



An Australian Government Initiative

AusIndustry

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Fact sheet

Green Building Fund

Background

The Green Building Fund was established in October 2008, as part of the Australian Government's commitment to Clean Business Australia – a partnership between government, business and industry to address the challenges of climate change.

The program aimed to reduce the impact of the built environment on Australia's greenhouse gas emissions, by reducing the energy consumed in the operation of commercial office buildings. Subsequently, the Green Building Fund was expanded to include hotels and shopping centres as well as commercial offices.

The Green Building Fund is now closed to new applications. However, grant recipients have continuing commitments to share their learning, data and outcomes from the grant projects with others in the commercial building sector.

Program Overview

Under the Green Building Fund, grants between \$50,000 and \$500,000 were available on a competitive basis for private sector building owners, to help fund energy upgrades of existing commercial office buildings, hotels and shopping centres located in Australia.

Grants above \$500,000 were available in limited circumstances, for projects that aimed to achieve world's best practice and had potential to be an industry exemplar in energy management.

Grant recipients were required to fund at least half of the project from a commercial source. Grant applicants were also required to demonstrate that their project was designed to achieve a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

The application process was competitive, with successful grants selected based on performance against three merit criteria:

- Potential reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (based on data from an accredited National Australian Built Environment Ratings System assessor).
- Demonstration potential
- Project design and management

In all, the program provided 318 grants for energy upgrades of existing commercial office buildings, hotels and shopping centres.

Examples of funded projects included:

- upgrades to heating, ventilation and air-conditioning (HVAC) systems
- changes to the building fabric, such as external glazing and shading
- building management and control systems to enable better monitoring of energy use
- implementation of co-generation or tri-generation systems or renewable energy sources

A further 5 grants aimed at improving industry capability were provided via a separate stream of the program.

Successful applicants were required to enter into a grant agreement with the Commonwealth. Details of all funded projects are available from the AusIndustry web site (Green Building Fund pages) www.ausindustry.gov.au. Queries may be directed to the AusIndustry Hotline 13 28 46 or any office of AusIndustry.