

GreenPower Connect



Have you ever wanted to say your organisation helped to get a new renewable energy project off the ground?

Use your organisation's purchasing power to directly support an Australian renewable energy project (or projects) and add more renewable energy to the grid at the same time.

With the new GreenPower Connect product you can purchase directly from a new project and see the tangible benefits of that support.

Increasingly businesses, government organisations and buyers groups are looking to enter into direct relationships (contracts) with specific renewable energy projects by purchasing the outputs they generate through offtake agreements.



The new GreenPower Connect product provides a low cost opportunity for direct funders of large renewable energy projects to increase the credibility of their purchases by surrendering the Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs)¹ generated using the GreenPower Program's robust and independent compliance audit framework².

By purchasing through GreenPower Connect, you are helping to get new renewable energy projects off the ground and reducing your organisation's impact on the environment at the same time. You are also supporting job opportunities in regional areas where the majority of new projects are located.

Surrendering the LGCs through the GreenPower Program ensures the additionality of the renewable energy purchases over-and-above the 'business as usual' amount required to meet the Renewable Energy Target (RET) - effectively adding more renewables into the grid than otherwise would be the case.

You can also reap the many reporting and marketing benefits that purchasing GreenPower has to offer. For example, you can use your GreenPower Connect purchase to increase your building's rating under the National Australian Built Environment Rating System (NABERS) or to increase your building's Green Star Performance Rating (for existing buildings). GreenPower Connect purchases can also be counted as zero emissions electricity by organisations aiming to become carbon neutral under the National Carbon Offset Standard. In addition, you will be eligible to use the GreenPower Connect customer logo on your business materials to highlight your support for a new project or projects.

The new GreenPower Connect product option has significantly reduced the administrative costs to surrender LGCs through the Program's rigorous, independent and government-backed two-tier auditing process – making it easier and more cost effective than ever to ensure RET additionality when directly funding a new renewable energy project.

¹ Must be GreenPower eligible LGCs from an accredited generator

² LGCs must be surrendered through a GreenPower Provider

GreenPower Connect FAQs

Q. How much does GreenPower Connect cost?

A. It costs the GreenPower Provider a set fee of \$5,000 for each contract with an eligible generator. The Provider will then add a retail fee to the customer.

Q. Do I pay fees directly to GreenPower?

A. No, you pay the fees set by GreenPower Providers, who are liable to pay fees to the GreenPower Program Manager for each contract with an eligible generator.

Q. I am a member of a buyers group, can I use GreenPower Connect?

A. Yes, buyers groups are explicitly considered in the rules and are treated as a single customer for auditing purposes, so long as all members of the group sign with the same GreenPower Provider who holds the single contract with the generator.

Q. Will I receive the same marketing benefits as other GreenPower customers?

A. Yes, you are able to make the same claims as all other GreenPower customers. The main difference is that we do not permit the use of percentage based logos for GreenPower Connect. Instead you are able to use the GreenPower Connect customer logo which identifies the renewable energy project (or projects) you are supporting.

Q. Do I have to buy the physical electricity or can I sign a contract for LGCs only?

A. That's up to you. GreenPower is only concerned with the Large-scale Generation Certificates (LGCs), as they carry the environmental claims and form the basis of our auditing process. Whether or not you sign on for the physical electricity as well is purely a commercial decision and will not impact the ability to claim additionality to the RET through GreenPower Connect.

Q. How will purchases through GreenPower Connect be treated by the National Australian Built Environment Rating System, Green Star Performance Rating and National Carbon Offset Standard?

A. GreenPower purchased through the GreenPower Connect product will receive the same treatment as GreenPower purchased through other GreenPower accredited products as it still goes through the Program's rigorous, two-tier audit process.

Q. There is a project under construction or already built looking for a contract, can I sign with them through GreenPower Connect?

A. It depends. The GreenPower Program Rules state that the project must not have been constructed prior to the contractual agreement being made. That means projects already built are excluded but it will be up to the National GreenPower Steering Group to determine the eligibility of a project under construction on a case-by-case basis. It is recommended that you enquire about specific projects before committing.

Q. I have signed contracts with multiple generators, each of which fits under the GreenPower Connect Rules. Will the Provider be charged \$5,000 for each contract?

A. Yes, up to a maximum of \$15,000 (ex-GST) per customer, or customer group.

Q. Who is responsible for surrendering the LGCs to the Clean Energy Regulator as part of the GreenPower auditing process?

A. The GreenPower Provider is responsible for all auditing requirements of the GreenPower Connect product.

Q. Can I have the GreenPower Provider act as an intermediary with the generator?

A. Yes, as long as a contract for the LGCs exists between the GreenPower Provider and the generator, and there is a contract between the GreenPower Provider and the purchaser (or purchasers) it may be eligible for GreenPower Connect.

Q. Is there a minimum volume I need to purchase to qualify as a GreenPower Connect product?

A. There is no minimum volume required. Only a contractual arrangement with a generator that meets the criteria for GreenPower Connect is necessary.

Q. Is there a minimum term for the contractual agreement with the generator to qualify for GreenPower Connect?

A. Yes, the contractual agreement with a GreenPower Generator must be for a minimum of five years.

Q. Can I sign a contract with any renewable energy project and have it qualify for GreenPower Connect?

A. No, the contract needs to be signed with a GreenPower accredited renewable energy generator (or a generator with pre-approval) that is able to create GreenPower eligible LGCs.

Q. Who should I contact for more information about GreenPower Connect?

A. Contact the GreenPower Team at greenpower.marketing@industry.nsw.gov.au or call (02) 9934 0778. Alternatively visit the GreenPower website at www.greenpower.gov.au.