

Eligibility criteria	How ECA will assess eligibility
<p>1. Build knowledge and/or sectoral capacity supporting policy development and consumer education in the National Energy Market</p>	<p><u>ALL APPLICATIONS MUST MEET THIS CRITERION TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project proposal demonstrates some of following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ how proposed change to policy, regulation or practices will benefit consumers ○ how project will build the capacity of consumers and/or consumer advocates ○ how the project may empower consumers ○ how project will influence decision makers ○ (RES) how the project will inform/support advocacy • Will the project produce or contribute to the robust evidence to support advocacy? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ alignment with ECA value to promote strong and evidence-based advocacy • Benefits to consumers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Size of consumer class ○ Potential to improve situation of those consumers
<p>Selection Criteria</p>	<p>How ECA will assess projects against the selection criteria (ADV refers to advocacy and RES to research projects)</p>
<p>1. Align with ECA strategic priorities and functions</p> <p>2. For other priorities, including jurisdiction priorities, outline why A) the work is a priority and B) its material impact on consumers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity of objectives of planned project • Match with ECA strategic priority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ alignment with ECA value to promote strong and evidence-based advocacy • If not, rationale made by applicant that the work is a priority - has the applicant adequately explained the extent of the problem and/or consumer detriment? Has the applicant provided information on the material impact of the project on the targeted consumers?
<p>3. Build capacity for future advocacy</p> <p>a. Demonstrating value to the organisation</p> <p>b. Demonstrating value to the sector</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of organisation to deliver project outcome(s) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Organisation's expertise (or potential to acquire) ○ Organisation network – capacity to build new and/or leverage existing partnerships/coalitions with advocates/decision-makers • Project methodology and proposed outputs will deliver/contribute to achievement of outcomes • Mechanisms to share project findings/learnings with ECA and other advocates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ alignment with ECA value to promote coordinated and collegiate advocacy

<p>4. Be relevant to a national energy market</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (ADV) Correct identification of potential influencers and decision-makers, as well as the forums/opportunities to advocate for change <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ alignment with ECA value to promote strong and evidence-based advocacy • (RES) Correct identification of potential influencers and decision-makers, as well as the forums/opportunities to disseminate project findings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Or partnerships with advocates to facilitate dissemination of project findings
<p>5. Offer value for money: the benefits should outweigh the costs, and costs should be prudent and minimised</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget demonstrates consideration of most effective and efficient way to achieve outcome • Methodology and budget appropriately aligned
<p>6. Offer partnership opportunities where possible with ECA and/or other organisations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which applicant plans to build new and/or leverage existing partnerships/coalitions with advocates/decision-makers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ alignment with ECA value to promote coordinated and collegiate advocacy
<p>7. Provide a co-contribution, and a rationale for the provision of ECA funding (ECA will consider the organisation's or its members' ability to meet the project costs)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the project outcome compared to the project cost • Assessment of organisation's resources able to be committed to the project
<p>8. Provide a viable project plan, outlining the intended outcomes and success indicators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Soundness of organisation/project governance, management and organisational structures • Calibre and experience of key staff members • Quality of consultants • Applicant's track record