

Notice to Market 2025-26 Industry Webinar

7 August 2025



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We acknowledge and respect Victorian Traditional Owners as the original custodians of Victoria's land and waters, their unique ability to care for Country and deep spiritual connection to it.

We honour Elders past and present whose knowledge and wisdom has ensured the continuation of culture and traditional practices.

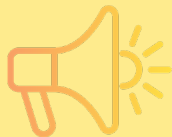
DEECA is committed to genuinely partnering with Victorian Traditional Owners and Victoria's Aboriginal community to progress their aspirations.



Housekeeping



Q&A time at the end of the presentations.



This session will be recorded and shared for reference



Microphones and Cameras will be disabled until the Q&A session.

At that time, you will be able to come off mute and ask your question.



The chat function is available to ask questions at any time.

During Q&A, please raise your 'hand' and we will come to you ask a question.



The presentation materials will be distributed to you via email after the session.

Contents

Agenda

Notice to Market Overview

Solar Homes Program - Rebates Update

Hot Water Local Content Rebate

Notice to Market - New Mandatory Requirements

Notice to Market – New Recommendations

Q&A

Introduction

Notice to Market (NtM) Overview

- The Notice to Market:
 - Sets out the mandatory requirements and recommendations for retailers, installers and products to participate in the Solar Homes Program.
 - Commits everyone involved in the delivery of the Solar Homes Program to improving safety and quality standards and protecting workers and customers.
- Updated every year with new requirements commencing on 1 July (unless otherwise stipulated)

Current Version

- The 2025-26 Notice to Market was published on 26 June 2025.
 - 2 new **mandatory** requirements (section 1.2.1)
 - 8 new recommendations (1.2.3)
 - 3 existing mandatory requirements clarified (1.2.2)
- Solar Victoria undertook external consultation with industry from January to March 2025.



Who we spoke to...

| Category | Stakeholder | | Consultation (Dec '24 – Mar '25) |
|------------------------|--|--|--|
| All | Open invitations | | Solar PV webinar Hot water webinar |
| Consumer Groups | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brotherhood of St Laurence Choice Consumer Action Law Centre (CALC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Energy Consumers Australia (ECA) Energy & Water Ombudsman Victoria (EWOV) | Dedicated forum |
| Installers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar PV Installers Battery Installers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot Water Installers | Dedicated meetings (selected) Open invitation to provide feedback |
| Internal Stakeholders | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industry & Consumer Reference Group (ICRG) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victorian Energy Upgrades | Dedicated meetings |
| Listing Bodies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Energy Council (CEC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar Accreditation Australia (SAA) | Dedicated meetings |
| OEMs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar PV OEMs Battery OEMs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot Water OEMs | Dedicated meetings (selected) Open invitation to provide feedback |
| Peak Bodies | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Australian & New Zealand Water Heating Association (ANZWHA) Australian Refrigeration Council (ARC) Energy Efficiency Council (EEC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Master Plumbers Association (MPA) National Electrical and Communications Association (NECA) Smart Energy Council | Dedicated meetings |
| Regulators | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean Energy Regulator (CER) Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) Essential Services Commission (ESC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Victorian Building Authority (VBA) WorkSafe Victoria (WSV) | Dedicated meetings |
| Retailers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Solar PV Retailers Battery Retailers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hot Water Retailers | Dedicated meetings (selected) Open invitation to provide feedback |
| Training Organisations | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre (PICAC) | | Dedicated meeting |

Solar Victoria – Current offers



Visit
solar.vic.gov.au

Solar Victoria's \$1.3 billion Solar Homes Program is supporting Victorians to access affordable, clean and reliable energy.



Solar panel rebates

\$1,400 to install solar PV for eligible homeowners, including rental providers and those building homes.

Interest-free loans are also available.



Hot water rebate

\$1,000 rebate to install solar hot water or an energy-efficient heat pump hot water system.



Hot water local content rebate

\$1,400 rebate to install an eligible locally made hot water system.

Supporting local jobs.



Solar for apartments

\$2,800 per apartment to install solar PV, up to \$140,000 for buildings of up to 50 apartments.



