of core market infrastructure by migrating ACCUs from ANREU accounts in the legacy system into ANREU accounts in the new Unit and Certificate Registry. The registry underpins Australia's carbon markets by supporting the issuance, holding, transfer and cancellation of units and certificates, helping participants meet regulatory and voluntary emissions reduction commitments.

The migration was a significant milestone in improving the transparency, security and management of ACCUs, with the scale and complexity of the work reflecting the critical role of the registry in Australia's expanding carbon and environmental markets.

The migration involved the transfer of 177,672,533 active and previously cancelled ACCUs, along with the full transaction history of more than 2,000 private and Commonwealth ANREU accounts. The migration also added additional data to the over 60 million active ACCUs still in circulation.

We used a structured approach, supported by detailed planning, comprehensive reconciliation and parallel validation to compare the operation of the legacy and new systems during the transition period.

To minimise disruption and maintain market confidence, we implemented a phased transition supported by active stakeholder engagement. This helped account holders prepare for the change, supported continuity of service and reduced the risk of issues affecting market transactions during the migration.

Independent assurance was central to building confidence in the migration. We commissioned an external audit, which achieved the highest assurance rating for the migration process, and detailed reconciliation confirmed the integrity of migrated ACCU data, the completeness and accuracy of holdings, and the effectiveness of control.

This work demonstrates continuous improvement by modernising or replacing legacy systems, reducing reliance on manual processes, increasing automation and strengthening data governance. It builds trust by improving transparency, security and auditability across core register functions, supported by tested controls and independent assurance.

The migration frameworks developed through this work will support more efficient and consistent onboarding of future schemes, including the Nature Repair Market and GO. Over time, the new registry will also enable additional functionality, and we will look to strengthen connectivity between the registry and external account holder systems and trading platforms, where this is supported through our legislative framework. This will strengthen our ability to respond to market growth, policy priorities and participant expectations.

RPP 2: Risk-based and data-driven

Our approach to regulation is grounded in understanding and managing risk proportionately while using data, technology and evidence to inform our decisions. Through our compliance policy, annual compliance priorities and digital-first service design, we aim to minimise regulatory burden while maintaining strong safeguards that support scheme integrity and participant confidence.

During 2025–26, we continued to expand our use of data and digital capabilities to identify emerging risks, target regulatory responses and improve scheme outcomes. By analysing operational data, collaborating with stakeholders and implementing timely, evidence-based interventions, we are able to respond quickly to changing market conditions and support participants to comply with their obligations. The following case study demonstrates how we used data-driven insights and a risk-based approach to strengthen oversight of the CHBP while maintaining confidence and integrity in the program.

RPP 2 Case study: Cheaper Home Battery Program – labelling requirements

When the CHBP was rolled out in July 2025 to extraordinary success, the CER was in a prime position to demonstrate best practice in regulation through real-time continuous improvements to program delivery and support.

The program was implemented using the well-known architecture of the SRES; however, with such quick uptake, we quickly observed from our comprehensive pool of data that there were risks emerging that needed to be managed in real time.

We identified an unusually high rate of substandard installations, primarily caused by non-compliance with Australian Standard labelling requirements. Substandard installations remain safe to operate but may become an issue later and are mandatory for installers to return to site to resolve. To give industry a compliance nudge, the CER proactively added a new control, requiring photographic evidence of accurately installed critical labelling to be provided with STC applications.

The control sought to provide assurance for consumers and industry, and to minimise the chance of higher-risk consequences from occurring due to non-compliant labelling. To achieve this, we collaborated with Commonwealth, state and territory governments, including electrical safety regulators, and industry bodies to identify criticality and triage realistic and meaningful changes to continuously improve the program. We further worked with Solar Accreditation Australia to develop formal training and guidance materials to provide ongoing support to installers.

Rapid program uptake also highlighted an opportunity to uplift the way we monitored ongoing compliance. Leveraging our experience with solar PV, we continued – and expanded – our inspections program to ensure we continued meeting our legislative requirement to conduct a statistically valid sample of random inspections each year. Again, we developed additional supporting resources, such as new installation checklists and examples of compliant and non-compliant labelling, to provide clarity for inspectors and consumers.

To complement this development, we saw a chance to ethically and intelligently incorporate AI to streamline application reviews. An AI tool helps identify installations where required labels may be missing from submitted images and detect potential issues with image metadata. To ensure the best chance of success, we integrated the AI with existing business processes to maximise efficiency and conducted extensive and ongoing testing to maintain confidence in the AI tool. CER officers assess all flagged cases and make the final determination on compliance with legislative requirements. These safeguards help us keep pace with participation in the CHBP, and maintain accurate, appropriate compliance action, while managing average staffing levels.

Prior to program changes, we consulted with stakeholders before developing timely education pieces, provided through a variety of channels. This had multiple benefits, providing industry with awareness, but also ensuring CER's initiatives would meaningfully contribute to maintaining consumer safety, ensuring program integrity, and building and sustaining trust in the program.

This case study shows how we proactively strive for continuous improvement and continually seek to build trust in the program and in the agency. Trust is essential to participation, and participation is essential to achieving the program's contribution to Australia's climate change commitments. We are proud of the work delivered to date and will continue to monitor data, review emerging trends and refine our approach as the program matures beyond implementation.

RPP 3: Collaboration and engagement

Providing information, education and support to scheme participants is a core part of our role as a regulator. We recognise that effective regulation depends on strong relationships with governments, industry, project proponents and other

stakeholders. Through transparent communication, targeted guidance and ongoing engagement, we help participants understand their obligations, navigate regulatory requirements and contribute to the effective operation of the schemes we administer.

During 2025–26, we continued to work closely with stakeholders across established and emerging schemes. This included collaborating with governments, industry representatives and program participants to support the implementation of the CHBP and providing tailored assistance to prospective participants in the Nature Repair Market. These activities helped us identify and address issues early, improve participant experiences and build confidence in new and existing schemes. The following case studies demonstrate how collaboration and engagement support the successful delivery of government programs while strengthening trust, participation and regulatory outcomes.

RPP 3 Case study A: Nature Repair Market – collaboration and engagement in practice

The CER is supporting the delivery of the Nature Repair Market through a collaborative and responsive approach that recognises that individuals and businesses participating in a new scheme often require tailored support to understand the requirements. To support this in the early stages of the Nature Repair Market scheme, we adopted a case management approach to help proponents understand application requirements and progress the project registrations.

The registration of the first 2 Nature Repair Market projects – Silva Capital's Cooplacurripa Station project and 24 Degree Forest's Doon Doon project – demonstrates this approach in practice. We worked closely with the proponents to support their understanding of scheme requirements and help them navigate the application process.

Our engagement included tailored meetings with proponents to clarify eligibility, project design, certificate issuances and monitoring requirements. We took a practical and responsive approach, responding to questions as they arose and providing clear and consistent guidance to support project development.

We also supported the proponents through the registration process, including assisting with documentation requirements and ensuring applications were complete and aligned with the method. This collaborative, case management approach helped reduce barriers to participation and contributed to the successful registration of the first 2 projects under the scheme.

These registrations marked significant milestones for the Nature Repair Market, demonstrating what is possible and providing real-world examples of how it operates. To build on this, we developed written and video case studies for the first registered project. These resources support transparency, help other proponents understand how the scheme operates in practice and build confidence in the process among other stakeholders.

We have embedded this case management approach across the Nature Repair Market team and are now supporting a number of other interested parties to register projects. This work demonstrates the CER's commitment to collaboration and engagement and to implementing the Nature Repair Market in a modern, practical and participant-focused way.

RPP 3 Case study B: Cheaper Home Batteries Program – a collaborative approach to program delivery

While the CER administers the CHBP, we attribute our success in delivering the program to the frequent and ongoing collaboration with colleagues and stakeholders in the industry.

Throughout the process of planning and implementation of the program, we conducted early and frequent engagement with DCCEEW, state and territory governments and other industry bodies representing different stakeholders. Maintaining this collaboration, which ranged from targeted, individual meetings to larger working groups and open discussions in webinars and forums, was central to coordinating policy settings and ensuring alignment of goals. This has been critical to our success in rolling the program out in such a short timeframe.

Additionally, we leveraged our strong network connections to develop and maintain several working groups:

- We established the IAIC, which meets monthly and brings together key representatives from government and industry with diverse expertise in consumer and distributed energy.
- Our bi-monthly regulator forums invite a wider audience to maintain our connection with those at the forefront of the program. This engagement ensures we as program administrators never lose sight of how program participants at all levels are interpreting the policy and regulations that seek to improve Australia's energy future.
- Members of senior leadership from different Australian Government entities form our Interagency Steering Committee. The committee considers insights and outcomes from the IAIC and forum meetings to monitor the program and to forecast risks to be managed, to identify learnings to master and to acknowledge successes to celebrate.

Through our engagement with industry (outlined in the stakeholder engagement deliverable), we identified the need for practical tools to help participants respond to program setting changes. One of our most successful initiatives was modifying the STC calculator and publishing it on our website. The calculator helped participants estimate incentives based on variables such as battery size, installation date and the current STC factor. This supported industry to adapt reasonably seamlessly to the changes introduced on 1 May 2026.

Collaboration and engagement have been central to the successful delivery of the CHBP. Through sustained partnerships with governments, industry and program participants, we have been able to identify issues early, respond to emerging challenges and support participants to access the benefits the program was designed to deliver.

Compliance and enforcement

During 2025–26, we applied an intelligence-led, risk-based and proportionate approach to compliance and enforcement to protect the integrity of the schemes we administer. Compliance across our schemes remained high, supported by targeted education, risk-based monitoring and proportionate enforcement action where serious non-compliance was identified.

We work with other regulators and use third-party intelligence and data sources, including corporate and regulatory data, to identify emerging risks, support investigations and refer matters where appropriate.

We collect a large volume of data through our business operations (scheme applications, reports and submissions, and information from third parties). We use this data to assist us to identify cases of possible fraud and non-compliance using sophisticated tools and well-developed monitoring, audit and assessment processes. These include:

- data matching and large-scale data analysis
- geospatial imagery
- submission reviews and anomaly detection
- audits, inspections and intelligence from participants and other regulators.

Transparency is an important part of how we protect the integrity of the schemes we administer. Where appropriate, and in some cases where required by law, we publish compliance and enforcement outcomes, including investigations, court proceedings, enforceable undertakings, suspensions and other significant regulatory actions. Publishing these outcomes supports accountability, reinforces expectations of participant conduct and helps maintain trust in the schemes we administer.

Compliance priorities and outcomes

We publish our annual compliance and enforcement priorities and quarterly compliance updates on our website at cer.gov.au/compliance-approach. These publications support transparency by reflecting our risk-based and adaptive approach and communicating the key compliance risks and focus areas for each scheme during the year. Our priorities guided targeted compliance activity during the year and supported early engagement with participants to encourage self-correction where appropriate.

Our 2025–26 compliance priorities by scheme, including the activities undertaken to prevent and address non-compliance and the outcomes achieved during the year, are shown below.

ACCU Scheme

Activity:	We reviewed ACCU Scheme projects that had missed, or were approaching, their reporting deadline to verify their status and assess whether proponents had a credible plan to bring the project back into compliance.
Outcome:	Project revocations are an expected outcome for a minor proportion of ACCU Scheme projects, allowing for projects that are unlikely to deliver carbon abatement to be removed from the scheme. During 2025–26, we revoked 75 projects through voluntary applications from the project proponent. ACCUs were issued to 5 of these projects. Three of these projects were registered under methods where ACCUs were issued for emissions avoided during the time the projects were running and as such, are not required to relinquish ACCUs. Two of these projects were vegetation projects and ACCUs were relinquished prior to projects being revoked.

Activity: We introduced a new 'Notify the regulator' form in Online Services to streamline compliance notifications from ACCU Scheme participants. ACCU Scheme participants can report significant events, including changes to legal right, natural disturbances, errors in previously submitted offsets reports and other matters required under individual methods.

Outcome: Following the release of the Notify the regulator form in Online Services, we received 52 notifications through this communication channel. Collecting notifications in this way supports better compliance and reporting outcomes for the scheme.

NGER Scheme

NGER Scheme reporters must provide accurate reports by the reporting deadline. Ensuring accurate and timely reporting is critical to maintaining the integrity of data within the scheme. Repeated failures to report on time or inaccuracies in reporting will trigger compliance or enforcement action.

Activity: To support reporters to submit on-time, accurate and complete NGER reports, we established a reporter support page on our website with a range of resources. These include updated reporting guidance, calculators and training videos.

Outcome: We nominated 8 reporters, including 5 safeguard facilities, for audit based on our assessment findings. Reporters who do not meet their obligations should expect enforcement action including infringement notices and penalties.

Safeguard Mechanism

Activity: We monitored safeguard facilities' management of excess emissions ahead of the 1 April 2026 compliance deadline and assessed emissions and production data where accuracy concerns could affect scheme outcomes.

Outcome: Compliance with the Safeguard Mechanism was high. Of the 208 covered facilities, 205 (98.6%) were compliant with the requirement to not be in an excess emissions situation on the compliance deadline of 1 April 2026. Three facilities under the operational control of 3 responsible emitters did not meet the surrender deadline.

Renewable Energy Target

Installers must provide sufficient evidence of attendance on-site and we expect that agents in the SRES will have systems and processes in place and will exercise appropriate care to prevent improper claims for STCs.

Activity: On 1 March 2026, we introduced a new control requiring STC claims for battery systems to be supported by geotagged, time-stamped photographic evidence that the system complies with Australian Standard labelling requirements.

Outcome: In 2025–26, we assessed over 20,000 applications for installer on-site attendance and associated written statement checks, including 14,000 solar battery installations under the CHBP.

Approximately 63% of solar battery applications were compliant. Five per cent of solar battery applications failed; however, only 0.2% were due to the installer not meeting attendance obligations. Thirty-two per cent are still under assessment.

Batteries installed as part of an SRES-eligible system must comply with all local, state, territory and Commonwealth requirements, including electrical and safety standards. They must be listed on the Clean Energy Council list of approved components and be installed by an accredited installer. We expect a high level of due diligence from installers and retailers when they make representations to us. Those who do not meet their obligations will be subject to compliance action, including being removed from participating in the SRES.

Activity: We commenced inspections under the CHBP, engaged retailers and installers ahead of rebate changes, and introduced new controls for battery installation evidence.

Outcome: Inspections identified 62% of installations were substandard that did not meet minimum Australian Standards and compliance action commenced where required. New photographic evidence controls were introduced from 1 March 2026 to strengthen assurance over battery installations.

Audit program

Activity:	We conducted auditor inspections to review decision-making, assess compliance with legislative requirements, and support oversight of auditor performance. Auditors were selected based on risk, performance and activity.
Outcome:	Seven greenhouse and energy auditors were subject to inspections of their performance in 2025–26. The outcomes of several inspections are yet to be finalised. However, for the finalised inspections, several areas for improvement were identified and improvement actions have been implemented to address the inspection finding.

Compliance action

While compliance across our schemes remained high, we continued to take targeted enforcement action where serious or deliberate non-compliance was identified. We apply an intelligence-led, risk-based and proportionate approach to enforcement that supports trust and integrity in the schemes we administer (see cer.gov.au/compliance-approach).

Where substantive non-compliance is identified, our investigators collect evidence in accordance with the Australian Government Investigations Standards 2022 and recommend a compliance and enforcement response that can include:

- suspension or removal of participants from our schemes
- acceptance of enforceable undertakings
- commencement of civil proceedings
- referral of a matter to the Office of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions for criminal prosecution.

