

EMEW Clean Technologies: Australian Grant Opportunities

Friday Executive Summary | Updated October 28, 2025

⚠ CRITICAL CONTEXT: STRATEGIC WINDOW NOW OPEN

Political & Trade Landscape

Federal Election Result (May 3, 2025):

- Labor landslide victory - PM Anthony Albanese re-elected
- 94 seats (highest single-party total in Australian history)
- **Impact:** Strong political stability = predictable grant programs through 2028

US-Australia Critical Minerals Agreement (October 20, 2025):

- **\$8.5 billion strategic partnership** signed by Trump & Albanese
- Focus: Battery metals (Li, Co, Ni), rare earths, recycling technology
- \$3 billion government investment in next 6 months
- US Ex-Im Bank: \$2.2 billion financing available
- **Explicit priority:** Minerals recycling technology & scrap management
- **Strategic imperative:** Reduce China dependence (China = 80% rare earth processing)

EMEW Alignment: Battery recycling for critical minerals recovery is now a **TOP STRATEGIC PRIORITY** for both governments. Perfect timing for funding applications.

💰 TOTAL FUNDING ACCESSIBLE FOR EMEW

Category	Potential Funding
Federal Programs	\$2.1M - \$207M
State Programs (Victoria)	\$265K - \$1.05M
Export Development	\$40K - \$160K (over 2 years)
R&D Tax Offset	48.5% of eligible R&D spend
GRAND TOTAL	\$2.4M - \$208M+

GRANT OPPORTUNITIES BY TIMELINE

IMMEDIATE ACTION REQUIRED (Next 2 Weeks)

1. Victorian Market Accelerator URGENT

Funding: \$15,000 - \$50,000

Total Pool: Not specified

Co-Contribution: 1:1 cash match (50%)

Deadline: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 (11:59 PM) - 8 DAYS

Status: OPEN NOW

Link: <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/grants-funding-and-investment/grants-and-funding/market-accelerator>

Why Apply: Proven recycled materials technology seeking commercialization - perfect fit

Application: sustainability.vic.gov.au/grants → Market Accelerator

NEAR-TERM APPLICATIONS (Next 3 Months)

2. Battery Breakthrough Initiative TOP PRIORITY

Funding: \$2,000,000 - \$200,000,000 per project

Total Pool: \$500 million

Co-Contribution: 1:1 match (50%)

Deadline: Rolling basis until funds exhausted

Status: OPEN NOW - Applications accepted continuously

Link: <https://arena.gov.au/funding/battery-breakthrough-initiative/>

EMEW Alignment:

- Battery recycling & metal recovery (Li, Co, Ni) - DIRECT TARGET
- Circular battery supply chain
- Critical minerals recovery
- 70+ installations = proven technology (TRL 6+)

Strategic Context: US-Australia agreement makes this HIGHEST PRIORITY - battery metals recycling explicitly mentioned in \$8.5B deal

Action Required:

1. Contact ARENA immediately: batterybreakthrough@arena.gov.au
2. Submit Expression of Interest

3. Full application follows

3. Industry Growth Program - Advisory Service (FREE)

Funding: Advisory service FREE → Pathway to \$100,000 - \$5,000,000 grant

Total Pool: \$392 million (program total)

Co-Contribution: 50% cash (for grant phase)

Deadline: Rolling - accept applications anytime

Status: OPEN NOW

Link: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/industry-growth-program>

Why This Matters:

- Recent recipient: Iondrive Technologies (battery recycling metal recovery)
- Aligns with National Reconstruction Fund priorities
- AI integration qualifies as "Enabling Capabilities"

Two-Step Process:

1. **Step 1 (NOW):** Apply for FREE Advisory Service - get expert commercialization plan (2-3 months)

2. **Step 2 (After Advisory):** Apply for \$100K-\$5M grant

Contact: 13 28 46

Application: business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/industry-growth-program

4. Quad Clean Energy Supply Chain Program FEBRUARY DEADLINE

Funding: \$100,000 - \$2,500,000 (up to 95% of costs)

Total Pool: Not specified

Co-Contribution: Minimal (up to 95% covered)

Deadline: February 10, 2025 - 14 WEEKS

Status: OPEN NOW

Link: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/quad-clean-energy-supply-chain-diversification-program>

Critical Requirement: MUST have Indo-Pacific partner (Indonesia, Vietnam, India, Japan, etc.)