Residential Electrification Grants

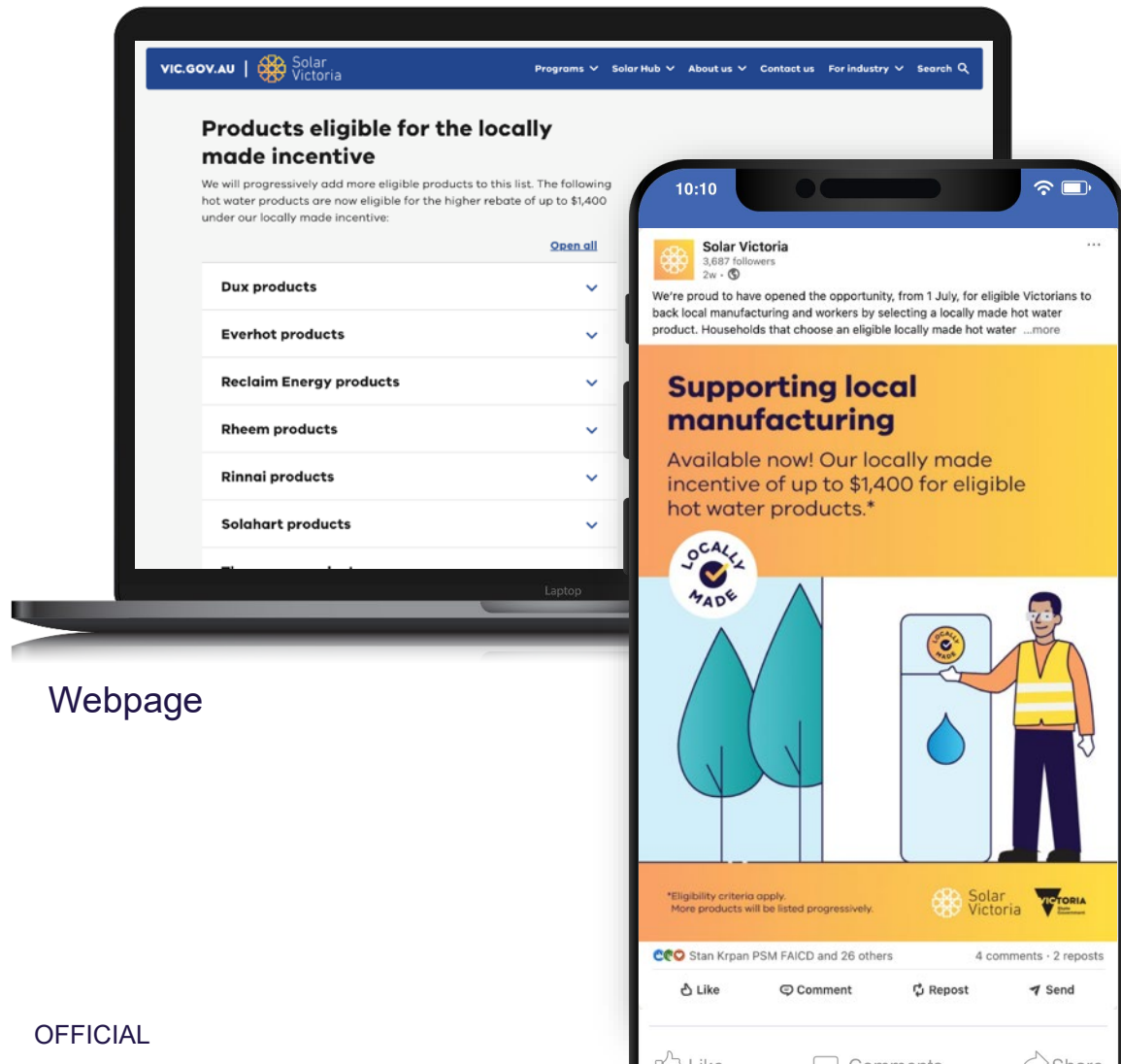
Supporting innovative projects through six approved providers to boost electrification and 7-star efficiency standards



Solar for community housing

Solar panel rebates of up to \$1,400 are available for community housing organisations.