During 2025–26, this approach resulted in a range of compliance and enforcement outcomes across our schemes, including suspensions, litigation, enforceable undertakings and disclosures to partner agencies. The results of our compliance activities for 2025–26 and 2024–25 are summarised in Table 9.

Table 9: Results of compliance activity, 2025–26 and 2024–25

Compliance activity	2025–26	2024–25
Allegations received	365	173
Investigations opened	19	17
Investigations closed	15	20
Criminal convictions	1	3
Disclosures to partner agencies	73	61
‘Notices to produce’ issued to third parties	25	25
Briefs of evidence referred for litigation	1	1
Suspensions of registered persons	4	5
Enforceable undertakings executed	1	2
Enforceable undertakings finalised	1	2

The number of allegations received increased significantly in 2025–26, reflecting strong uptake of the CHBP, higher market activity, improved intelligence gathering and greater information sharing with other regulators. Most allegations related to lower risk matters and were resolved through early assessment, information gathering or referral to appropriate partners. As a result, the increase in allegations did not translate into a proportional increase in investigations or enforcement action, allowing us to focus investigative resources on the highest-risk and most serious matters.

NGER reporting

NGER reporters must provide accurate reports by the reporting deadline of 31 October every year. Ensuring accurate and timely reporting is critical to maintaining the integrity of data within the scheme. Repeated failures to report on time, or inaccuracies in reporting, may result in compliance or enforcement action. Reporters are expected to maintain robust systems to support compliance with their reporting obligations.

Following the 2023–24 NGER reporting period, we determined that Beach Energy Limited had inadvertently misstated components of its NGER reports in prior reporting periods. These errors indicated potential weaknesses in the internal controls supporting its NGER reporting. In July 2025, we accepted an enforceable undertaking from Beach Energy that includes commitments to improve the accuracy and reliability of its reporting, including:

- engaging an external consultant to develop and implement a comprehensive and documented system of controls to support NGER reporting
- strengthening internal systems and procedures related to data collection and reporting
- engaging an external auditor to conduct reasonable assurance audits of its NGER reports prior to submission for the next 3 reporting periods.

RET – Fit and Proper Person assessments

Registered agents are the primary point of control for correct creation of RECs and must ensure that they are a fit and proper person (FPP) to participate in the RET. Failure to meet these requirements can result in the loss of their registration under the REE Act and the ability to create certificates in their REC Registry account. Where we have concerns about the capability of an applicant to ensure compliance, we will ask for further information to support consideration of their application.

Certain acts are prescribed matters that we must consider in determining FPP status. This includes conviction for certain offences or breaches of schemes we administer. We also have wide discretion to consider any other matter we consider relevant. This includes whether registered persons have, and continue to have:

- necessary skills
- capability and competency
- good business practices
- integrity and good character.

On 22 June 2026, we permanently suspended the registration of Asun Solar Pty Ltd under the REE Act on the basis that we were no longer satisfied that the company is an FPP. This decision followed concerns regarding the company's non-compliance with a statutory notice, as well as its failure to demonstrate the capability, competency, and business practices expected of the registered person.

On 5 March 2026, we permanently suspended the registration of Phenix Trading Pty Ltd (Phenix Trading) as a registered person under the REE Act. The suspension was based on our determination that Phenix Trading was no longer an FPP. The suspension followed regulatory action taken by state regulators in New South Wales and Victoria.

On 18 August 2025, we permanently suspended the registration of Hello Solar Pty Ltd under the REE Act. This action was taken as we were no longer satisfied that Hello Solar was an FPP. This decision followed an investigation into the conduct of Hello Solar, a company with affiliations to Emerging Energy Solutions Group Pty Ltd, NetZero Environmental Group Pty Ltd and Greenbot Pty Ltd (all of which have had their registrations permanently suspended under the REE Act). Hello Solar was found to have provided misleading responses when we asked them to provide information.

We actively monitor businesses linked to individuals or entities previously found not to be fit and proper, particularly where they seek to participate in the schemes we administer.

Unpaid shortfall charges

Under the RET, liable entities must surrender LGCs and STCs on time or incur a shortfall charge. We take action to recover unpaid liabilities and encourage participants to engage with us early if they are having trouble meeting their obligations.

On 25 November 2025, we obtained a federal court order to wind up Mojo Power East Pty Ltd (formerly People Energy Pty Ltd) due to unpaid shortfall charges and interest for the 2022 and 2023 RET assessment years. Mojo Power East Pty Ltd is a subsidiary of iON Holdings Ltd, which has a significant history of non-compliance in relation to unpaid scheme liabilities across several subsidiaries, including Mojo Power East Pty Ltd, Mojo Power Pty Ltd, QEnergy Limited and Sanctuary Energy Pty Ltd.

Audit framework

Audits are an important compliance monitoring tool that we use to verify applications and reports, assess whether scheme participants are complying with legislation, and support our broader compliance monitoring strategy.

Our annual audit program looks at:

- annual reports of greenhouse gas emissions and energy usage submitted by participants in the NGER Scheme
- reports on projects running under the ACCU Scheme
- reports on projects running under the Nature Repair Market scheme
- various aspects of participation in the RET
- projects running under the GO Scheme.

Additionally, if we think a participant isn't complying with legislation, we can initiate a compliance audit. Under a compliance audit we can require a scheme participant to undertake an audit at their own expense and provide us with a copy of the report. During 2025–26, we completed one compliance audit in the NGER Scheme under section 73 of the NGER Act. The audit returned a qualified conclusion and as at 30 June 2026, the outcome was being finalised.

Auditors work independently of us. This makes sure we receive an independent opinion. Auditors are responsible for engaging with the audited body. They are also responsible for planning, testing and reporting on the audit.

As of 30 June 2026, we had 86 registered greenhouse and energy auditors – 76 were Category 2 auditors. All registered auditors must continue to meet eligibility requirements under the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008, including participation in reviews and inspections. In 2025–26, we undertook 7 auditor inspections. The outcomes of several inspections are yet to be finalised. However, for the finalised inspections, several areas for improvement were identified and improvement actions have been implemented to address the inspection finding.

We continued implementing the Minister for Climate Change and Energy's Direction to conduct audits on regeneration gateway check reports (gateway audits) submitted for Permanent Even-Aged Native Forest (HIR) projects in the ACCU Scheme.

During 2025–26, 404 audits were completed under the framework, including:

- 18 gateway audits under section 215 of the CFI Act for ACCU Scheme HIR projects
- 239 scheduled mandatory ACCU Scheme audits
- 9 RET exemption certificate audits
- 44 Safeguard Mechanism mandatory audits
- 82 NGER Scheme voluntary audits
- one compliance audit
- 11 annual audit program audits (5 under the ACCU Scheme and 6 under the NGER Scheme) initiated at our cost selected based on our risk-based approach.

Of the 404 audits:

- 92% returned a clean opinion, indicating the participant was compliant with scheme requirements audited
- 7% returned a qualified opinion, indicating the participant was largely compliant
- less than 1% returned an adverse or disclaimed finding, where at least one material issue of significant non-compliance was identified.



Finances

Financial overview

During 2025–26, we continued to focus on budget management and resource allocation to ensure the successful delivery of schemes administered on behalf of the government. The agency continued to manage its finances and resources in a manner that ensures it will remain financially sustainable and can continue to deliver operational efficiencies over the forward estimates.

Summary of financial performance

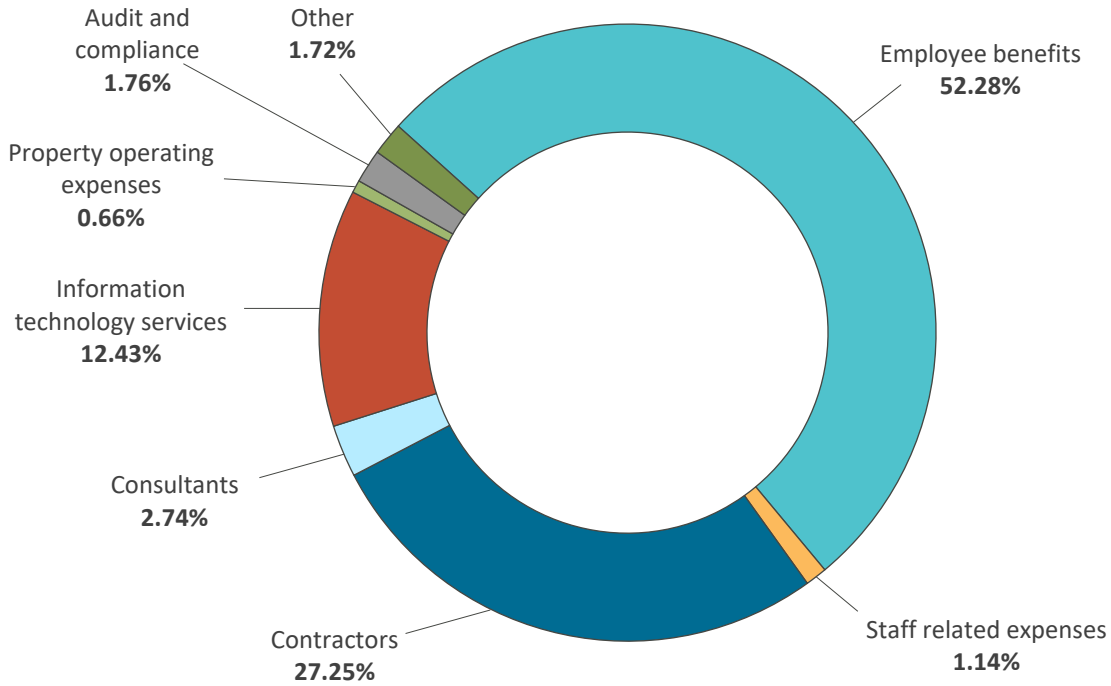
Departmental finances

Overview of financial performance

The agency is funded predominately by government appropriations. During the year departmental appropriations increased by 13.5% to $131.2 million in the 2025–26 financial year. This was driven primarily by funding provided by the Australian Government to support increased demand in respect of the CHBP and the establishment of the CENTR.

During the year the agency continued to invest in its ICT systems to support compliance by schemes administered by the agency. Operating expenditure (excluding depreciation and amortisation) was $128.8 million. The increase of $16.4 million in expenditure reflected additional staffing costs to support the implementation and delivery of new government programs funded during the year. Figure 11 displays the percentage of 2025–26 operating expenditure by expense type.

Figure 11: Operating expenditure, 2025–26



Refer to the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Note 1.1 of the financial statements.

Financial position and future financial viability

As at 30 June 2026, the CER had total equity of $18.6 million (2024: $19.6 million). This equity was comprised of $64.1 million of assets relating primarily to appropriation and other receivables ($37.8 million) and leasehold improvements ($21.9 million). This was offset by liabilities totalling $45.5 million relating primarily to finance leasing arrangements ($22.6 million) and employee provisions ($15.7 million).

Based on the continuation of appropriation funding from government, the agency can continue to operate with sufficient cash reserves to fund all liabilities and commitments as and when they fall due, thus satisfying the obligation to continue operating as a going concern.

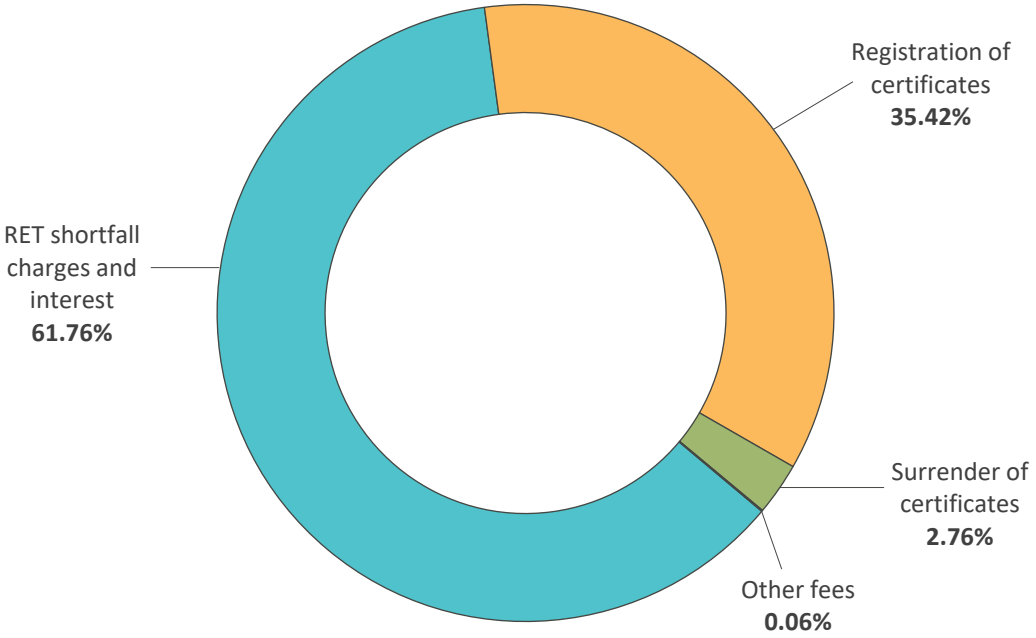
Administered finances

During the year, we continued to administer the ACCU Scheme and the RET on behalf of the government. A summary of the income and revenue results are included below.

Administered income

Total administered income for the period ended 30 June 2026 was $187.2 million. Most of this revenue related to the administration of the RET. During 2021–22, changes around the administration of fixed delivery carbon abatement contracts came into effect. These changes meant that eligible sellers were able to make an exit payment to be released from delivery of an upcoming milestone. Figure 12 displays the percentage of 2025–26 administered income by income type.

Figure 12: Administered income, 2025–26

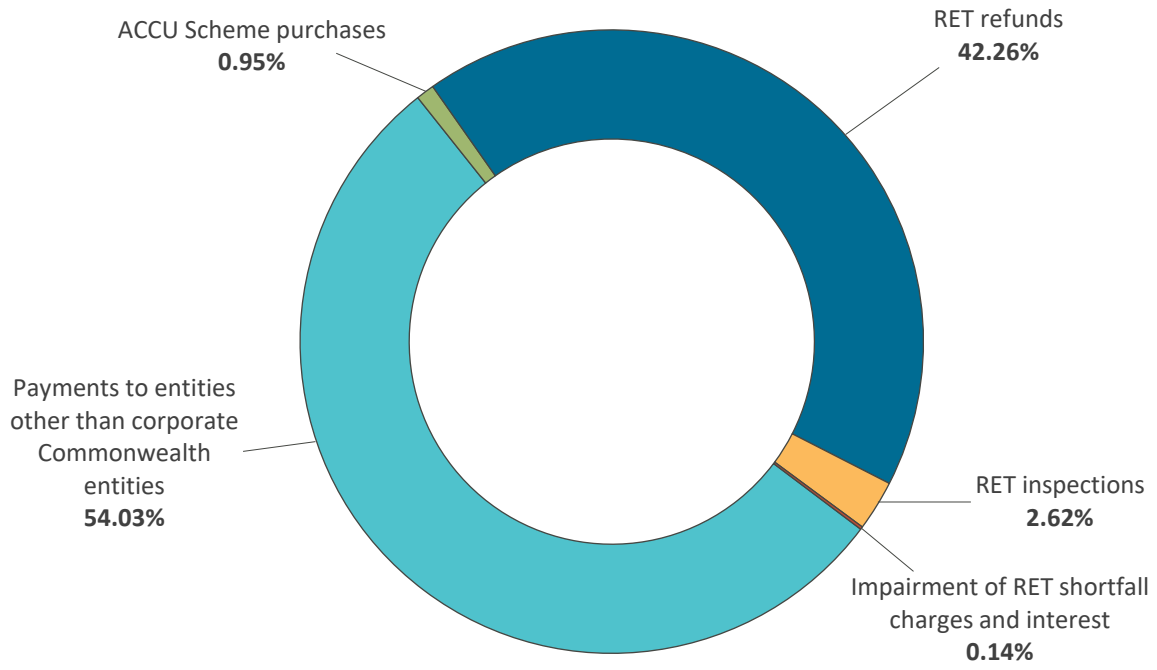


Administered expenses

Administered expenses totalled $283.2 million for the period ended 30 June 2026. A large portion of this amount relates to the recognition of a provision for refund – large-scale shortfall and the payment of contracts under the ACCU Scheme. Over the past years, the ACCU market has matured, and the nature of contracts offered by the CER has expanded to include both fixed and optional delivery contracts.