- Battery supply chains explicitly mentioned
 - Only pursue if partnership can be established quickly
-

MEDIUM-TERM APPLICATIONS (3-6 Months)

5. Critical Minerals Development Program

Funding: \$1,000,000 - \$30,000,000

Total Pool: Not specified

Co-Contribution: Typically 1:1 (50%)

Deadline: Contact for current round status

Status: Program active - rounds announced periodically

Link: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/critical-minerals-development-program>

EMEW Alignment:

- Battery metals (Li, Co, Ni, Mn) = critical minerals
- E-waste precious metals (Au, Ag, Pt, Pd) = critical minerals
- Downstream processing
- Supply chain development

Strategic Context: US-Australia deal prioritizes Australian critical minerals processing - EMEW's metal recovery directly supports this

Action: Contact 13 28 46 to inquire about next round

6. R&D Tax Incentive (Ongoing)

Funding: 48.5% tax offset (if turnover <\$20M)

Total Pool: Uncapped

Co-Contribution: None - tax offset on eligible R&D spend

Deadline: Register by April 30, 2025 for FY2024 claim

Status: ONGOING - Annual program

Link: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/research-and-development-tax-incentive>

Eligible Activities:

- AI integration development
- Metal recovery process optimization
- Novel battery recycling technology

Requirements:

- Minimum \$20,000 R&D spend
- Must be experimental with uncertain outcome

- Contemporaneous documentation essential

Note: Can be used WITH grants for different expenditure categories

7. Victorian Circular Economy Fund (Round 6 - TBD)

Funding: \$250,000 - \$1,000,000

Total Pool: Varies by round

Co-Contribution: 1:1 cash match (50%)

Deadline: Round 5 closed May 12, 2025 - Monitor for Round 6

Status: CLOSED - Next round TBD

Link: <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/grants-funding-and-investment/grants-and-funding>

EMEW Alignment: Metal recovery from waste - VERY HIGH alignment

Action: Subscribe to Sustainability Victoria email alerts for Round 6 announcement

LONG-TERM APPLICATIONS (6-12+ Months)

8. NSW Net Zero Manufacturing Initiative

Funding: \$250,000 - \$5,000,000 (Commercial Readiness Stream)

Total Pool: Not specified

Co-Contribution: Typically 1:1 (50%)

Deadline: Future rounds expected - previous round closed

Status: Monitor for announcements

Link: <https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/> (check for updates)

Recent Recipients (July 2025):

- Renewable Metals: \$1.1M (battery recycling refinery)
- Novalith Technologies: \$1.5M (lithium extraction)
- Sicona Battery: \$1.675M (battery materials)

Note: NSW operations or demonstrable NSW benefits required

9. Export Market Development Grants (EMDG)

Funding: Tier 2: \$20,000-\$50,000 | Tier 3: \$20,000-\$80,000 per year (2-year agreement)

Total Pool: Not specified

Co-Contribution: 1:1 match (50%)

Deadline: Round 4 closed - Round 5 expected late 2025/early 2026

Status: PREPARE NOW

Link: <https://www.austrade.gov.au/emdg>

EMEW Qualification: With 70+ global installations, likely qualifies for Tier 2 or Tier 3

Covers:

- International travel & trade shows
- Market research
- Overseas representatives
- Marketing materials

Action: Develop "Plan to Market" now; apply when Round 5 opens

10. National Reconstruction Fund (Financing - Not Grants)

Funding: \$5,000,000+ (loans, equity, guarantees - NOT grants)

Total Pool: \$15 billion total

Co-Contribution: Varies by deal structure

Deadline: Rolling applications

Status: OPEN NOW

Link: <https://business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/national-reconstruction-fund>

Priority Areas:

- Resources & Critical Minerals Processing: \$3 billion
- Advanced Manufacturing: \$1 billion
- Enabling Capabilities (AI): Allocation available

When to Consider: Major expansion requiring \$5M+ capital after demonstrating scaled operations with initial grants

Note: Requires repayment or equity dilution - not free funding

RECOMMENDED ACTION PLAN

THIS WEEK (By November 1):

1. **Apply to Victorian Market Accelerator** (Deadline Nov 5!)
2. **Start Industry Growth Program Advisory Service** (Free - takes 2-3 months)

3. **Contact ARENA** re: Battery Breakthrough Initiative (batterybreakthrough@arena.gov.au)

NEXT 2 WEEKS (By November 15):

4. Submit Battery Breakthrough Initiative Expression of Interest
5. Assess Quad Clean Energy Program if Indo-Pacific partner available
6. Register for R&D Tax Incentive (deadline April 30, 2025 for FY24)

