



Inquiry into annual and financial reports 2024–25

Answer to question taken on notice

Asked by: Ms Jo CLAY MLA

Addressed to: Minister for Climate Change, Environment Energy and Water

In relation to: Commonwealth Funding for Electrifying Canberra

Hearing: 17 November 2025
Uncorrected Proof Transcript p29
Transcript provided: 25 November 2025
Answer Due: 2 December 2025

THE CHAIR: I am wondering if you can take this on notice, are you able to tell us in the last two years how much commonwealth funding we got for electrification and if we bid for any commonwealth funding and did not get it? Is that that something that can be taken on notice?

Ms Malouf: Yes, I can tell you what we did and did not get I am not aware of any that we did not get.

THE CHAIR: Maybe just list we—like, for electrification of what we did get for commonwealth funding and what we did for it did not get and if the answer is, “We did not bid for anything and it was all successful.” That is a great answer.

Ms Malouf: I can definitely do that, yes. So it was the \$7.2 million to 12.9 million.

Ms Suzanne Orr MLA: The answer to the Member’s question is as follows:

The following table provides an overview of Commonwealth funding received by the ACT Government for electrification initiatives in the last two years.

Commonwealth funding initiative	What Commonwealth funding contributes to	Commonwealth funding amount across 2024-25 and 2025-26
Social Housing Energy Performance Initiative (SHEPI)	Insulation and electrification of social housing properties through the ACT Government’s	\$3.722m in 2024-25 and 2025-26

OFFICIAL

	Vulnerable Household Energy Support Scheme.	(Total of \$7.176m across 2023-24 to 2026-27)
SHEPI Expansion	Rooftop solar and batteries on social housing properties to be operated as a Virtual Power Plant.	\$0 in 2024-25 to 2025-26 (Total of \$12.9m across 2026-27 to 2028-29)
Solar Banks Initiative	Support the deployment of shared solar infrastructure on multi-unit developments in the ACT to lower household energy costs for all residents including renters.	\$900,000 in 2025-26 (Total of \$1.8m across 2023-24 to 2025-26)
Disaster Ready Fund - Round 2	Expand the delivery of thermally backed curtains and pelmets in an additional 315 low-income and vulnerable households to improve thermal comfort and reduce energy use and costs.	\$560,000 in 2025-26
Community Batteries for Household Solar Program	Supports delivery of three community-scale batteries in Dickson, Fadden and Casey as part of the Big Canberra Battery initiative.	\$600,000 in 2024-25 and 2025-26 (Total of \$1.5m across 2023-24 to 2025-26)
Energy and Climate Change Special Account Fund – accessed through Commonwealth and jurisdictional working group under the Energy and Climate Change Ministerial Council	Supported delivery of the Sustainable Apartments Pilot (funded as the “Retrofit Readiness Program”), to provide degasification / decarbonisation feasibility and costing studies for multi-unit developments with strata arrangements in the ACT.	\$208,000 in 2024-25

In September 2024 the ACT Government entered into the Renewable Energy Transformation Agreement (RETA) with the Australian Government. No funding has been received by the ACT Government to date under the RETA, but conversations between officials are progressing a range of potential projects for funding.

The ACT Government has bid for Commonwealth funding but has been unsuccessful, or are waiting for advice on the outcome, in the following instances:

OFFICIAL

- In 2023-24 the ACT Government applied for \$2,500,000 of Commonwealth funding (50% of project value, matched funding to be provided) under Round 1 of the Community Energy Upgrade Fund (CEUF) to support electrification of the Village Creek Health Centre and Albert Hall. The application was unsuccessful.
- In 2024-25, the ACT Government applied for \$1,813,613 of Commonwealth funding (50% of project value, matched funding to be provided) under Round 2 of the CEUF to support electrification of the Dickson Pool. We are awaiting advice on the outcome.
- In 2024-25 the Emergency Services Agency in collaboration with City and Environment Directorate (then Environment, Planning and Sustainable Development Directorate) sought \$961,500 of Commonwealth funding under the National Emergency Management Agency Disaster Ready Fund Round 2. The co-funding sought was for the deployment of an electric hook lift truck with large-scale deployable battery to provide redundancy and to enable emergency services operations. The proposal was unsuccessful, and the project did not progress.

Approved for circulation to the Standing Committee on Environment and Planning

Signature:

Date: 30/11/25

By the Minister for Climate Change, Environment, Energy and Water, Ms Suzanne Orr MLA