ACCU voluntary holdings by entities that do not have contracts with the CER have increased along with the trade of these units on the secondary market. This change required a reassessment of the way that liabilities and the associated expenditure are recognised for the ACCU Scheme. The accounting policy is explained in the overview note of the financial statements. Figure 13 displays the percentage of 2025–26 administered expenses by expense type.

Figure 13: Administered expenses, 2025–26



Entity resource statement

The entity resource statement provides additional information about the various funding sources that we may draw upon during the year. **Appendix A: Entity resource statement and expenses by outcome**, details the resources available to us during 2025–26 and sets out our summary of total expenses for Outcomes 1 and 2.

Financial statements

We received an unqualified audit report from the Australian National Audit Office for our 2025–26 financial statements.

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Australian National Audit Office

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Minister for Climate Change and Energy

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements of the Clean Energy Regulator (the Entity) for the year ended 30 June 2026:

(a) comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015*; and

(b) present fairly the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2026 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended.

The financial statements of the Entity, which I have audited, comprise the following as at 30 June 2026 and for the year then ended:

- Statement by the Accountable Authority and Chief Financial Officer;
- Statement of Comprehensive Income;
- Statement of Financial Position;
- Statement of Changes in Equity;
- Cash Flow Statement;
- Administered Schedule of Comprehensive Income;
- Administered Schedule of Assets and Liabilities;
- Administered Reconciliation Schedule;
- Administered Cash Flow Statement; and
- Notes to the financial statements, comprising material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of my report. I am independent of the Entity in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements for financial statement audits conducted by the Auditor-General and their delegates. These include the relevant independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) to the extent that they are not in conflict with the *Auditor-General Act 1997*. I have also fulfilled my other responsibilities in accordance with the Code. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Accountable Authority's responsibility for the financial statements

As the Accountable Authority of the Entity, the Chair of the Regulator is responsible under the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (the Act) for the preparation and fair presentation of annual financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the rules made under the Act. The Chair of the Regulator is also responsible for such internal control as the Chair of the Regulator determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Chair of the Regulator is responsible for assessing the ability of the Entity to continue as a going concern, taking into account whether the Entity's operations will cease as a result

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of an administrative restructure or for any other reason. The Chair of the Regulator is also responsible for disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting, unless the assessment indicates that it is not appropriate.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian National Audit Office Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control;
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Accountable Authority;
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Accountable Authority's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern; and
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Accountable Authority regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Australian National Audit Office



Philip Collier

Acting Executive Director

Delegate of the Auditor-General

Canberra

28 August 2026

Clean Energy Regulator

STATEMENT BY THE ACCOUNTABLE AUTHORITY AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER

In our opinion, the attached financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2026 comply with subsection 42(2) of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), and are based on properly maintained financial records as per subsection 41(2) of the PGPA Act.

In our opinion, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Clean Energy Regulator will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.



Carl Binning
A/g Chair of the Clean Energy Regulator
26 August 2026



Nicholas Smith
Chief Financial Officer
26 August 2026

Clean Energy Regulator

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the period ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 $'000	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000
NET COST OF SERVICES				
Expenses				
Employee benefits	1.1A	**66,839**	58,383	53,824
Suppliers	1.1B	**61,272**	53,276	50,709
Depreciation and amortisation	3.2A	**4,096**	3,998	3,956
Finance costs		**662**	740	662
Write-down and impairment of non-financial assets		**-**	26	-
Loss on disposal of assets		**1**	1	-
Total expenses		**132,870**	116,424	109,151
Own-Source Income				
Own-source revenue				
Revenue from contracts with customers		**3**	-	-
Other revenue	1.2A	**609**	425	-
Total own-source revenue		**612**	425	-
Gains				
Other gains		**-**	-	360
Total gains		**-**	-	360
Total own-source income		**612**	425	360
Net cost of services		**(132,258)**	(115,999)	(108,791)
Revenue from Government	1.2B	**131,181**	115,567	107,739
Deficit on continuing operations		**(1,077)**	(432)	(1,052)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				
Items not subject to subsequent reclassification to net cost of services				
Changes in asset revaluation reserve		**-**	209	-
Total comprehensive loss		**(1,077)**	(223)	(1,052)

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Clean Energy Regulator

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 $'000	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000
ASSETS				
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	3.1A	**409**	373	389
Trade and other receivables	3.1B	**37,752**	35,267	36,637
Total financial assets		**38,161**	35,640	37,026
Non-financial assets[1]				
Leasehold improvements	3.2A	**21,912**	25,419	21,837
Plant and equipment	3.2A	**1,980**	1,290	64
Intangibles	3.2A	**34**	69	31
Prepayments		**2,008**	2,041	1,565
Total non-financial assets		**25,934**	28,819	23,497
Total assets		**64,095**	64,459	60,523
LIABILITIES				
Payables				
Suppliers	3.3A	**4,750**	4,608	5,967
Other payables	3.3B	**2,536**	1,877	1,543
Total payables		**7,286**	6,485	7,510
Interest bearing liabilities				
Leases	3.4A	**22,568**	25,472	22,568
Total interest bearing liabilities		**22,568**	25,472	22,568
Provisions				
Employee provisions	6.1A	**15,667**	12,952	12,762
Total provisions		**15,667**	12,952	12,762
Total liabilities		**45,521**	44,909	42,840
Net assets		**18,574**	19,550	17,683
EQUITY				
Contributed equity		**92,308**	92,207	92,411
Asset revaluation reserve		**10,040**	10,040	9,832
Accumulated deficit		**(83,774)**	(82,697)	(84,560)
Total equity		**18,574**	19,550	17,683

[1] Right-of-use assets are included in Leasehold improvements.

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Clean Energy Regulator

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

for the period ended 30 June 2026

	Retained Earnings			Asset Revaluation Reserve			Contributed Equity			Total Equity	
	2026 $'000	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000	**2026 $'000**	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000	**2026 $'000**	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000	**2026 $'000**	2025 $'000
Opening balance	**(82,697)**	(82,265)	(83,508)	**10,040**	9,831	9,832	**92,207**	92,411	92,411	**19,550**	19,977
Comprehensive income											
Surplus/(deficit) for the period	**(1,077)**	(432)	(1,052)	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**(1,077)**	(432)
Other comprehensive income		-	-	**-**	209	-	**-**	-	-	**-**	209
Total comprehensive income	**(1,077)**	(432)	(1,052)	**-**	209	-	**-**	-	-	**(1,077)**	(223)
Transactions with owners											
Contributions by owners											
Equity injection - Appropriations	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**101**	-	-	**101**	-
Departmental capital budget	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**	-
Distribution to owners											
Returns of Appropriations	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**-**	(204)	-	**-**	(204)
Total transactions with owners	**-**	-	-	**-**	-	-	**101**	(204)	-	**101**	(204)
Closing balance as at 30 June	**(83,774)**	(82,697)	(84,560)	**10,040**	10,040	9,832	**92,308**	92,207	92,411	**18,574**	19,550

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Equity Injections

Amounts appropriated which are designated as 'equity injections' for a year (less any formal reductions) and Departmental Capital Budgets are recognised directly in contributed equity in that year.

Clean Energy Regulator

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the period ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Appropriations	**135,062**	117,184	107,739
Other revenue	**259**	74	-
Net GST received	**5,752**	5,505	3,395
Total cash received	**141,073**	122,763	111,134
Cash used			
Employees	**63,724**	57,638	53,824
Suppliers	**66,219**	60,159	53,744
Interest payments on lease liabilities	**662**	740	662
Net GST paid	**124**	76	-
Section 74 receipts transferred to OPA	**7,404**	1,452	-
Total cash used	**138,133**	120,065	108,230
Net cash from operating activities	**2,940**	2,698	2,904
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Cash used			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment and intangibles	**1,245**	763	-
Total cash used	**1,245**	763	-
Net cash (used by) investing activities	**(1,245)**	(763)	-
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Contributed equity	**1,245**	763	-
Total cash received	**1,245**	763	-
Cash used			
Principal payments of lease liabilities	**2,904**	2,714	2,904
Total cash used	**2,904**	2,714	2,904
Net cash (used by)/from financing activities	**(1,659)**	(1,951)	(2,904)
Net (decrease) increase in cash held	**36**	(16)	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period	**373**	389	389
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period[1]	**409**	373	389

[1.] As shown in the Statement of Financial Position.

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Clean Energy Regulator

BUDGET VARIANCES COMMENTARY

for the period ended 30 June 2026

The Clean Energy Regulator (CER) has disclosed major departmental variances against budget where the variance is greater than 10 per cent and $0.250 million of an individual line item.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

Revenue: Revenue from government

Revenue from Government was higher than budget due to additional appropriations received through the 2025–26 Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) and 2025–26 Portfolio Supplementary Additional Estimates Statements (PSAES) processes, totalling $23.442 million. Funding was primarily provided for the implementation of the Cheaper Home Batteries Program (CHBP) and the establishment of the Consumer Energy National Technical Regulator scheme (CENTR scheme), partially offset by a savings measure to reduce non-wage expenses.

Revenue: Own-source revenue & Other gains

Theses variances are due to a classification difference between the budget and the financial statements. The CER budgeted for resources received free of charge from Australian National Audit Office under other gains, however they are disclosed as own-source revenue in the statements.

Employee benefits

The $13.015 million variance primarily reflects increased staffing costs to support new Government measures funded through MYEFO and PSAES, including the CHBP and the CENTR scheme, as well as a higher average staffing level (ASL) resulting from the conversion of contractors to employees.

Suppliers

Supplier expenses were higher than budget due to expenditure required to support the delivery of new Government measures funded through MYEFO and PSAES, including implementation, program delivery and associated operational activities.

Statement of Financial Position

Assets: Trade and Other Receivables

The variance reflects the timing of appropriation drawdowns at 30 June 2026. Appropriations not drawn down by year end were recognised as amounts receivable from Government.

Assets: Plant and Equipment

The variance reflects the refresh of the CER's laptop fleet and monitor replacements during the year, which were recognised as plant and equipment and were not included in the budget.

Assets: Prepayments

The variance reflects the timing of subscription renewals and other supplier invoices paid before 30 June 2026.

Liabilities: Suppliers payable

The variance reflects the timing and value of invoices and accruals recognised at 30 June 2026 for goods and services received but not yet paid. Supplier accruals were lower than budget at year end.

Liabilities: Other payables

The variance reflects the timing of the final payroll cycle and the accrual of salary and wages earned, but unpaid at 30 June 2026.

Liabilities: Employee provisions

The variance reflects increased staffing levels and the 3.4 per cent Enterprise Agreement salary increase effective during the year, resulting in higher employee leave liabilities at 30 June 2026.

Cash Flow Statement

The variances in the Statement of Changes in Equity and Cash Flow Statement are consistent with the explanations provided for the Statement of Comprehensive Income and Statement of Financial Position.

Clean Energy Regulator

ADMINISTERED SCHEDULE OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the period ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 $'000	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000
NET COST OF SERVICES				
Expenses				
Suppliers		**7,409**	3,698	4,326
Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities	2.1A	**153,018**	-	-
Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units	4.3A	**2,699**	15,889	61,208
Renewable Energy Target refunds	4.3A	**119,697**	246,296	-
Impairment of taxation receivables	7.3B	**402**	271	-
Total expenses		**283,225**	266,154	65,534
Income				
Revenue				
Taxation revenue				
Renewable Energy Target shortfall charges and interest	2.2A	**115,584**	249,343	1,229
Total taxation revenue		**115,584**	249,343	1,229
Non-taxation revenue				
Renewable Energy fees	2.2B	**71,461**	22,886	28,537
Guarantee of Origin fees		**11**	-	-
Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme exit fees	2.2B	**-**	40,938	120,456
Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme BMD	2.2B	**-**	548	-
Other fees		**97**	148	-
Total non-taxation revenue		**71,569**	64,520	148,993
Total revenue		**187,153**	313,863	150,222
Total income		**187,153**	313,863	150,222
Net contribution by/(cost of) services		**(96,072)**	47,709	84,688

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Clean Energy Regulator

ADMINISTERED SCHEDULE OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

as at 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 $'000	2025 $'000	2026 Original Budget $'000
ASSETS				
Financial assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	4.1A	**934**	41,788	53
Taxation receivables	4.1B	**-**	290	-
Trade and other receivables	4.1C	**1,068**	6,707	67
Total financial assets		**2,002**	48,785	120
Non-financial assets				
Prepayments		**35**	113	132
Total non-financial assets		**35**	113	132
Total assets administered on behalf of Government		**2,037**	48,898	252
LIABILITIES				
Payables				
Suppliers	4.2A	**3,835**	7,665	11
Other payables	4.2B	**3,193**	40,372	3,120
Total payables		**7,028**	48,037	3,131
Provisions				
Renewable Energy Target shortfall	4.3A	**564,397**	760,256	-
Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units	4.3A	**16,853**	35,168	-
Total provisions		**581,250**	795,424	820,694
Total liabilities administered on behalf of Government		**588,278**	843,461	823,825
Net liabilities		**(586,241)**	(794,563)	(823,573)

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Clean Energy Regulator

ADMINISTERED RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE
for the period ended 30 June 2026

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Opening assets less liabilities as at 1 July	**(794,563)**	(823,573)
Net cost of services		
Income	**187,153**	313,863
Expenses		
Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities	**(283,225)**	(266,154)
Transfers (to)/from the Australian Government		
Appropriation transfers from Official Public Account		
Annual appropriations		
Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities	**175,773**	29,669
Special appropriations (unlimited)		
Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000, section 157 refunds	**315,613**	264,736
Refund of administered receipts - section 77 PGPA Act	**23,021**	31,042
Appropriation transfers to Official Public Account		
Transfers to Official Public Account	**(210,013)**	(344,146)
Closing assets less liabilities as at 30 June	**(586,241)**	(794,563)

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Administered cash transfers to and from the Official Public Account

Revenue collected by the CER for use by the Government rather than the CER is administered revenue. Collections are transferred to the Official Public Account (OPA) maintained by the Department of Finance. Conversely, cash is drawn from the OPA to make payments under Parliamentary appropriation on behalf of Government. These transfers to and from the OPA are adjustments to the administered cash held by the CER on behalf of the Government and reported as such in the schedule of administered cash flows and in the administered reconciliation schedule.