NEXT 3 MONTHS (By January 31, 2026):

7. Complete Advisory Service report
8. Apply to Industry Growth Program grant (\$100K-\$5M)
9. Contact Critical Minerals Development Program about next round
10. Engage free TradeStart export advisory

NEXT 6 MONTHS (By April 30, 2026):

11. Prepare EMDG application for Round 5
 12. Monitor Victorian Circular Economy Fund Round 6
 13. Watch for NSW Net Zero Manufacturing next round
-

QUICK REFERENCE: GRANT COMPARISON

Grant Program	Funding Range	Pool Size	Co-Contrib	Deadline	Priority
Battery Breakthrough	\$2M-\$200M	\$500M	50%	Rolling	★★★
Industry Growth	\$100K-\$5M	\$392M	50%	Rolling	★★★
VIC Market Accel	\$15K-\$50K	TBD	50%	Nov 5	★★
Critical Minerals	\$1M-\$30M	TBD	50%	TBD	★★★
Quad Clean Energy	\$100K-\$2.5M	TBD	~5%	Feb 10	★ (if partner)
VIC Circular Econ	\$250K-\$1M	TBD	50%	TBD	★★
NSW Net Zero	\$250K-\$5M	TBD	50%	TBD	★★
EMDG	\$20K-\$80K/yr	TBD	50%	TBD	★★
R&D Tax Offset	48.5% offset	Uncapped	0%	Apr 30	★★★

KEY CONTACT INFORMATION

Federal Programs:

- **Business Grants Hub:** 13 28 46
- **ARENA Battery:** batterybreakthrough@arena.gov.au
- **GrantConnect:** grants.gov.au
- **General Portal:** business.gov.au/grants-and-programs

Victoria:

- **Sustainability Victoria:** 1300 363 744 | grants.enquiries@sustainability.vic.gov.au
- **Business Victoria:** 13 22 15
- **Breakthrough Victoria:** breakthroughvictoria.com

Export:

- **Austrade EMDG:** 13 28 78 | EMDG.help@austrade.gov.au
 - **TradeStart:** austrade.gov.au/tradestart-advisers
-

ELIGIBILITY VERIFICATION FOR EMEW

Company Strengths:

- Australian incorporation (Melbourne 2023)
- Proven technology (70+ installations = high TRL)
- Commercialization stage (not early R&D)
- International presence (export ready)
- Critical minerals focus (battery metals)
- Circular economy credentials
- Strategic alignment with US-Australia agreement

Key Requirements:

- ABN held 2+ years (verify for programs requiring this)
- GST registration
- Turnover <\$20M (for most SME programs)
- Financial capacity for 50% co-contributions

- Tax compliance current
 - Not on National Redress Scheme exclusion list
-

WHY NOW IS THE CRITICAL WINDOW

1. Political Stability:

- Labor landslide = predictable policy environment through 2028
- No policy disruption risk from election uncertainty

2. Strategic Imperative:

- US-Australia \$8.5B agreement makes battery recycling TOP PRIORITY
- Minerals recycling technology explicitly called out in framework
- \$3B government investment in next 6 months
- Perfect alignment with EMEW's core technology

3. Competitive Advantage:

- 70+ global installations = proven track record
- 8 Australian installations = local credibility
- Technology ready for scale-up (not R&D phase)
- First-mover advantage in strategic priority area

4. Funding Availability:

- Battery Breakthrough: \$500M pool open NOW
- Industry Growth: \$392M pool accepting applications
- Multiple state programs aligned
- Co-investment opportunity across federal/state

5. Time-Sensitive:

- Victorian Market Accelerator: 8 days to deadline
 - Battery Breakthrough: Rolling but funds will be exhausted
 - Political capital highest in first 2 years of government term (now)
 - US-Australia framework creates 6-month investment window
-

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

Funding Stack Strategy:

Build comprehensive funding package across multiple sources:

Phase 1 (Immediate - \$115K-\$50M):

- Victorian Market Accelerator: \$15K-\$50K
- Industry Growth Program: \$100K-\$5M
- Battery Breakthrough Initiative: \$2M-\$200M

Phase 2 (Next 6 months - Add \$1.25M-\$31M):

- Critical Minerals Development: \$1M-\$30M
- Victorian Circular Economy Fund: \$250K-\$1M

Phase 3 (Ongoing):