Hot water rebate – Locally made incentive



Webpage

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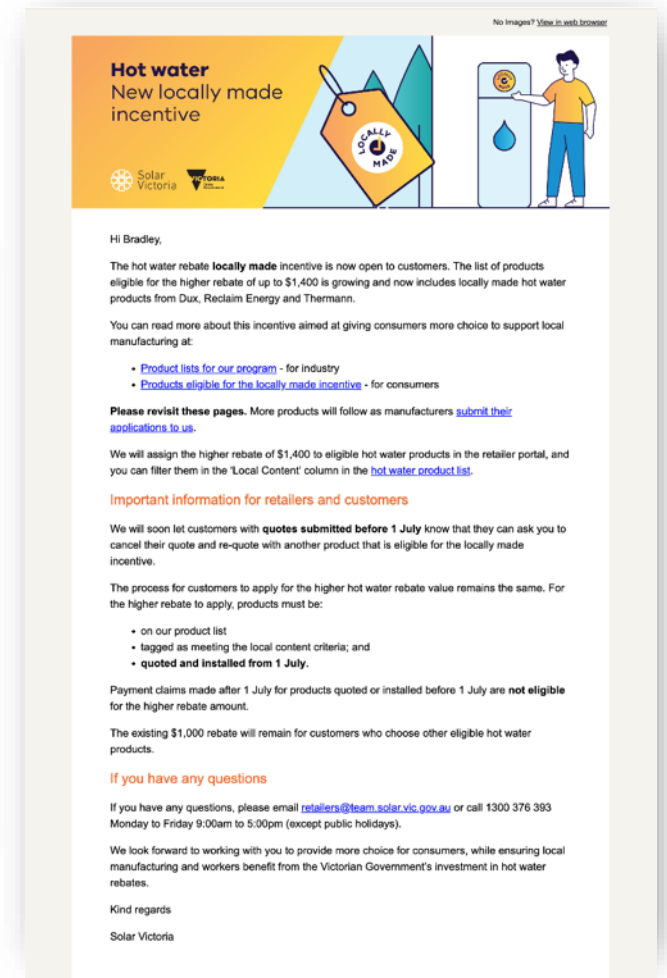


Social posts



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Emails to retailers and customers



Notice to Market 2025-26

New mandatory requirements



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Expanded manufacturer product warranties to include labour

| Rationale | Section | Stream | Audience | Effective Date |
|---|---|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Warranties are offered with a wide variation in responsibility for cost of labour across product streams, as well as within product streams. Clarify expectations around who is responsible for cost of labour when warranty claim triggered. | 3.1.1 3.2.1 3.2.3 4.1.1 4.2.1 5.1.1 5.2.1 | Solar PV Hot Water | Retailers OEMs | 1 September 2025 |

Notes

- Retailers already provide a minimum 5-year whole-of-system warranty (including labour).
- This new requirement means that manufacturers must also provide a minimum 5-year product warranty – including labour – for all eligible products (e.g. inverters, solar panels, hot water systems) under the Solar Homes Program.
- Solar Victoria has contacted manufacturers advising them of new requirements; and non-compliance may result in non-compliant products being removed from the Solar Homes program.
- Solar batteries excluded due to closure of loans program.

New plumbers must undertake heat pump design and install training

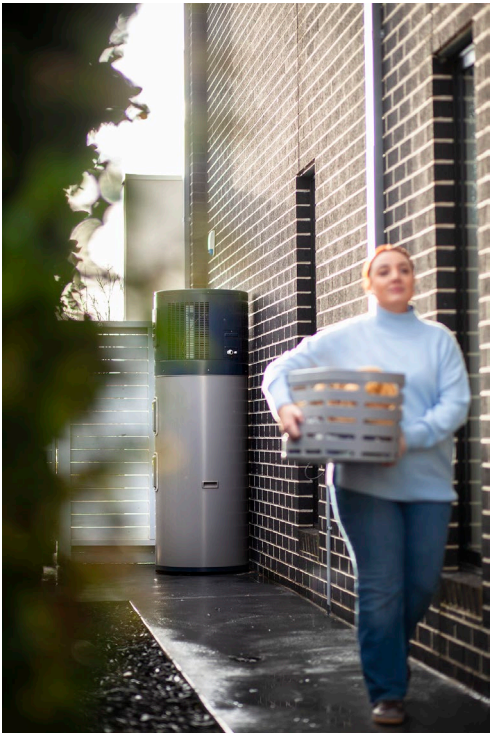
| Rationale | Section | Stream | Audience | Effective Date |
|--|---------|-----------|----------------------|------------------|
| To ensure installers are suitably trained in the correct design, selection, siting, installation and commissioning of heat pump hot water systems. | 5.1.3 | Hot Water | Hot Water Installers | 1 September 2025 |

Notes

- New plumbers entering the program must complete appropriate heat pump design and installation training.
- New hot water installers will be required to demonstrate training compliance at onboarding stage.
- A list of compliant training options is now available on Solar Victoria’s website, see QR code.
- Solar Victoria will additionally provide heat pump design and installation training late 2025.