Clean Energy Regulator

ADMINISTERED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

for the period ended 30 June 2026

	Notes	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Taxes (Renewable Energy Target shortfall charges and interest)		**115,528**	248,841
Fees		**71,045**	63,896
Net GST received		**418**	366
Net GST received by the special account		**10,090**	-
Total cash received		**197,081**	313,103
Cash used			
Suppliers		**3,801**	4,068
Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities		**153,018**	-
Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units		**18,953**	25,598
Renewable Energy Target refunds		**315,613**	264,736
Net GST paid by the special account		**-**	10,348
Total cash used		**491,385**	304,750
Net cash from/(to) operating activities		**(294,304)**	8,353
FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Cash received			
Special account – receipts from buyers	5.2	**4,869,057**	966,571
Total cash received		**4,869,057**	966,571
Cash used			
Special account – payments to sellers	5.2	**4,920,000**	914,487
Total cash used		**4,920,000**	914,487
Net cash from/(to) financing activities		**(50,943)**	52,084
Cash from Official Public Account			
Appropriations		**514,406**	325,444
Total cash from official public account		**514,406**	325,444
Cash to Official Public Account			
Appropriations		**(210,013)**	(344,146)
Total cash to official public account		**(210,013)**	(344,146)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash held		**(40,854)**	41,735
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		**41,788**	53
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period[1]	4.1A	**934**	41,788

[1] As shown in the Statement of Financial Position.

The above schedule should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Clean Energy Regulator

BUDGET VARIANCES COMMENTARY - ADMINISTERED

for the period ended 30 June 2026

The CER has disclosed major administered variances against budget where the variance is greater than 10 per cent and $0.500 million of an individual line item.

Administered Schedule of Comprehensive Income

Expenses: Suppliers Expense

Supplier expenses exceeded budget as a result of increased audit inspection activity during the year compared with the level assumed in the original budget, further funding was made available as part of MYEFO.

Expenses: Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities

The budget did not include payments made to support the Cheaper Home Batteries Program. These payments were made to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that established the governance and operating arrangements for the program. They consisted of appropriation made available for payments under the Cheaper Home Batteries Program pending Royal Assent of the additional estimates' bills for the program.

Expenses: Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units

The administered budget is a "best estimate" of the number of Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) purchased. The number of ACCUs purchased this year has been lower than expected predominately due to the introduction of permanent exit arrangements for fixed delivery contracts and reduced volumes of optional contract deliveries.

Expenses: RET Refunds

The CER has recognised a provision and corresponding expense for entities that may become entitled to a refund of their existing shortfall payments. This is subject to satisfying legislative requirements.

During 2025–26 a number of entities paid a large-scale generation shortfall charge (LGSC) to meet their large-scale renewable energy target (LRET) obligations rather than surrendering Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).

Entities can receive a refund of their shortfall payments if they meet certain requirements under the legislation within the 'allowable refund period'. The CER has raised a provision for entities that may become entitled to a refund of their shortfall payments that is net of an administration fee and is subject to satisfying legislative requirements. The budget assumes a low level of non-compliance with obligations to surrender RECs.

As such, shortfall revenue and corresponding recognition of expense and provision for refund of shortfall payments were not reflected in the 2025–26 budget position.

Revenue: RET Shortfall Charges and Interest

The budget assumes a low level of non-compliance with obligations to surrender RECs. In 2025–26 a number of entities elected to pay a shortfall charge rather than surrender RECs.

Clean Energy Regulator

BUDGET VARIANCES COMMENTARY – ADMINISTERED

for the period ended 30 June 2026

Administered schedule of assets and liabilities

Assets: Cash and Cash Equivalents

The CER operates the small-scale technology certificate (STC) clearing house to facilitate the purchase and sale of certificates between liable entities and individuals or agents installing small-scale solar, wind and hydro systems. The budget was prepared assuming that the clearing house would have sufficient seller certificates to meet buyer demand.

In 2025–26 the Clearing House returned to more typical operating conditions, with market participants supplying sufficient certificates to meet demand. As a result, the CER was not required to generate certificates to facilitate transactions. Certificates previously generated by the CER continued to be replaced by newly created public certificates during the year, reducing the outstanding Clearing House receivable balance.

The closing balance for cash represents the cash value of certificates yet to be replaced by new public certificates

Assets: Trade and Other Receivables

The variance is primarily attributable to Buyers' Market Damages receivables, which were not budgeted, and higher GST receivables resulting from increased audit inspection activity for solar panel and battery installations during the year.

Liabilities: Supplier payables

This balance is subject to the timing of payments for Rec Registry transactions and will vary over time.

Provisions: RET shortfall

Entities can claim a refund of their shortfall payments if they meet certain requirements under the legislation within the 'allowable refund period'. The CER recognises a provision for entities that may become entitled to a refund of their shortfall payments net of an administration fee, subject to satisfying legislative requirements.

The amount of the provision is dependent on the number of entities paying and claiming shortfall charges during the year.

Provisions: Purchase of ACCU

This is a provision based on ACCU holdings where there is an active contract with outstanding fixed delivery commitments. The fall in units is expected as participation in the scheme moves from fixed delivery contracts to optional delivery contracts and fixed delivery contracts are exited under the permanent exit arrangements.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Overview

Objectives of the Clean Energy Regulator

The CER contributes to a reduction in Australia's net greenhouse gas emissions and to the sustainable management of Australia's biodiversity, including through the administration of market-based mechanisms that incentivise reduction in emissions and the promotion of additional renewable electricity generation. The schemes administered by the CER work together to provide economic incentives, backed by robust data, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and increase the use of renewable energy to achieve the agency's purpose of 'accelerating carbon abatement for Australia.' In administering its schemes, CER is actively supporting the Australian Government's commitment to addressing climate change while maintaining energy security and affordability.

The CER conducts the following administered activities on behalf of the Government.

- The ACCU Scheme (formerly the Emissions Reduction Fund), established under the *Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*, provides incentives for a range of organisations and individuals to adopt new practices and technologies to reduce their emissions. Together with the reporting obligations under the *National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007*, the Safeguard Mechanism complements the ACCU Scheme through providing a framework for Australia's largest emitters to measure, report and manage their emissions.
- The RET established by the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*, encourages the additional generation of electricity from renewable sources, reduces emissions of greenhouse gases in the electricity sector and ensures that renewable energy sources are ecologically sustainable.
- The Guarantee of Origin (GO) Scheme, being developed under the Future Made in Australia framework, provides a national certification system to track and verify the emissions intensity of products (such as hydrogen and renewable electricity), supporting transparent reporting and enabling Australian producers to participate in emerging low-emissions global markets.

The CER is an Australian Government controlled and not-for-profit entity domiciled in Australia. The CER's principal place of business is 47 Bowes Street, Phillip in the Australian Capital Territory.

The basis of preparation

The financial statements are required by section 42 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with:

- Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (Financial Reporting) Rule 2015, and
- Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations – including simplified disclosures for Tier 2 Entities under AASB 1060 issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) that apply for the reporting period.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities at fair value. Except where stated, no allowance is made for the effect of changing prices on the results or the financial position. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars.

Taxation

The CER is exempt from all forms of taxation except Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Overview (continued)

Events after the reporting period

Departmental

There were no subsequent events between balance date and signing of the financial statements that had the potential to significantly affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of the CER.

Administered

There were no subsequent events between balance date and signing of the financial statements that had the potential to significantly affect the ongoing structure and financial activities of the CER.

Reporting of Administered activities

Administered revenues, expenses, assets, liabilities and cash flows are disclosed in the administered schedules and related notes.

Except where otherwise stated, administered items are accounted for on the same basis and using the same policies as for departmental items, including the application of Australian Accounting Standards.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Financial performance

This section analyses the financial performance of the CER for the year ended 30 June 2026.

Note 1.1 – Expenses

1.1A: Employee benefits	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Wages and salaries	49,850	44,119
Superannuation		
Defined contribution plans	7,433	6,360
Defined benefit plans	1,588	1,543
Leave and other entitlements	7,685	6,174
Separation and redundancies	152	-
Other	131	187
Total employee benefits	66,839	58,383

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Accounting policies for employee related expenses are contained in the People and Relationships Note 6.

1.1B: Suppliers	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Contractors	34,841	29,388
Information technology services	15,891	13,081
Consultants	3,508	3,833
Audit and compliance	2,256	2,278
Property operating expenses	848	770
Staff related expenses	1,462	1,493
Legal expenses	250	687
Subscriptions	152	197
Financial statement audit fee	380	370
Finance charges	323	86
Travel and accommodation	602	481
Other goods and services	494	364
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	61,007	53,028
Goods supplied	91	96
Services rendered	60,916	52,932
Total goods and services supplied or rendered	61,007	53,028
Other suppliers		
Workers compensation expenses	265	248
Total other suppliers	265	248
Total suppliers	61,272	53,276

The CER had no short-term lease (less than 12 months) commitments or leases of low-value assets (less than $10,000) as at 30 June 2026.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1.2 – Own-source revenue and gains

Own-source revenue

1.2A: Other revenue	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Resources received free of charge - Remuneration of auditors	380	370
Other	229	55
Total other revenue	609	425

1.2B: Revenue from Government	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Appropriations	131,181	115,567
Total Revenue from Government	131,181	115,567

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Amounts appropriated for departmental appropriations for the year (adjusted for any formal additions and reductions) are recognised as Revenue from Government when the CER gains control of the appropriation, except for certain amounts that relate to activities that are reciprocal in nature, in which case revenue is recognised only when it has been earned.

Appropriations receivable are recognised at their nominal amounts.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2. Income and expenses Administered on behalf of the Government

This section analyses the activities that the CER does not control but administers on behalf of the Government. Unless otherwise noted, the accounting policies adopted are consistent with those applied for departmental reporting.

Note 2.1 – Administered expenses

2.1A: Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Cheaper Home Batteries Program funding to DCCEEW[1]	153,018	-
Total Payments to entities other than corporate Commonwealth entities	153,018	-

1. Relates to appropriation made available for payments under the Cheaper Home Batteries Program pending Royal Assent of the additional estimates' bills for the program.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 2.2 – Administered income

2.2A: Renewable Energy Target shortfall charges and interest

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Liable entities who acquit less of their total Large -Scale Generation Certificates or Small-Scale Technology Certificates surrender liability for an assessment year will incur a shortfall charge. Shortfall charges must be paid on time and will attract interest charges when they become overdue. RET Shortfall charges and any associated interest are recognised at the time they are imposed.

2.2B: Fees

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Renewable energy fees	71,461	22,886
Guarantee of Origin fees	11	-
Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme exit fees	-	40,938
Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme BDM	-	548
Other fees	97	148
Total Fees and Fines	71,569	64,520

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Renewable energy fees

Revenue from renewable energy activities is earned when certificates are created or surrendered under the Renewable Energy Target schemes. Revenue is recognised at the point the underlying transaction occurs.

Guarantee of Origin Levy

The Guarantee of Origin (GO) framework was established in November 2024 to enable recovery of scheme costs through fees and levies:

- Fees are charged for specific services provided to individual participants; and
- Levies recover costs across all scheme participants.

Both are set in accordance with the Australian Government Charging Framework.
For the 2025–26 financial year, GO levies have been waived.

Guarantee of Origin fees

Revenue from the Guarantee of Origin Scheme is earned when GO certificates are issued. Revenue is recognised when payment is received.

ACCU Scheme exit fees

Current holders of fixed delivery contracts are able to pay an exit fee to be released from fixed delivery obligations to the Commonwealth where they meet specified eligibility criteria set by the CER. Revenue is recognised when the exit fee is received.

ACCU Scheme other fees

Where a supplier does not deliver the agreed volume of carbon abatement units, the CER may recover an amount from that supplier. These funds are used to obtain replacement units from other sources, ensuring the Commonwealth still achieves the intended emissions reductions.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

3. Financial position

This section analyses the CER's assets used to conduct its operations and the operating liabilities incurred as a result. Employee related information is disclosed in the People and Relationships section.

Note 3.1 – Financial assets

3.1A Cash and cash equivalents	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Cash and cash equivalents	409	373
Total Cash and cash equivalents	**409**	373

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Cash is recognised at its nominal amount. Cash and cash equivalents include:

- cash on hand; and
- demand deposits in bank accounts with an original maturity of 3 months or less that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and subject to insignificant risk of changes in value.

3.1B: Trade and other receivables	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Services receivables		
Services	58	5
Total services receivables	**58**	5
Appropriation receivables		
Appropriation receivables	36,863	34,484
Total appropriation receivables	**36,863**	34,484
Other receivables		
GST receivable	831	778
Total other receivables	**831**	778
Total trade and other receivables (gross)	**37,752**	35,267
Total trade and other receivables (net)	**37,752**	35,267

Trade and other receivables (net) are expected to be recovered in no more than 12 months. Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2025: 30 days). Impairment loss allowance Nil (2025: Nil).

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Financial assets

Trade and other receivables that are held for the purpose of collecting the contractual cash flows where they are solely payments of principal and interest and are not provided at below-market interest rates. These are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method and subsequently adjusted for any loss allowance.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 3.2 – Non-financial assets

3.2A: Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles

	Leasehold improvements $'000	Plant and equipment $'000	Intangibles $'000	Total $'000
As at 1 July 2025				
Gross book value	35,387	1,713	10,782	47,882
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(9,968)	(423)	(10,713)	(21,104)
Total as at 1 July 2025	**25,419**	**1,290**	**69**	**26,778**
Additions				
Purchase or internally developed	-	1,249	-	1,249
Impairments recognised in net cost of services	-	1	-	1
Depreciation and amortisation	(374)	(554)	(35)	(963)
Depreciation on right-of-use-assets	(3,133)	-	-	(3,133)
Disposals	-	(6)	-	(6)
Total as at 30 June 2026	**21,912**	**1,980**	**34**	**23,926**
Total as at 30 June 2026 represented by				
Gross book value	35,387	2,574	10,782	48,743
Accumulated depreciation, amortisation and impairment	(13,475)	(594)	(10,748)	(24,817)
Total as at 30 June 2026	**21,912**	**1,980**	**34**	**23,926**
Carrying amount of right-of-use assets	**19,581**	**-**	**-**	**19,581**

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Property, plant and equipment

Assets are recorded at cost on acquisition except as stated below. The cost of acquisition includes the fair value of assets transferred in exchange and liabilities undertaken.

Assets acquired at no cost, or for nominal consideration, are initially recognised as assets and income at their fair value at the date of acquisition.

Asset recognition threshold

Purchases of plant and equipment are recognised initially at cost in the statement of financial position, except for purchases costing less than $2,000, which are expensed in the year of acquisition (other than where they form part of a group of similar items which are significant in total). The asset capitalisation threshold for leasehold improvements and computer software is $50,000.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 3.2 – Non-financial assets (continued)

3.2A: Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles (continued)

Lease Right of Use (ROU) assets

Leased ROU assets are capitalised at the commencement date of the lease and comprise of the initial lease liability amount, initial direct costs incurred when entering into the lease less any lease incentives received. These assets are accounted for by Commonwealth lessees as separate asset classes to corresponding assets owned outright but included in the same column as where the corresponding underlying assets would be presented if they were owned.

Lease ROU assets continue to be measured at cost after initial recognition. An impairment review is undertaken annually for any lease ROU asset that maybe impaired.

Revaluations

Following initial recognition at cost, property, plant and equipment (excluding ROU assets) are carried at fair value (or an amount not materially different from fair value) less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses. Valuations are conducted with sufficient frequency to ensure that the carrying amounts of assets do not differ materially from the assets' fair values as at the reporting date. The regularity of independent valuations depends upon the volatility of movements in market values for the relevant assets.