- R&D Tax Incentive: 48.5% offset on eligible R&D
- EMDG: \$40K-\$160K over 2 years for export development

Total Potential Package: \$3.4M-\$281M over 18-24 months

Application Strengthening Tips:

Emphasize:

1. **Supply Chain Resilience** - Reduces reliance on virgin mining
2. **US-Australia Agreement Alignment** - Battery metals recycling priority
3. **Circular Economy Impact** - Quantify kg metals recovered, waste diverted
4. **Emissions Reduction** - Recycling vs. primary production CO2 savings
5. **Export Potential** - 70+ installations prove global demand
6. **Job Creation** - Especially in regional Victoria
7. **Strategic Minerals Security** - Domestic Li, Co, Ni supply

Quantify Everything:

- Tonnes of battery metals recovered annually
- Percentage of batteries recycled vs. landfilled
- Carbon emissions avoided (tonnes CO2-e)

- Jobs created per \$1M investment
 - Export revenue potential
-

IMMEDIATE ACTION CHECKLIST

Week of October 28:

- Submit Victorian Market Accelerator application (URGENT)
- Email ARENA Battery Breakthrough: batterybreakthrough@arena.gov.au
- Call Industry Growth Program: 13 28 46 to start Advisory Service
- Gather financial records for co-contribution evidence

Week of November 4:

- Follow up on Market Accelerator submission
- Draft Battery Breakthrough EOI
- Assess Indo-Pacific partnership viability for Quad program
- Subscribe to Sustainability Victoria grant alerts

By November 30:

- Submit Battery Breakthrough EOI
- Complete Industry Growth Advisory Service intake
- Register for R&D Tax Incentive (if eligible)
- Contact Critical Minerals program: 13 28 46

By January 31, 2026:

- Complete Advisory Service report
 - Submit Industry Growth grant application
 - Prepare EMDG Plan to Market
 - Monitor for VIC Circular Economy Fund Round 6
-

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

1. Speed:

- Market Accelerator closes November 5 (8 days)
- Battery Breakthrough funds will be exhausted (first-come merit basis)
- Political capital highest in government's first 2 years

2. Strategic Framing:

- Position as US-Australia agreement enabler
- Emphasize critical minerals security
- Highlight circular economy + emissions reduction
- Demonstrate export capability (70+ installations)

3. Financial Readiness:

- Most programs require 50% cash co-contribution
- Have financial statements ready
- Plan cash flow for matched funding
- Consider staggering applications to manage co-contributions

4. Documentation:

- Maintain contemporaneous R&D records (for tax incentive)
- Quantify environmental impact metrics
- Document export capability and demand
- Evidence of technology readiness (TRL 6+ proven)

5. Relationship Building:

- Engage ARENA before applying
 - Use free Advisory Service strategically
 - Connect with Austrade TradeStart
 - Build profile in critical minerals community
-

BOTTOM LINE

EMEW Clean Technologies is in the perfect position at the perfect time:

- Right Technology:** Battery recycling for critical minerals = strategic priority
- Right Stage:** Proven tech (70+ installations) seeking scale-up
- Right Timing:** US-Australia \$8.5B agreement creates urgency
- Right Policy Environment:** Labor landslide = stable funding through 2028
- Right Funding Available:** \$500M+ in aligned programs open now

Total Accessible Funding: \$2.4M - \$208M+ over next 18-24 months

Immediate Actions Required (Next 8 Days):

1. Apply Victorian Market Accelerator (Deadline: Nov 5)
2. Contact ARENA Battery Breakthrough
3. Start Industry Growth Advisory Service

This is a once-in-a-generation funding window. Act now.

Report Prepared: October 28, 2025

Next Update: After Market Accelerator deadline (Nov 6)

Questions: Contact Business Grants Hub 13 28 46

QUICK ACCESS LINKS

Program	Website
Victorian Market Accelerator	sustainability.vic.gov.au/grants → Market Accelerator
Battery Breakthrough Initiative	arena.gov.au/funding/battery-breakthrough-initiative
Industry Growth Program	business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/industry-growth-program
Critical Minerals Development	business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/critical-minerals-development-program
Quad Clean Energy	business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/quad-clean-energy-supply-chain-diversification-program
R&D Tax Incentive	business.gov.au/grants-and-programs/research-and-development-tax-incentive
GrantConnect Search	grants.gov.au
Business.gov.au Portal	business.gov.au/grants-and-programs

CONFIDENTIAL - FOR EMEW INTERNAL USE ONLY