For OEM training offerings please visit this page



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New recommendations



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Recommendations

Overview

- There are 8 new recommendations in the current Notice to Market
- Recommended requirements represent industry best practice and may become mandatory in the future.
- A summary of the new recommendations can be found in section 1.2.3.
- These include recommendations for both hot water and solar rebate streams. These also apply to retailers, installers, and the design and installation of systems.

Additional notes

- In this session we will focus on 3 new recommendations:
 - Hot water retailers providing a financial performance estimate to the customer
 - Completion of manufacturer specific training to apply to solar PV and hot water products and systems
 - Solar PV retailers offering ongoing solar PV system servicing to customers.



Hot water retailers to provide a financial performance estimate to the customer

| Rationale | Section | Stream | Audience | Effective Date |
|---|---------|-----------|---------------------|----------------|
| Customers may purchase solar hot water systems and hot water heat pumps to reduce their energy bills. Greater transparency of the financial benefits and costs of installing hot water systems empowers customers to make informed decisions. | 5.1.2 | Hot Water | Hot Water Retailers | 1 July 2025 |

Notes

- Financial performance estimates will help customers make an informed choice when purchasing hot water systems.
- Guidance on how to provide an estimate can be found in the NETCC’s “financial disclosure requirements”.
- Solar Victoria will also develop guidance material to support industry satisfy this recommendation.



Completion of manufacturer specific training to apply to solar PV and hot water products and systems

| Rationale | Section | Stream | Audience | Effective Date |
|--|----------------|------------------------|--|----------------|
| Installation requirements are specific to individual manufacturers, and warranties may require the installer to be endorsed by the manufacturer. | 3.1.4 5.1.4 | Hot Water, Solar PV | Hot Water and Solar PV Retailers | 1 July 2025 |

Notes

- Solar PV and hot water installers should complete any training offered by the manufacturer on the specific system that is being installed.
- Specific training increases the competence of installers across the sector and provides greater assurance for the safety of installations.

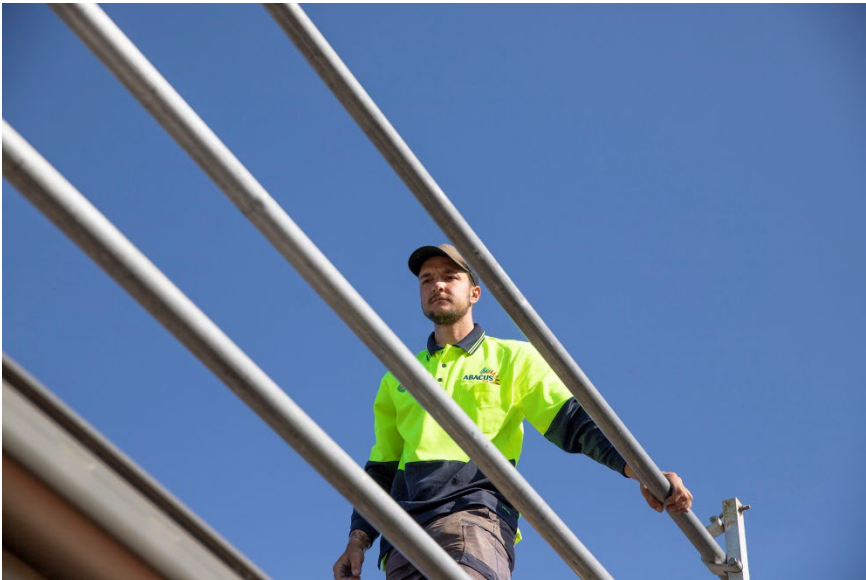


Solar PV retailers to offer ongoing solar PV system servicing to customers

| Rationale | Section | Stream | Audience | Effective Date |
|--|---------|----------|--------------------|----------------|
| Regular servicing of the solar PV system helps to maximise the amount of electricity it generates, extend the lifespan of the panels and system components, and maintain warranties. | 3.1.2 | Solar PV | Solar PV Retailers | 1 July 2025 |

Notes

- Solar PV retailers should advise the customer of the benefits of properly maintaining and servicing their solar PV system.
- If requested by the customer, retailers should provide information on their solar PV system servicing offering.
- Guidance on maintenance can be found on the Energy Safe Victoria website.



Q&A session

Please share your questions
via the chat function



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Thank you for participating

For further questions please contact:

T: 1300 376 393

E: industrydevelopment@team.solar.vic.gov.au



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