Revaluation adjustments are made on a class basis. Any revaluation increment is credited to equity under the heading of asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that it reversed a previous revaluation decrement of the same asset class that was previously recognised in the surplus/deficit. Revaluation decrements for a class of assets are recognised directly in the surplus/deficit except to the extent that they reversed a previous revaluation increment for that class.
Any accumulated depreciation as at the revaluation date is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the asset restated to the revalued amount.

An independent valuer conducted a desktop revaluation of all asset classes as at 30 June 2026 in accordance with AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement*. There were no material variances noted between fair value and book value. As a result, there has been no revaluation adjustment included in the accounts.

Fair value

All leasehold improvements (excluding ROU assets), plant and equipment are measured at fair value in the Statement of Financial Position. When estimating fair value, market prices (with adjustment) were used where available. Where market prices were not available, depreciated replacement cost was used (i.e., level 3).

Fair value is determined through the identification of all costs and relevant market evidence. Level 1, 2 and 3 inputs are identified and the movement, if any, between these levels are determined.

Level 3 measurements use inputs to estimate fair value where there are no observable market prices for the assets being valued. The future economic benefits of the CER's plant and equipment and leasehold improvements are not primarily dependent on their ability to generate cash flows. The CER has not disclosed quantitative information about the significant unobservable inputs for the level 3 measurements in these classes.

Material accounting judgements and estimates

The fair value of plant and equipment is assessed at market value or depreciated replacement cost as determined by an independent valuer, with the last valuation being performed on 30 June 2026. Fair value is subject to management assessment in between formal valuations.

Depreciation

Depreciable property, plant and equipment assets are written-off to their estimated residual values over their estimated useful lives to the CER using, in all cases, the straight-line method of depreciation.

Depreciation rates (useful lives), residual values and methods are reviewed at each reporting date and necessary adjustments are recognised in the current, or current and future reporting periods, as appropriate.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 3.2 – Non-financial assets (continued)

3.2A: Reconciliation of the opening and closing balances of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangibles (continued)

Depreciation rates applying to each class of depreciable asset are based on the following useful lives:

	2026	2025
Leasehold improvements	lease term	lease term
Plant and equipment	2 to 9 years	2 to 9 years

The depreciation rates for ROU assets are based on the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the ROU asset or the end of the lease term.

Impairment

All assets were assessed for impairment at 30 June 2026. Where indications of impairment exist, the asset's recoverable amount is estimated, and an impairment adjustment made if the asset's recoverable amount is less than its carrying amount.

The recoverable amount of an asset is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset. Where the future economic benefit of an asset is not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate future cash flows, and the asset would be replaced if the CER were deprived of the asset, its value in use is taken to be its depreciated replacement cost.

Derecognition

An item of plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no further future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Intangibles

The CER's intangibles comprise internally developed software for internal use. These assets are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

The asset capitalisation threshold for internally developed software is $50,000.

Software is amortised on a straight-line basis over its anticipated useful life. The useful lives of the CER's software are 2 to 10 years (2025: 2 to 10 years).

All software assets were assessed for indications of impairment as at 30 June 2026.

Software as a Service

Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) arrangements are service contracts providing the entity with the right to access the cloud provider's application software over the contract period. As such the CER does not recognise a software intangible asset. Fees for use of application software and customisation costs are recognised as an operating expense.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 3.3 – Payables

3.3A: Suppliers	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Contractors	2,691	2,572
Trade Creditors and Accruals	2,000	1,348
Other Supplier Payables	59	689
Total other payables	4,750	4,608

Settlement of supplier payables is usually made within 20 days (2025: 20 days).

3.3B: Other payables	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Salaries and wages	2,202	1,629
Superannuation	334	248
Total other payables	2,536	1,877

Note 3.4 – Interest bearing liabilities

3.4A: Leases	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Lease liability	22,568	25,472
Total interest bearing liabilities	22,568	25,742
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		
Within 1 year	3,682	3,566
Between 1 to 5 years	20,282	15,460
More than 5 years	618	9,122
Total leases	24,582	28,418

Total cash outflow for leases are disclosed in the cash flow statement.

The CER in its capacity as lessee, entered into a sub-lease arrangement with IP Australia for a period of 10 years and four months (with one option of five years) commencing from 26 April 2022 in relation to 47 Bowes Street office premises. The rent is increased on 1 July of each year by 3.25%.

ACCOUNTING POLICY

For all new contracts entered into, the CER considers whether the contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as 'a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period of time in exchange for consideration'.

Once it has been determined that a contract is, or contains a lease, the lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, if that rate is readily determinable, or the CER's incremental borrowing rate.

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification to the lease. When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset or profit and loss depending on the nature of the reassessment or modification.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

4. Assets and liabilities administered on behalf of the Government

This section analyses assets and liabilities that the CER does not control but administers on behalf of the Government. Unless otherwise noted, the accounting policies adopted are consistent with those applied for departmental reporting.

Note 4.1 – Administered - Financial assets

4.1A: Cash and cash equivalent	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Cash in special accounts	934	41,788
Total cash and cash equivalents	**934**	41,788

4.1B: Taxation receivables	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Other taxes		
Renewable Energy - shortfall charges and interest	14,306	14,194
Total taxation receivables	**14,306**	14,194
Less Impairment loss allowance	(14,306)	(13,904)
Total taxation receivables (net)	**-**	290

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Under the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* (REE Act) liable entities that pay a large-scale generation shortfall charge may claim a refund for the shortfall charge less an administration fee. When a liable entity purchases certificates for surrender to the CER, a tax deduction is allowed for the purchase cost.

4.1C: Trade and other receivables	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Other receivables		
ACCU-BMD Receivables	548	548
GST receivable	520	6,159
Total other receivables	**1,068**	6,707

Trade and other receivables (net) are expected to be recovered in no more than 12 months. Credit terms for goods and services were within 30 days (2025: 30 days).

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Gains and losses due to impairment, derecognition and amortisation are recognised through profit or loss.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 4.2 – Administered - Payables

4.2A: Suppliers	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Trade creditors and accruals	3,835	7,665
Total suppliers	3,835	7,665

Settlement of supplier payables is usually made within 20 days (2025: 20 days).

4.2B: Other payables	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units	2,258	197
Special account (Clearing House) payables	935	40,175
Total other payables	3,193	40,375

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units

The CER will recognise an 'other payable' once a contractual milestone has been met under the contract and there is an unconditional obligation to pay the third party.

Special account (Clearing House) payables

The CER operates the STC clearing house to facilitate the purchase and sale of certificates between liable entities and individuals or agents installing small-scale solar, wind and hydro systems.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 4.3 – Administered - Provisions

4.3A: Provisions

	Renewable energy target shortfalls $'000	Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units $'000	Total $'000
As at 1 July 2025	760,256	35,168	795,424
Additional provisions made	119,697	998	120,695
Amounts used	(315,556)	(19,313)	(334,869)
Total at 30 June 2026	**564,397**	**16,853**	**581,250**

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Renewable energy target shortfalls

The LRET creates a financial incentive for the establishment and growth of renewable energy power stations through the creation of LGCs.

Refunds are made to external providers on the basis of:

- surrender of LGCs during the 'allowable refund period', and/or
- a downward reassessment of a liable entity's certificate liability resulting in an overpayment.

A provision and expense for the refund of shortfall charges is recognised where the CER is satisfied that:

- a present obligation exists for a refund to be made where a liable entity meets the requirements of the three-year rule as detailed in sections 95-97 of the REE Act
- it is more likely than less likely that sufficient certificates will be available in future years to allow entities to meet their current year obligations and seek refund of shortfall charges, and
- the price of certificates is anticipated to be less than the tax effective cost of the shortfall charge.

Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units

The ACCU Scheme is a voluntary scheme that aims to provide incentives for a range of organisations and individuals to reduce their emissions.

ACCUs are earned by participants through eligible projects for each tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (t CO_2-e) stored or avoided.

Under the ACCU Scheme auction arrangements, participants entered into one of the following arrangements:

- Fixed delivery contract. Where the participant agreed to provide a set number of ACCUs at a set price for the duration of the contract. Participants of existing contracts have the choice whether to source the ACCUs through delivery of an identified project or through acquisition in the secondary market, or
- Optional delivery contract. The participant has the right, but not the obligation, to sell a set number of ACCUs at a set price. ACCUs provided under these contracts must be delivered through the identified project and cannot be sourced through the secondary market.

The CER 's accounting policy for ACCU Scheme transactions is:

- a liability will be recognised under the ACCU Scheme where it has a present obligation arising from a past event, and
- the obligating event is on ACCU's issued and where there is evidence the ACCU will be purchased under a carbon abatement contract.

A provision and expense are recognised on issuance of the ACCU to a contract holder, based on the best estimate of the amount required to settle that obligation. In most cases this is likely to be the fixed purchase price within the contract. A provision is recognised as there is uncertainty around timing and the amount as the contracted party may choose not to surrender generated ACCUs on the milestone delivery date.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

5. Funding

This section identifies the CER's funding structure.

Note 5.1 – Appropriations

5.1A: Annual appropriations

Annual appropriations for 2026	Annual appropriation $'000	Adjustments to appropriation[1] $'000	Total appropriation $'000	Appropriation applied in 2025 (current and prior years) $'000	Variance[2] $'000
Departmental					
Ordinary annual services	131,181	7,404	138,585	135,062	3,523
Capital budget[3]	-	-	-	1,189	(1,189)
Equity Injections	101	-	101	56	45
Total departmental	131,282	7,404	138,686	136,307	2,379
Administered					
Ordinary annual services					
Administered items[4]	71,782	-	71,782	175,427	(103,645)
Total administered	71,782	-	71,782	175,427	(103,645)

1. Adjustments to appropriations include GST related receipts retained under section 74 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act). In 2025–26, the entity changed the presentation of appropriations disclosed in the appropriation note to include GST amounts retained under section 74 of the PGPA Act. In prior years, retainable GST under section 74 of the PGPA Act was excluded from the appropriation note.

2. Variance in ordinary annual services and capital budget of $2.379 million are funded by balances from 2025 financial year.

3. Departmental Capital Budgets are appropriated through Appropriation Acts (No.1,3,5). They form part of ordinary annual services, and are not separately identified in the Appropriation Acts.

4. The variance of $103.645 million reflects changes in the timing and profile of contracted payments under the ACCU, as well as payments made to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW) in relation to the CHBP.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 5.1 – Appropriations (continued)

5.1A: Annual appropriations (continued)

Annual appropriations for 2025	Annual appropriation $'000	Adjustments to appropriation[1] $'000	Total appropriation $'000	Appropriation applied in 2024 (current and prior years) $'000	Variance $'000
Departmental					
Ordinary annual services	115,567	1,452	117,019	117,183	(164)
Capital budget	-	-	-	751	(751)
Total departmental	115,567	1,452	117,019	117,934	(915)
Administered					
Ordinary annual services					
Administered items[2]	269,947	-	269,947	29,297	240,650
Total administered	269,947	-	269,947	29,297	240,650

1. Adjustments to appropriations includes adjustments to current year annual appropriations for PGPA Act section 74 receipts. Recoverable GST refers to amounts paid out using s74A of the PGPA Act. The mechanism available under s74A allows the increase of certain appropriation balances only for GST obligations, but it is not additional funding and should not be disclosed in the appropriation note.

2. The variance of $240.65 million reflects changes in the profile of contracted payments under the Emissions Reduction Fund.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 5.1 – Appropriations (continued)

5.1B: Unspent annual appropriations

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Departmental		
Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2022–2023[1]	-	4,953
Supply Act (No. 1) 2022–2023[1]	-	1,156
Supply Act (No. 2) 2022–2023[1]	-	4,869
Supply Act (No. 3) 2022–2023[1]	-	1,899
Supply Act (No. 3) 2022–2023 – DCB[1]	-	204
Supply Act (No. 4) 2022–2023[1]	-	6,815
Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2023–2024[2]	7,491	7,491
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2023–2024 – DCB[3]	-	1,189
Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2023–2024[3]	-	43
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2024–2025[3]	4,875	33,252
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2025–2026[3]	22,807	-
Supply Act (No. 1) 2025–2026[3]	3,108	-
Appropriation Act (No. 5) 2025–2026[3]	6,028	-
Appropriation Act (No. 6) 2025–2026[3]	45	-
Cash and cash equivalents[3]	409	373
Total departmental	44,763	62,244

[1.] Appropriation Act (No. 2) and Supply Act (No. 1,2,3 & 4) 2022–23, these appropriations lapsed on 1 July 2025.

[2.] Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2023–24 includes $7.491 million that was withheld under section 51 but remained legally available for use as at 30 June 2026. This appropriation will lapse on 01 July 2026.

[3.] Appropriation Act (No. 1, 3, 5 & 6) and Supply Act (No. 1) balances for 2024–25 and 2025–26 represent unspent appropriations and cash held at bank for the year.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 5.1 – Appropriations (continued)

5.1B: Unspent annual appropriations

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Administered		
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2022–2023[1]	-	1,229
Supply Act (No. 1) 2022–2023[1]	-	60,950
Supply Act (No. 3) 2022–2023[1]	-	131,264
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2023–2024[2]	-	201,516
Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2023–2024[3]	84,568	98,452
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2024–2025[4]	37,911	240,650
Supply Act (No. 1) 2025–2026[5]	4,685	-
Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2025–2026[6]	39,227	-
Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2025–2026[7]	5,461	-
Total administered	171,852	734,061

1. Appropriation Act (No. 1) and Supply Act (No. 1 & 3) 2022–23, these appropriations lapsed on 1 July 2025.
2. Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2023–24 included $153.018 million that was subject to a PGPA Act section 1 withholding quarantine at 30 June 2025. The quarantine was released through a movement of funds process during 2025–26, making the appropriation available for use.
3. Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2023–24 includes unspent fund of $84.568 million, the funds are subject to PGPA Act section 51 withholding quarantine and are considered legally available as at 30 June 2026.
4. Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2024–25 includes unspent fund of $37.911 million, the funds are subject to PGPA Act section 51 withholding quarantine and are considered legally available as at 30 June 2026.
5. Supply Act (No. 1) 2025–26 includes unspent fund of $4.685 million, the funds are subject to PGPA Act section 51 withholding quarantine and are considered legally available as at 30 June 2026.
6. Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2025–26 includes unspent fund of $39.227 million, the funds are subject to PGPA Act section 51 withholding quarantine and are considered legally available as at 30 June 2026.
7. Appropriation Act (No. 3) 2025–26 includes unspent fund of $5.461 million, the funds are subject to PGPA Act section 51 withholding quarantine and are considered legally available as at 30 June 2026

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 5.1 – Appropriations (continued)

5.1C: Special appropriations

Authority		Appropriation applied 2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000, section 157, Administered, Unlimited amount	To enable payments in respect of: a) section 50 refunds of overpaid amounts b) section 98 refund of charge where certificates are surrendered c) section 121 compensation from damage to electronic equipment.	**315,613**	264,736
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013, section 77, Administered, Refund	To provide an appropriation where an Act or other law requires or permits the repayment of an amount received by the Commonwealth and the Finance Minister is satisfied that, apart from this section, there is no specific appropriation for the repayment.	**23,021**	31,042
Clean Energy Act 2011, section 132, Administered, Unlimited amount[1]	To provide an appropriation for the refund of surplus surrender specified by section 132 of the *Clean Energy Act 2011.*	**-**	-
Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Act 2014, section 343A(3), Administered, Unlimited amount	To provide an appropriation to pay for carbon units cancelled by section 343A of the *Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Act 2014.*	**-**	-
Total special appropriations applied		**338,634**	295,778

[1] Section 132 of the *Clean Energy Act 2011* was not repealed by the *Clean Energy Legislation (Carbon Tax Repeal) Act 2014* (Carbon Tax Repeal Act).

