



**A** Suite 2, Level 20, 570 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
PO Box A989  
Sydney South NSW 1235  
**T** 02 9220 5500  
**W** [energyconsumersaustralia.com.au](http://energyconsumersaustralia.com.au)  
**T** @energyvoiceau  
**in** /energyconsumersaustralia  
**f** /energyconsumersaustralia

ABN 96 603 931 326

## Announcement

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In this financial year, our Grants Program has funded 13 projects that work to advance our knowledge of consumer interests and promote consumer advocacy within Australia's energy system. We have been thinking about some of the big questions in the energy system from a consumer perspective and how our grants program might play a part in answering them.

Two areas where we see potential for organisations to help drive better results for all households and small businesses are the transition away from gas, and an inclusive energy system transition.

1. The gas transition: the transition to net zero by 2050 means phasing out the use of fossil fuels for heating, hot water and cooking in Australian homes. While a great deal of attention is paid to the impact of this on the gas and electricity network businesses, more work needs to be done to understand the opportunities and barriers for consumers to shift to all electric home. Organisations could apply for funding to build our knowledge about this change for all sorts of households and small businesses, to inform how governments could support people make informed decisions and/or meet the costs of change, to ensure that this transition is just and fair.
2. An inclusive energy system transition: the implications of the energy system transition for households and small businesses are yet to be understood, or to be front of mind when decisions are being made. There is a diversity of experiences and perspectives amongst households and small businesses that need to be explored and heard. We are particularly interested in the perspectives of people and communities with lived experience of disabilities, culturally and linguistically diverse communities, First Nations peoples and regional communities. Organisations could apply for funding to explore the opportunities and barriers to inclusion faced by their community, in the transition of the energy system.

Are you a not-for-profit or research organisation with a public purpose that would be interested in exploring these critical questions, to understand the implications of change, and contribute to the development of solutions that deliver real benefits to consumers? If so, we'd love to hear from you.

Our Grants Program supports strong, evidence-based projects that address a clearly defined, topical issue for households or small business, and can show how they intend to create impact or influence. Research activities funded by the Grants Program contribute to building knowledge, engaging, and influencing policy development, industry practice and the community.

Find out more about our grants program [here](#) or get in touch with our team for a chat at [grants@energyconsumersaustralia.com.au](mailto:grants@energyconsumersaustralia.com.au).