

An aerial photograph showing several rows of blue solar panels installed on a green lawn. The panels are arranged in a grid pattern, with white lines separating the individual cells. The grass is vibrant green and appears to be well-maintained. The perspective is from a high angle, looking down at the panels.

Smart Energy Council webinar

Making public buildings smart energy buildings through stimulus packages

Marilyne Crestias - Renewable Energy Insights Pty Ltd - 1 May 2020

Agenda

Clean energy stimulus package - what could it look like?

Benefits of mass rollout of solar, storage etc

Implementation considerations

Clean energy stimulus package

Why now?

- COVID-19: Aus. economy headed into deep depression
⇒ We need fast, broad-scale Gov. action to support economy now
- Long-term: climate change; need to accelerate energy transition
- Pitch to Gov: ren. en. sector can deliver jobs now + 'green' benefits

Smart energy building program

- Solar, storage, EV charging & smart tech on public buildings
- Touch on multiple sectors (hospitals, police stations, schools, prisons, national park visitor centres...)
- To be rolled out over 2-5 years
- Each State & Territory, focus on publicly- owned buildings

Benefits of mass rollout of clean energy tech

Immediate benefits

- Lower opex; 'green' electricity; energy resilience & self-sufficiency
- Jobs, jobs, jobs
- Skills training, education (apprenticeships, etc.)
- Economic activity across metro & regional Aus

Benefits coming from scale of program

- Certainty from long-term pipeline of work ⇒ opp. local manufacturing
- Jump start mass rollout of smart building tech, EV infrastructure...
- Data from monitoring systems ⇒ innovation, new business models
- Better data monitoring & knowledge ⇒ opp. for building electrification
- Resilience is good for building owner; also good for community
- Increased self-sufficiency

Implementation considerations

Speed of delivery is key...

- Reap max benefits from economic stimulus
- Keep momentum in industry, avoid business shut downs

... but so is quality

- Tailor for each State:
 - what do they need most? what can be leveraged?
 - ramp up an existing State trial/ program?
- Quality practices: need to enforce excellent social distancing on site
- Quality projects: be sensible (not on building soon to be demolished, in full shade...)

It's time to be ambitious!

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