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 5.2 – Special account

	Renewable Energy Special Account (Administered)[1]	
	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Balance brought forward from previous period	**47,180**	53
Adjusted balance brought forward from previous period	**47,180**	53
Increases - receipts from buyers	**4,427,386**	878,711
Available for payments	**4,474,566**	878,764
Decreases - payments to sellers	**(4,473,712)**	(831,584)
Total balance carried to the next period	**854**	47,180
Balance represented by:		
Cash held in the Clean Energy Regulator's bank accounts[2]	**934**	41,788
Net GST receivable	**(80)**	5,392
Total balance carried to the next period	**854**	47,180

[1] Appropriation: *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* section 80. Establishing Instrument: *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*, section 30R.

The purposes of the Renewable Energy Special Account are:

a) paying amounts under paragraph 30N(3)(b) in relation to the transfer of certificates
b) paying amounts under subparagraph 30P(4)(b)(ii) in relation to the transfer of certificates
c) refunding amounts under regulations made for the purpose of paragraph 30U(2)(i), and
d) paying amounts of GST for which the Regulator is liable because of the creation of certificates for purchasers under section 30P.

Transactions related to the STC clearing house are reported in the Administered Schedule of Assets and Liabilities as Cash and cash equivalents and Supplier payables. This is because the CER is facilitating transactions between buyers and sellers through the STC clearing house and any net cash resulting is not revenue for Government.

[2] This balance is reflected in the cash in special accounts under Note 4.1A and relates to Clearing House payables.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 5.3 – Regulatory charging summary

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
External revenue		
Administered	**71,556**	23,035
Total external revenue	**71,556**	23,035

Departmental expenses are funded through annual appropriations. These resources generate administered revenue.

Regulatory charging activities

To participate in the RET scheme and access the REC Registry, users are required to pay a fee when they create and surrender STCs and LGCs. These fees are payable in accordance with the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2011*.

To participate in the GO Scheme, participants are required to pay fees and charges in relation to functions provided by the CER.

CER has published Cost Recovery Implementation Statements for both RET and GO on its website.

Note 5.4 – Net cash appropriation arrangements

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Total comprehensive loss– as per the Statement of Comprehensive Income[1]	**(1,077)**	(432)
Plus: depreciation/amortisation of assets funded through appropriations (departmental capital budget funding and /or equity injections)[2]	**963**	866
Plus: depreciation right-of-use assets[3]	**3,133**	3,132
Less: lease principal repayments[3]	**(2,904)**	(2,714)
Net Cash Operating Surplus/ (Deficit) [1]	**115**	852

1. Comparative figures for 2024–25 Total Comprehensive Income and Net Cash Operating Surplus have been restated to correct an error identified during the preparation of the 2025–26 financial statements. The correction affects the comparative presentation of these measures only and has no impact on the entity's previously reported net assets, cash flows or appropriations.

2. The Government introduced net cash appropriation arrangements, where revenue appropriations for depreciation/amortisation expenses of non-corporate Commonwealth entities were replaced with a separate capital budget provided through equity appropriations. Capital budgets are to be appropriated in the period when cash payment for capital expenditure is required.

3. The inclusion of depreciation/amortisation expenses related to ROU leased assets and the lease liability principal repayment amount reflects the cash impact of AASB 16 Leases, which does not directly reflect a change in appropriation arrangements.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

6. People and relationships

This section describes a range of employment and post-employment benefits provided to our people and our relationships with other key people.

Note 6.1 – Employee provisions

6.1A: Employee provisions	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Leave	15,618	12,952
Separations and redundancies	49	-
Total employee provisions	15,667	12,952

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Liabilities for short-term employee benefits and termination benefits expected within twelve months of the end of reporting period are measured at their nominal amount. The nominal amount is calculated on the rates expected to be paid on settlement of the liability.

Leave

The liability for employee benefits includes provision for annual leave and long service leave.

The leave liabilities are calculated on the basis of employees' remuneration at the estimated salary rates that will be applied at the time the leave is taken, including the CER's employer superannuation contribution rates to the extent that the leave is likely to be taken during service rather than paid out on termination.

The liability for long service leave has been determined using the shorthand method as prescribed in the *Financial Reporting Rule 2015*. The estimate of the present value of the liability considers attrition rates and pay increases through promotion and inflation.

Separation and Redundancy

Provision is made for separation and redundancy benefit payments. The CER recognises a provision for termination when it has developed a detailed formal plan for the terminations and has informed those employees affected that it will carry out the terminations.

Superannuation

The CER's staff are members of the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS), the Public Sector Superannuation Scheme (PSS), or the PSS accumulation plan (PSSap), or other superannuation funds held outside the Australian Government.

The CSS and PSS are defined benefit schemes for the Australian Government. The PSSap is a defined contribution scheme.

The liability for defined benefits is recognised in the financial statements of the Australian Government and is settled by the Australian Government in due course. This liability is reported in the Department of Finance's administered schedules and notes.

The CER makes employer contributions to the employees' defined benefit superannuation scheme at rates determined by an actuary to be sufficient to meet the current cost to the Government. The CER accounts for the contributions as if they were contributions to defined contribution plans.

The liability for superannuation recognised as at 30 June 2026 represents outstanding contributions.

Material accounting judgements and estimates

Employee leave provisions involve assumptions based on the expected tenure of existing staff, pattern of leave claims and payouts, future salary movements and future discount rates.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 6.2 – Key management personnel remuneration

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the CER, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of the CER. The CER has determined the key management personnel to be the Chair, members of the Regulator, and members of the Strategic Leadership Team. Key management personnel remuneration is reported in the table below:

	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Short-term employee benefits	2,180	1,946
Post-employment benefits	313	286
Other long-term employee benefits	55	139
Total key management personnel remuneration expenses[1]	2,548	2,371

1. The above key management personnel remuneration excludes the remuneration and other benefits of the Portfolio and Cabinet Ministers. Ministerial remuneration and other benefits are set by the Remuneration Tribunal and are not paid by the CER.

The total number of key management personnel that is included in the above table is 12 (2025: 18).

Total remuneration is calculated on a pro-rata basis equal to time spent in the role for those staff who acted during the reporting period in the role of a key management personnel.

Note 6.3 – Related parties

Related party relationships

The CER is an Australian Government controlled entity. Related parties to the CER are:

- key management personnel of the CER, their close family members, and entities controlled or jointly controlled by either;
- Portfolio and Cabinet Ministers - key management personnel for the consolidated Whole of Government accounts, and
- all other Australian Government entities.

Transactions with related parties

Significant transactions with related parties can include:

- purchase of goods and services
- asset purchases, sales, transfers or leases
- selling RECs under the renewable energy scheme following the installation of rooftop solar panels, and
- debts forgiven.

Upon consideration of relationships with related entities, and transactions entered into during the reporting period by the CER, it has been determined that there are no related party transactions to be disclosed other than key management personnel remuneration disclosed in Note 6.2.

Transactions with other Australian Government entities are conducted on an arm's length basis and are not individually material for disclosure.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. Managing uncertainties

This section analyses how the CER manages financial risks within its operating environment.

Note 7.1 – Contingent assets and liabilities

7.1A: Contingent assets and liabilities

Quantifiable Contingencies

There were no quantifiable contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2026 (2025: Nil).

Unquantifiable Contingencies

There were no unquantifiable contingent assets or liabilities as at 30 June 2026 (2025: Nil).

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Contingent liabilities and contingent assets are not recognised in the statement of financial position but are reported in the notes. They may arise from uncertainty as to the existence of a liability or asset or represent an asset or liability in respect of which the amount cannot be reliably measured. Contingent assets are disclosed when settlement is probable but not virtually certain and contingent liabilities are disclosed when settlement is greater than remote.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 7.1 – Contingent assets and liabilities (continued)

7.1B: Administered- contingent assets and liabilities	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Contingent assets		
Balance from previous period	-	787
New contingent assets recognised	-	-
Assets realised	-	(787)
Total contingent assets	-	-
Contingent Liabilities		
Balance from previous period	105	348
New contingent liabilities recognised	-	105
Liabilities removed	-	(348)
Total contingent liabilities	105	105

Quantifiable Administered Contingencies

The above table includes nil contingent assets (2025: nil) relating to ACCU contractual obligations. In prior years, contingent assets arose from eligible ACCU exit fee applications submitted by carbon abatement contract holders seeking release from contractual obligations. Such contingent assets were recognised following conditional approval by the CER, subject to full payment of the exit fee by the relevant milestone date. No exit fee arrangements impacting 2025–26 were entered into during the financial year.

The table also contains $0.105 million (2025: $0.105 million) of contingent liabilities in respect to shortfall payment refunds. Entities that have paid a large-scale generation shortfall charge may potentially be eligible for a refund under section 95 of the REE Act subject to meeting certain criteria. A case-by-case analysis was conducted to identify the entities potentially eligible for a refund and to determine the amount more probable than not to be claimed.

Unquantifiable Administered Contingencies

Since 12 January 2023, s11A of the CFI Rule has required ACCUs delivered under ACCU Scheme carbon abatement contracts to accumulate in an account that may be used for Cost Containment Measure sales. As at 30 June 2026 there were 5.950 million ACCUs available in this account.

Total supply is limited to the number of ACCUs accumulated in the account and the volume available will be determined by commercial decisions on delivery against Commonwealth contracts.

Sales are restricted to entities that meet certain criteria, and the unit purchase price is set by the legislation at $75 indexed each financial year beginning July 2024, by the CPI plus 2%. The indicative spot price for ACCUs at 30 June 2026 was $37.95.

Based on the unknown timing and price of any unit sales under the Cost Containment Measure, the units are considered an unquantifiable contingent asset for reporting purposes.

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 7.2 – Financial Instruments

7.2A: Categories of financial instruments	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Financial assets at amortised cost		
Cash and cash equivalents	409	373
Trade receivables	58	5
Total financial assets at amortised cost	467	378
Total financial assets	467	378
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Trade creditors and accruals	4,750	4,608
Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	4,750	4,608
Total financial liabilities	4,750	4,608

ACCOUNTING POLICY

Financial assets

The CER classifies its financial assets as measured at amortised cost. The classification depends on both the CER's business model for managing the financial assets and contractual cash flow characteristics at the time of initial recognition.

Financial assets are recognised when the CER becomes a party to the contract and, as a consequence, has a legal right to receive or a legal obligation to pay cash and derecognised when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire or are transferred upon trade date.

Financial Assets at Amortised Cost

Financial assets included in this category need to meet two criteria.

1. The financial asset is held in order to collect the contractual cash flows.
2. The cash flows are solely payments of principal and interest (SPPI) on the principal outstanding amount.

Amortised cost is determined using the effective interest method.

Effective Interest Method

Income is recognised on an effective interest rate basis for financial assets that are recognised at amortised cost.

Impairment of Financial Assets

The simplified approach for trade, contract and lease receivables is used. This approach always measures the loss allowance as the amount equal to the lifetime expected credit losses.

A write-off constitutes a de-recognition event where the write-off directly reduces the gross carrying amount of the financial asset.

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at fair value through profit or loss' or other financial liabilities. Financial liabilities are recognised and derecognised upon 'trade date'.

Financial Liabilities at Amortised Cost

Financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs. These liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with interest expense recognised on an effective interest basis.

Supplier and other payables are recognised at amortised cost. Liabilities are recognised to the extent that the goods or services have been received (and irrespective of having been invoiced).

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 7.3 – Administered - Financial instruments

7.3A: Categories of financial instruments	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Financial assets at amortised cost		
Cash on hand or on deposit	934	41,788
Total financial assets at amortised cost	934	41,788
Total financial assets	934	41,788
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost		
Supplier payables	3,835	7,665
Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units	2,258	197
Special account (Clearing House) payables	935	40,175
Total financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	7,028	48,037
Total financial liabilities	7,028	48,037

7.3B: Net losses on financial assets	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Financial assets at amortised cost		
Impairment of taxation receivables	402	271
Net losses on financial assets at amortised cost	402	271

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

8. Other information

Note 8.1 – Current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities

8.1A: Current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Assets expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months		
Cash and cash equivalents	409	373
Trade and other receivables	37,752	35,267
Leasehold improvements	2,331	2,705
Prepayments	1,753	1,822
Total no more than 12 months	42,245	40,167
More than 12 months		
Leasehold improvements	19,580	22,714
Plant and equipment	1,980	1,290
Intangibles	35	69
Prepayments	255	219
Total more than 12 months	21,850	24,292
Total assets	64,095	64,459
Liabilities expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months		
Suppliers	4,750	4,608
Other payables	2,536	1,877
Leases	3,103	2,904
Employee provisions	6,703	5,447
Total no more than 12 months	17,092	14,836
More than 12 months		
Leases	19,465	22,568
Employee Provisions	8,964	7,505
Total more than 12 months	28,429	30,073
Total liabilities	45,521	44,909

Clean Energy Regulator

NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 8.1 – Current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities (continued)

8.1B: Administered- current/non-current distinction for assets and liabilities	2026 $'000	2025 $'000
Assets expected to be recovered in:		
No more than 12 months		
Cash and cash equivalents	934	41,788
Taxation receivables	-	290
Trade and other receivables	1,068	6,707
Prepayments	35	113
Total no more than 12 months	2,037	48,898
Total assets	2,037	48,898
Liabilities expected to be settled in:		
No more than 12 months		
Suppliers	3,835	7,665
Special account (Clearing House) payables	3,193	40,372
Provision – Purchase of Australian Carbon Credit Units	16,853	35,168
Provision – Renewable Energy Target shortfall	365,477	470,280
Total no more than 12 months	389,358	553,485
More than 12 months		
Provision – Renewable Energy Target shortfall	198,920	289,976
Total more than 12 months	198,920	289,976
Total liabilities	588,278	843,461



Appendices

Appendix A: Entity resource statement and expenses by outcome

Table 10: Resource statement, 2025–26

	Actual available appropriation for 2025–26 $'000 (a)	Payments made 2025–26 $'000 (b)	Balance remaining 2025–26 $'000 (a) – (b)
Departmental			
Annual appropriations – ordinary annual services[1,2]	172,253	135,026	37,227
Annual appropriations – other services – non-operating[3]	1,290	1,245	45
Total departmental annual appropriations	**173,543**	**136,271**	**37,272**
Total departmental resourcing (A)	**173,543**	**136,271**	**37,272**
Administered			
Annual appropriations – ordinary annual services[1]	71,782	175,427	
Total administered annual appropriations	**71,782**	**175,427**	
Administered special appropriations			
Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013 – section 77	23,021	23,021	
Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000 – section 157	315,613	315,613	
Total administered special appropriations	**338,634**	**338,634**	
Total administered resourcing (B)	**410,416**	**514,061**	
Total resourcing and payments for the Clean Energy Regulator (A+B)	**583,959**	**650,332**	

1. Appropriation Act (No. 1) 2025-2026, Supply Act (No. 1) and Appropriation Act (No. 5) 2025-2026. This may also include prior-year departmental appropriation and section 74 external revenue.
2. Departmental capital budgets are not separately identified and form part of ordinary annual services items. For accounting purposes, this amount has been designated as a 'contribution by owner'.
3. Appropriation Act (No. 2) 2025-2026 and Appropriation Act (No. 6) 2025-2026. This may also include prior-year departmental appropriation.

Table 11: Summary of total expenses by Outcome 1, 2025–26

Expenses for Outcome 1 Outcome 1: Contribute to a reduction in Australia's net greenhouse gas emissions, including through the administration of market-based mechanisms that incentivise reduction in emissions and the promotion of additional renewable electricity generation.	Budget[1] 2025–26 $'000 (a)	Actual expenses 2025–26 $'000 (b)	Variations 2025–26 $'000 (a) – (b)
Program 1.1: Clean Energy Regulator			
Administered expenses			
Ordinary annual services (Appropriation Act No. 1)	71,782	163,528	(91,746)
Special appropriations	509	119,697	(119,188)
Administered total	72,291	283,225	(210,934)
Departmental expenses			
Departmental appropriation	123,722	129,958	(6,236)
Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year[2]	1,412	1,572	(160)
Departmental total	**125,134**	**131,530**	**(6,396)**
Total expenses for Program 1.1	**197,425**	**414,755**	**(217,330)**
Total expenses for Outcome 1	**197,425**	**414,755**	**(217,330)**

1. Full-year budget, including any subsequent adjustment made to the 2025–26 budget.
2. Expenses not requiring appropriation in the Budget year are made up of depreciation expenses, amortisation expenses and audit fees.

	2025–26	2024–25
Average staffing level (number)	437	387

Table 12: Summary of total expenses by Outcome 2, 2025–26

Expenses for Outcome 2 Outcome 2: Contribute to the sustainable management of Australia's biodiversity through the administration of market-based mechanisms that incentivise the preservation and improvement of diverse ecosystems.	Budget[1] 2025–26 $'000 (a)	Actual expenses 2025–26 $'000 (b)	Variations 2025–26 $'000 (a) – (b)
Program 2.1: Clean Energy Regulator			
Departmental expenses			
Departmental appropriation	7,459	1,340	6,119
Departmental total	**7,459**	**1,340**	**6,119**
Total expenses for Program 2.1	**7,459**	**1,340**	**6,119**
Total expenses for Outcome 2	**7,459**	**1,340**	**6,119**

1. Full-year budget, including any subsequent adjustment made to the 2025–26 budget.

	2025–26	2024–25
Average staffing level (number)	16	13

Appendix B: Workforce statistics

Indigenous employment

Table 13: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees, 2025–26 and 2024–25

	2025–26	2024–25
Ongoing	3	2
Non-ongoing	2	0
Total	**5**	**2**

Ongoing and non-ongoing employees by employment status and APS classification

Table 14: Ongoing and non-ongoing employment type by level, as at 30 June 2026

	Ongoing			Non-ongoing			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
SES 2	1	0	**1**	0	0	**0**	**1**
SES 1	10	0	**10**	0	0	**0**	**10**
EL 2	49	3	**52**	2	1	**3**	**55**
EL 1	109	16	**125**	0	0	**0**	**125**
APS 6	136	21	**157**	4	1	**5**	**162**
APS 5	70	13	**83**	1	1	**2**	**85**
APS 4	45	3	**48**	9	0	**9**	**85**
APS 3	2	0	**2**	2	1	**3**	**5**
APS 2	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**
APS 1	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**
Graduates	8	0	**8**	0	0	**0**	**8**
Total	**430**	**56**	**486**	**18**	**4**	**22**	**508**

Table 15: Ongoing and non-ongoing employment type by level, as at 30 June 2025

	Ongoing			Non-ongoing			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
SES 2	2	0	**2**	0	0	**0**	**2**
SES 1	9	0	**9**	0	0	**0**	**9**
EL 2	39	5	**44**	1	0	**1**	**45**
EL 1	99	13	**112**	1	0	**1**	**113**
APS 6	103	21	**124**	3	1	**4**	**128**
APS 5	67	8	**75**	1	1	**2**	**77**
APS 4	43	3	**46**	9	1	**10**	**56**
APS 3	1	2	**3**	1	1	**2**	**5**
APS 2	1	0	**1**	0	0	**0**	**1**
APS 1	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**0**
Graduates	6	0	**6**	0	0	**0**	**6**
Total	**370**	**52**	**422**	**16**	**4**	**20**	**442**

Employees by gender, employment status and APS classification

Table 16: Ongoing employees by gender, employment status and APS classification, as at 30 June 2026

	Woman/female			Man/male			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
SES 2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
SES 1	7	0	7	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
EL 2	20	1	21	29	2	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52
EL 1	60	13	73	49	3	52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	125
APS 6	65	15	80	71	6	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	157
APS 5	43	11	54	27	2	29	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	83
APS 4	26	3	29	19	0	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	48
APS 3	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Graduates	3	0	3	5	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Total	224	43	267	206	13	219	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	486

Table 17: Non-ongoing employees by gender, employment status and APS classification, as at 30 June 2026

	Woman/female			Man/male			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
EL 2	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
EL 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
APS 6	1	1	2	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
APS 5	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
APS 4	6	0	6	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
APS 3	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	10	3	13	8	1	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22

Employees by gender and employment status

Table 18: Ongoing and non-ongoing employees by employment type and gender, as at 30 June 2026

	Woman/female			Man/male			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
Ongoing	224	43	**267**	206	13	**219**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**486**
Non-ongoing	10	3	**13**	8	1	**9**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**22**
Total	**234**	**46**	**280**	**214**	**14**	**228**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**508**

Table 19: Ongoing and non-ongoing employees by employment type and gender, as at 30 June 2025

	Woman/female			Man/male			Non-binary			Prefers not to answer			Uses a different term			Total
	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	Full time	Part time	Total	
Ongoing	199	40	**239**	171	12	**183**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	**422**
Non-ongoing	5	3	**8**	10	1	**11**	0	0	**0**	0	0	**0**	1	0	**1**	**20**
Total	**204**	**43**	**247**	**181**	**13**	**194**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**1**	**0**	**1**	**442**

Employees by location

Table 20: Ongoing and non-ongoing employees by location, as at 30 June 2026

	Ongoing	Non-ongoing	Total
Australian Capital Territory	486	22	**508**
Total	**486**	**22**	**508**

Appendix C: Executive remuneration

Remuneration information for the following categories of officials:

- key management personnel
- senior executives
- other highly paid staff, whose total remuneration exceeds the threshold remunerations amount of $265,000 for the reporting period.

During the reporting period ended 30 June 2026, the CER had 12 executives who met the definition of key management personnel (see Table 21).

Table 21: Key management personnel, 2025–26

Name	Position	Period in position
David Parker	Chair/Accountable Authority	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Mark Williamson	Executive General Manager	01 July 2025 – 06 March 2026
Carl Binning	Executive General Manager	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Bronwen Shelley	General Counsel	01 July 2025 – 12 February 2026
Louise Parrott	General Counsel	15 June 2026 – 30 June 2026
Liza Pegorer	Chief Operating Officer	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Matthew Cahill	Regulator member	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Joanna Sheppard	Regulator Member	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Anna Hancock	Regulator Member	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Oliver Costello	Regulator Member	01 July 2025 – 30 June 2026
Jane Wardlaw	Acting Executive General Manager	08 December 2025 – 30 June 2026
Rizwan Akhund	Acting General Counsel	04 October 2025 – 12 June 2026

In the notes to the financial statements for the period ended 30 June 2026, we have disclosed key management personnel expenses on an accruals basis (see Table 22).

Table 22: Key management personnel remuneration for the reporting period ended 30 June 2026

Note 6.2: Key management personnel remuneration for the reporting period	$
Short-term benefits	
Base salary	2,171,822
Bonus	-
Other benefits and allowances[1]	8,300
Total short-term benefits	**2,180,122**
Post-employment benefits	
Superannuation	312,696
Total post-employment benefits	**312,696**
Other long-term benefits	
Long service leave	54,948
Total other long-term benefits	**54,948**
Termination benefits	
Total key management personnel remuneration	**2,547,766**

1. Other benefits and allowances relate to car parking.

This information has been further disaggregated in Table 23.

Table 23: Total remuneration by key management personnel, 2025–26

Name	Position title	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits	Termination benefits ($)	Total remuneration ($)
		Base salary ($)	Bonuses ($)	Other benefits and allowances including FBT ($)	Superannuation contributions ($)	Long service leave[1] ($)		
David Parker	Chair/Accountable Authority	546,389	-	1,696	80,190	7,135	-	635,410
Carl Binning	Executive General Manager	322,187	-	1,696	57,315	11,064	-	392,262
Mark Williamson	Executive General Manager	247,647	-	734	31,092	10,129	-	289,602
Jane Wardlaw	Acting Executive General Manager	175,576	-	953	21,728	7,427	-	205,684
Liza Pegorer	Chief Operating Officer	297,784	-	1,696	38,523	7,036	-	345,039
Bronwen Shelley	General Counsel	157,051	-	279	26,467	8,586	-	192,383
Rizwan Akhund	Acting General Counsel	167,437	-	1,174	24,765	3,571	-	196,944
Louise Parrott	General Counsel	6,391	-	74	2,416	-	-	8,881
Matthew Cahill	Regulator member	62,840	-	-	7,550		-	70,390
Joanna Sheppard	Regulator member	62,840	-	-	7,550		-	70,390
Anna Hancock	Regulator member	62,840	-	-	7,550		-	70,390
Oliver Costello	Regulator member	62,840	-	-	7,550		-	70,390
Total		**2,171,822**	**-**	**8,300**	**312,696**	**54,948**	**-**	**2,547,766**

1. Regulator members are not entitled to long service leave benefits under the relevant Remuneration Tribunal Determination.

Note: Some of the figures are impacted by the duration of service as key management personnel. Table 21 provides details of the length of service for officers that were classified as key management personnel.

Table 24: Remuneration paid to senior executives, 2025–26

Remuneration band	Number of senior executives	Short-term benefits			Post-employment benefits	Other long-term benefits	Average termination benefits ($)	Average total remuneration[1,2] ($)
		Average base salary ($)	Average bonuses ($)	Average other benefits and allowances ($)	Average superannuation contributions ($)	Average long service leave ($)		
$0 – $220,000	3	98,502	-	-	13,089	4,425	-	116,016
$220,001 - $245,000	1	198,722	-	-	29,854	8,445	-	237,021
$271,001 - $295,000	2	232,870	-	-	33,615	14,403	-	280,888
$295,001 - $320,000	1	244,665	-	-	43,680	10,663	-	299,008
$320,001- $345,000	4	277,737	-	-	41,971	9,713	-	329,421
Total	**11**							

1. This table is prepared on an accrual basis. The table reports the average total remuneration of senior executives who received remuneration during the reporting period.

2. Those senior executives classified as key management personnel as per Table 21, have not been included in this table disclosure. Remuneration for senior executives that was incurred whilst acting in a key management personnel position is also not included in this table. The remuneration band $0 – $220,000 includes officers who undertook acting arrangements for periods exceeding three months during the reporting period.

Remuneration paid to other highly paid staff, 2025–26

Staff are classified as 'other highly paid staff' if their average total remuneration exceeds $265,000. There were no staff meeting the definition of other highly paid staff in 2025–26.

Appendix D: Audit Committee membership

Table 25: Audit Committee membership, 2025–26

Members	Number of meetings	Total annual remuneration ($)
Mr Geoff Knuckey – Audit Committee Chair Mr Knuckey has extensive experience as an audit committee member and chair and is currently serving on audit committees for numerous government entities. He also has extensive experience as a director and serves on boards and audit committees of multiple private sector entities. Mr Knuckey has been a full-time company director and audit committee member since 2009. This follows a 32-year career with Ernst & Young, specialising in audit and assurance services in the public and private sectors across a range of industries.	6 eligible 6 attended	$13,530
Ms Josephine Schumann – External member Ms Schumann has extensive experience in the public sector across a broad range of areas including risk management, governance and assurance, finance, human resources, information technology, media and communications. Ms Schumann currently sits on other Commonwealth audit committees.	6 eligible 5 attended	$11,000
Ms Anne T Brown – External member Ms Brown is an experienced Non-Executive Director and audit committee member and chair with experience in governance and assurance, risk management, regulatory compliance, finance, IT security and project management. Ms Brown has experience that spans the private and public sectors, including financial markets, renewable energy and critical infrastructure.	6 eligible 6 attended	$18,027

Appendix E: Climate action reporting

Ecologically sustainable development

Section 516A of the EPBC Act requires the CER to report annually on our contribution to the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

In 2025–26, the agency continued to support ecologically sustainable development through the effective administration of schemes that contribute to Australia's emissions reduction, renewable energy and nature repair objectives. Our work under schemes including the RET, ACCU Scheme, Safeguard Mechanism and Nature Repair Market helped incentivise investment in low-emissions technologies, carbon abatement and biodiversity outcomes. In implementing these schemes, we apply regulatory settings that support environmental integrity, market confidence and long-term sustainability, while working with government, industry and community stakeholders to ensure our activities contributed to national climate and environmental goals.

Our activities have a generally positive environmental impact through our role in administering schemes that support emissions reduction, renewable energy generation and biodiversity outcomes. As a primarily office-based and digitally enabled agency, our direct environmental impacts are associated with energy consumption, business travel, procurement, technology and waste. We manage and mitigate these impacts through digital service delivery, flexible and hybrid work practices, efficient resource use, sustainable procurement and travel practices, and compliance with whole-of-government sustainability requirements.

Our Climate Disclosure Report and Emissions Reduction Plan annual update provide a more detailed assessment of our operational emissions, climate-related risks and actions to reduce our environmental footprint over time. We will continue to use these frameworks to identify further opportunities to reduce emissions, minimise resource consumption and embed environmentally sustainable practices across our operations while maintaining effective regulatory delivery.

Emissions reduction plan update

As part of the reporting requirements under section 516A of the EPBC Act, and in line with the Australian Government's Net Zero in Government Operations Strategy, we are required to report on the emissions from our operations to achieve the APS Net Zero 2030 Target.

Information on our progress against the APS Net Zero 2030 Target, including our 2025–26 greenhouse gas emissions data and a summary of emissions reduction activities undertaken during 2025–26, is available in our Emissions Reduction Plan annual update published on our website. See cer.gov.au/emissions-reduction-plan.

Climate Disclosure Report

Commonwealth Climate Disclosure (CCD) is the Australian Government's policy for Commonwealth entities to publicly disclose their exposure to climate-related risks and opportunities, and the actions taken to manage them.

Our 2025–26 Climate Disclosure Report has been prepared in accordance with the Year 2 CCD reporting provisions and is available on our website at cer.gov.au/climate-disclosure-report and transparency.gov.au.

Appendix F: Legal services expenditure

This is a statement of the CER's expenditure on legal services, published in compliance with paragraph 109.1(d) of the *Legal Services Directions 2025*.

Table 26: Legal services expenditure summary, 2025–26

Description	Amount (exclusive of GST)
Total (external and internal) expenditure	2,274,305
Total internal legal services expenditure	1,966,583
Total external legal services expenditure	307,722
Summary external legal services	
Number of counsel briefed	2
Total value of brief to counsel (A)	51,183
Total value of disbursements (excluding counsel) (B)	7,483
Total value of professional fees paid (C)	249,056
Total external legal services expenditure (A + B + C)	307,772

Appendix G: Advertising

During 2025–26, the CER conducted a graduate recruitment advertising campaign. The agency did not undertake any advertising campaigns with expenditure in excess of $250,000.

Under section 311A of the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*, the CER is required to provide details of payments over $17,300 (GST inclusive) to advertising agencies, market research organisations, polling organisations, direct mail organisations and media advertising agencies (see Table 27).

Table 27: Advertising payments of more than $17,300, 2025–26

Organisation	Description of activity	Amount (GST inclusive)
Universal McCann	Graduate Recruitment Advertising	$25,059

Appendix H: Corrections to previous annual reports

Correction to Clean Energy Regulator 2024–25 Annual Report

The Clean Energy Regulator 2024–25 Annual Report included an error in the presentation of Total Comprehensive Income and Net Cash Operating Surplus. The comparative figures have been restated in the 2025–26 financial statements to correct this error. The correction affects the presentation of these measures only and has no impact on the entity's previously reported net assets, cash flows or appropriations.

Reference material

List of requirements

The list of annual report requirements shown in Table 28 is prepared in accordance with the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014 (PGPA Rule).

Table 28: List of annual report requirements, 2025–26

PGPA Rule reference	Page	Description	Requirement
17AD(g)	**Letter of transmittal**		
17AI	3	A copy of the letter of transmittal signed and dated by accountable authority on date final text approved, with statement that the report has been prepared in accordance with section 46 of the Act and any enabling legislation that specifies additional requirements in relation to the annual report.	Mandatory
17AD(h)	**Aids to access**		
17AJ(a)	1	Table of contents.	Mandatory
17AJ(b)	138	Alphabetical index.	Mandatory
17AJ(c)	134	Glossary of abbreviations and acronyms.	Mandatory
17AJ(d)	129	List of requirements.	Mandatory
17AJ(e)	2	Details of contact officer.	Mandatory
17AJ(f)	2	Entity's website address.	Mandatory
17AJ(g)	2	Electronic address of report.	Mandatory
17AD(a)	**Review by accountable authority**		
17AD(a)	4	A review by the accountable authority of the entity.	Mandatory
17AD(b)	**Overview of the entity**		
17AE(1)(a)(i)	8	A description of the role and functions of the entity.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(a)(ii)	11	A description of the organisational structure of the entity.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(a)(iii)	8	A description of the outcomes and programmes administered by the entity.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(a)(iv)	8	A description of the purposes of the entity as included in corporate plan.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(aa)(i)	13	Name of the accountable authority or each member of the accountable authority.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(aa)(ii)	13	Position title of the accountable authority or each member of the accountable authority.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(aa)(iii)	13	Period as the accountable authority or member of the accountable authority within the reporting period.	Mandatory
17AE(1)(b)	n/a	An outline of the structure of the portfolio of the entity.	If applicable, mandatory
17AE(2)	n/a	Where the outcomes and programs administered by the entity differ from any Portfolio Budget Statement, Portfolio Additional Estimates Statement or other portfolio estimates statement that was prepared for the entity for the period, include details of variation and reasons for change.	If applicable, mandatory
17AD(c)	**Report on the Performance of the entity**		
	Annual Performance Statements		
17AD(c)(i); 16F	26	Annual performance statement in accordance with paragraph 39(1)(b) of the Act and section 16F of the Rule.	Mandatory
17AD(c)(ii)	Report on financial performance		
17AF(1)(a)	69	A discussion and analysis of the entity's financial performance.	Mandatory

PGPA Rule reference	Page	Description	Requirement
17AF(1)(b)	116	A table summarising the total resources and total payments of the entity.	Mandatory
17AF(2)	n/a	If there may be significant changes in the financial results during or after the previous or current reporting period, information on those changes, including: the cause of any operating loss of the entity; how the entity has responded to the loss and the actions that have been taken in relation to the loss; and any matter or circumstances that it can reasonably be anticipated will have a significant impact on the entity's future operation or financial results.	If applicable, mandatory.
17AD(d)	**Management and accountability**		
	Corporate governance		
17AG(2)(a)	15	Information on compliance with section 10 (fraud systems).	Mandatory
17AG(2)(b)(i)	3	A certification by accountable authority that fraud risk assessments and fraud control plans have been prepared.	Mandatory
17AG(2)(b)(ii)	3	A certification by accountable authority that appropriate mechanisms for preventing, detecting incidents of, investigating or otherwise dealing with, and recording or reporting fraud that meet the specific needs of the entity are in place.	Mandatory
17AG(2)(b)(iii)	3	A certification by accountable authority that all reasonable measures have been taken to deal appropriately with fraud relating to the entity.	Mandatory
17AG(2)(c)	13	An outline of structures and processes in place for the entity to implement principles and objectives of corporate governance.	Mandatory
17AG(2)(d)–(e)	3	A statement of significant issues reported to Minister under paragraph 19(1)(e) of the Act that relates to non-compliance with Finance law and action taken to remedy non-compliance.	If applicable, mandatory
	Audit Committee		
17AG(2A)(a)	15	A direct electronic address of the charter determining the functions of the entity's audit committee.	Mandatory
17AG(2A)(b)	124	The name of each member of the entity's audit committee.	Mandatory
17AG(2A)(c)	124	The qualifications, knowledge, skills or experience of each member of the entity's audit committee.	Mandatory
17AG(2A)(d)	124	Information about the attendance of each member of the entity's audit committee at committee meetings.	Mandatory
17AG(2A)(e)	124	The remuneration of each member of the entity's audit committee.	Mandatory
	External scrutiny		
17AG(3)	17	Information on the most significant developments in external scrutiny and the entity's response to the scrutiny.	Mandatory
17AG(3)(a)	17	Information on judicial decisions and decisions of administrative tribunals and by the Australian Information Commissioner that may have a significant effect on the operations of the entity.	If applicable, mandatory
17AG(3)(b)	17	Information on any reports on operations of the entity by the Auditor-General (other than report under section 43 of the Act), a Parliamentary Committee, or the Commonwealth Ombudsman.	If applicable, mandatory
17AG(3)(c)	17	Information on any capability reviews on the entity that were released during the period.	If applicable, mandatory
	Management of human resources		
17AG(4)(a)	20	An assessment of the entity's effectiveness in managing and developing employees to achieve entity objectives.	Mandatory

PGPA Rule reference	Page	Description	Requirement
17AG(4)(aa)	118 to 120	Statistics on the entity's employees on an ongoing and non-ongoing basis, including the following: a) statistics on full-time employees; b) statistics on part-time employees; c) statistics on gender; d) statistics on staff location.	Mandatory
17AG(4)(b)	118 to 120	Statistics on the entity's APS employees on an ongoing and non-ongoing basis, including the following: a) statistics on staffing classification level; b) statistics on full-time employees; c) statistics on part-time employees; d) statistics on gender; e) statistics on staff location; f) statistics on employees who identify as Indigenous.	Mandatory
17AG(4)(c)	21	Information on any enterprise agreements, individual flexibility arrangements, Australian workplace agreements, common law contracts and determinations under subsection 24(1) of the PS Act.	Mandatory
17AG(4)(c)(i)	21	Information on the number of SES and non-SES employees covered by agreements etc identified in paragraph 17AG(4)(c).	Mandatory
17AG(4)(c)(ii)	22	The salary ranges available for APS employees by classification level.	Mandatory
17AG(4)(c)(iii)	21	A description of non-salary benefits provided to employees.	Mandatory
17AG(4)(d)(i)	n/a	Information on the number of employees at each classification level who received performance pay.	If applicable, mandatory
17AG(4)(d)(ii)	n/a	Information on aggregate amounts of performance pay at each classification level.	If applicable, mandatory
17AG(4)(d)(iii)	n/a	Information on the average amount of performance payment, and range of such payments, at each classification level.	If applicable, mandatory
17AG(4)(d)(iv)	n/a	Information on aggregate amount of performance payments.	If applicable, mandatory
	Assets management		
17AG(5)	25	An assessment of effectiveness of assets management where asset management is a significant part of the entity's activities.	If applicable, mandatory
	Purchasing		
17AG(6)	22	An assessment of entity performance against the *Commonwealth Procurement Rules*.	Mandatory
	Reportable consultancy contracts		
17AG(7)(a)	23	A summary statement detailing the number of new reportable consultancy contracts entered into during the period; the total actual expenditure on all such contracts (inclusive of GST); the number of ongoing reportable consultancy contracts that were entered into during a previous reporting period; and the total actual expenditure in the reporting period on those ongoing contracts (inclusive of GST).	Mandatory
17AG(7)(b)	23	A statement that "During [reporting period], [specified number] new reportable consultancy contracts were entered into involving total actual expenditure of $[specified million]. In addition, [specified number] ongoing reportable consultancy contracts were active during the period, involving total actual expenditure of $[specified million]".	Mandatory
17AG(7)(c)	23	A summary of the policies and procedures for selecting and engaging consultants and the main categories of purposes for which consultants were selected and engaged.	Mandatory

PGPA Rule reference	Page	Description	Requirement
17AG(7)(d)	23	A statement that "Annual reports contain information about actual expenditure on reportable consultancy contracts. Information on the value of reportable consultancy contracts is available on the AusTender website."	Mandatory
	Reportable non-consultancy contracts		
17AG(7A)(a)	24	A summary statement detailing the number of new reportable non-consultancy contracts entered into during the period; the total actual expenditure on such contracts (inclusive of GST); the number of ongoing reportable non-consultancy contracts that were entered into during a previous reporting period; and the total actual expenditure in the reporting period on those ongoing contracts (inclusive of GST).	Mandatory
17AG(7A)(b)	24	A statement that "Annual reports contain information about actual expenditure on reportable non-consultancy contracts. Information on the value of reportable non-consultancy contracts is available on the AusTender website."	Mandatory
17AD(daa)	Additional information about organisations receiving amounts under reportable consultancy contracts or reportable non-consultancy contracts		
17AGA	23	Additional information, in accordance with section 17AGA, about organisations receiving amounts under reportable consultancy contracts or reportable non-consultancy contracts.	Mandatory
	Australian National Audit Office access clauses		
17AG(8)	25	If an entity entered into a contract with a value of more than $100,000 (inclusive of GST) and the contract did not provide the Auditor-General with access to the contractor's premises, the report must include the name of the contractor, purpose and value of the contract, and the reason why a clause allowing access was not included in the contract.	If applicable, mandatory
	Exempt contracts		
17AG(9)	25	If an entity entered into a contract or there is a standing offer with a value greater than $10,000 (inclusive of GST) which has been exempted from being published in AusTender because it would disclose exempt matters under the FOI Act, the annual report must include a statement that the contract or standing offer has been exempted, and the value of the contract or standing offer, to the extent that doing so does not disclose the exempt matters.	If applicable, mandatory
	Small business		
17AG(10)(a)	24	A statement that "[Name of entity] supports small business participation in the Commonwealth Government procurement market. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) and Small Enterprise participation statistics are available on the Department of Finance's website."	Mandatory
17AG(10)(b)	24	An outline of the ways in which the procurement practices of the entity support small and medium enterprises.	Mandatory
17AG(10)(c)	24	If the entity is considered by the Department administered by the Finance Minister as material in nature—a statement that "[Name of entity] recognises the importance of ensuring that small businesses are paid on time. Further information on payment times can be found at [entity web address]."	If applicable, mandatory
	Financial statements		
17AD(e)	71	Inclusion of the annual financial statements in accordance with subsection 43(4) of the Act.	Mandatory
	Executive remuneration		
17AD(da)	121	Information about executive remuneration in accordance with Subdivision C of Division 3A of Part 2-3 of the Rule.	Mandatory

PGPA Rule reference	Page	Description	Requirement
17AD(f)	**Other mandatory information**		
17AH(1)(a)(i)	127	If the entity conducted advertising campaigns, a statement that "During [reporting period], the [name of entity] conducted the following advertising campaigns: [name of advertising campaigns undertaken]. Further information on those advertising campaigns is available at [address of entity's website] and in the reports on Australian Government advertising prepared by the Department of Finance. Those reports are available on the Department of Finance's website."	If applicable, mandatory
17AH(1)(a)(ii)	n/a	If the entity did not conduct advertising campaigns, a statement to that effect.	If applicable, mandatory
17AH(1)(b)	n/a	A statement that "Information on grants awarded by [name of entity] during [reporting period] is available at [address of entity's website]."	If applicable, mandatory
17AH(1)(c)	21	Outline of mechanisms of disability reporting, including reference to website for further information.	Mandatory
17AH(1)(d)	17	Website reference to where the entity's Information Publication Scheme statement pursuant to Part II of FOI Act can be found.	Mandatory
17AH(1)(e)	128	Correction of material errors in previous annual report	If applicable, mandatory
17AH(2)		Information required by other legislation.	Mandatory
	21	*Work Health and Safety Act 2011*	
	36	*Nature Repair Act 2023*	
	125	*Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*	
	125	Commonwealth Climate Disclosure	
	125	APS Net Zero 2030	
	127	*Commonwealth Electoral Act 1918*	

Abbreviations and acronyms

Table 29: Shortened terms used in this report

Term	Definition
AASB	Australian Accounting Standards Board
ACCU	Australian carbon credit unit
ACCU Scheme	Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme
AI	artificial intelligence
ANAO	Australian National Audit Office
ANREU	Australian National Registry of Emissions Units
API	application programming interface
APS	Australian Public Service
ASSA	Audit Standard on Sustainability Assurance
CCD	Commonwealth Climate Disclosure
CENTR	Consumer Energy Resources National Technical Regulator
CER	Clean Energy Regulator
CFI Act	*Carbon Credits (Carbon Farming Initiative) Act 2011*
CHBP	Cheaper Home Batteries Program
CO_2-e	carbon dioxide equivalent
CPR	Commonwealth Procurement Rules
CRM	Customer Relationship Management
CSV	comma-separated values
DCCEEW	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water
EAS	Energy Acquisition Statements
EERS	Emissions and Energy Reporting System
EGR	Electricity Generation Returns
EID	Emissions-intensity determination
EITE	Emissions-intensive trade-exposed
EL	executive level
EV	electric vehicle
FID	final investment decision
FOI Act	*Freedom of Information Act 1982*
FPP	fit and proper person
GO	Guarantee of Origin
GST	goods and services tax
GW	gigawatt
GWh	gigawatt hour
HIR	Human Induced Regeneration
IAIC	Industry Advisory Implementation Committee
IAWP	Internal Audit Work Program
ICT	information and communications technology
IPS	Information Publication Scheme
KPI	key performance indicator
kW	kilowatt
LGC	Large-scale generation certificate
LRET	Large-scale Renewable Energy Target

Term	Definition
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
Mt CO_2-e	million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt hour
MYEFO	Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook
NAA	National Archives of Australia
NABERS	National Australian Built Environment Rating System
NGER Act	*National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Act 2007*
NGER Scheme	National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Scheme
OPA	Official Public Account
PAES	Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements
PGO	Product Guarantee of Origin
PGPA Act	*Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013*
PGPA Rule	Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Rule 2014
PoA	Positions of Accountability
PS Act	*Public Service Act 1999*
PSAES	Portfolio Supplementary Additional Estimates Statements
PV	photovoltaic
QCMR	Quarterly Carbon Market Report
RAT	Risk Assessment Tool
REC	Renewable energy certificate
REC Registry	Renewable Energy Certificate Registry
REE Act	*Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000*
REE Regulations	Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001
REGO	Renewable Electricity Guarantee of Origin
RET	Renewable Energy Target
ROU	Right of Use
RPP	Regulator Performance Principles
SaaS	Software-as-a-Service
SES	Senior Executive Service
SMC	Safeguard Mechanism Credit
SME	small and medium enterprise
SOE	Statement of Expectations
SOI	Statement of Intent
SRES	Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme
STC	Small-scale technology certificate
t CO_2-e	tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent
WHS	Work Health and Safety
WHS Act	*Work Health and Safety Act 2011*

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