

## ARENA Funding Announcement B

### Studies contributing to improved integration of Distributed Energy Resources (DER)

ARENA is seeking expressions of interest (EOI) for studies addressing distributed energy resources (DER) integration. EOIs are due **5pm AEST Monday 16 April 2018**.

ARENA will assess applications for funding under its Advancing Renewables Program (ARP). This Funding Announcement should be read in conjunction with the ARP Guidelines. ARENA invites organisations with studies that fit within the scope described below to lodge an EOI through the [ARENANet Grants Management System](#).

#### Key Information

Activity Scope	<p>Applications are sought for desktop studies and analysis<sup>1</sup>, feasibility studies or modelling that covers one or more of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify <i>technical capabilities</i> that would allow distribution networks to host higher levels of DER in a way that optimises overall power system performance while maintaining secure technical limits.</li> <li>2. Identify <i>locational and temporal incentives</i> that can support higher levels of DER to optimise overall power system performance.</li> <li>3. Compare <i>control strategies</i> for DER in terms of their benefit for consumers and contribution to overall power system performance, including in the context of different locational and temporal incentive structures.</li> <li>4. Identify <i>factors</i> that influence the ability to coordinate aggregations of DER (often called ‘orchestration’). A desirable component will be to examine the coordination of multiple types of services (or sources of value) from fleets of DERs, especially where these may be in competition at times, or examining aspects of participation of aggregated DER in the central dispatch process</li> <li>5. Identify methods to most <i>efficiently increase visibility, predictability or control of DER</i> for AEMO or other relevant entities to optimise overall power system performance, improve the efficiency of network connection processes and help optimise investment.</li> </ol>
Examples of studies or	<p>Desktop analysis, feasibility studies or modelling may include, but are not limited to those that:</p>

<sup>1</sup> Desktop Studies and Analysis as defined in the ARP Guidelines. This includes studies which contribute to the Program Outcomes (see ‘How you can demonstrate merit’ section below), renewable energy industry development and capacity building activities or preparatory activities for projects, including potential projects for funding by ARENA.

models	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● address the technical, regulatory and/or market barriers associated with increasing deployment of DER;</li> <li>● assess options and opportunities for the orchestration of DER, or increases or identifies the value of DER in the power system; or</li> <li>● reduce costs and risks associated with DER in the power system.</li> </ul> <p>Further project examples are provided in the FAQ document on the website.</p>
Timeframes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EOI submissions open: 15 March 2018</li> <li>● EOI submission close: 16 April 2018 5pm AEST</li> </ul> <p>ARENA will notify applicants with successful EOIs by 21 May 2018.</p>
EOI assessment process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EOIs will be assessed against the Merit Criteria as specified under the ARP Guidelines (note: each Merit Criteria will be weighted equally)</li> <li>● Only those EOIs that are assessed as being of overall high merit against the ARP Merit Criteria will be invited to submit a Full Application</li> </ul>
Funding Agreement	<p>ARENA proposes to use the template Funding Agreement which will be published at the commencement of the EOI stage on the <a href="https://arena.gov.au/assets/2017/10/September-2017-ARP-Template-Funding-Agreement.docx">ARENA website <u>https://arena.gov.au/assets/2017/10/September-2017-ARP-Template-Funding-Agreement.docx</u></a></p>
'Out of scope' or ineligible projects	<p>As the Advancing Renewables Program is always open for submissions, high merit EOIs deemed ineligible or 'out of scope' under this announcement may be directed to submit under normal ARP conditions. Contact <a href="mailto:proposals@arena.gov.au">proposals@arena.gov.au</a> for more information on this option.</p> <p>Applications that are not of high merit will not be assessed further under any program by ARENA.</p>

## How you can demonstrate merit in ARENA's grant application process

The table below provides examples to show how you can demonstrate your study meets the ARP merit criteria. This guidance should be read alongside the [ARENANet application form](#) and [ARP Guidelines](#).

ARP merit criterion	How the criterion applies to this funding announcement
<p>A – Contributes to the Program Outcomes (clauses 1.5, 3.3 and 3.4 of the ARP Program Guidelines)</p>	<p>This criterion assesses how well the proposed study (or Activity) contributes to the ARP Program Outcomes, taking into account the investment priorities in the <a href="#">ARENA Investment Plan</a> and any relevant funding announcement documentation (<i>such as this document</i>).</p> <p>You can demonstrate merit against this criterion by describing, one or more of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) how your study is novel and contributes new information or insights to the existing body of industry knowledge;</li> <li>(b) the potential of the proposed study to support more efficient utilisation of DER, increase their value or reduce their costs and risks in the power system; and/or</li> <li>(c) how your proposed study supports a credible path to implementation of increased amounts of DER (through changes in practices, investment, or regulatory settings)</li> </ul>
<p>B - Applicant capability and capacity (clauses 3.5 and 3.6 of the ARP Program Guidelines)</p>	<p>This criterion assesses your capability and capacity, as well as that of any Activity partners, to deliver the Activity. You should refer to the ARP Guidelines for further information.</p>
<p>C – Activity design, methodology, risk and compliance (clauses 3.7 and 3.8 of the ARP Program Guidelines)</p>	<p>This criterion assesses the Activity design and implementation approach, as well as risk and compliance matters. You should refer to the ARP Guidelines for further information.</p>
<p>D – Financial viability and co-funding commitment (clauses 3.9 and</p>	<p>This criterion assesses your financial capacity to deliver the Activity and whether the amount of ARENA funding sought and the total cost of the Activity are appropriate. You should refer to the ARP Guidelines for further information.</p>

<p>3.10 of the ARP Program Guidelines)</p>	
<p>E – Knowledge sharing (clauses 3.11 and 3.12 of the ARP Program Guidelines)</p>	<p>This criterion assesses the knowledge generated by the Activity in contributing to the ARP Outcomes.</p> <p>You can demonstrate merit against this criterion by describing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the value of the knowledge expected to be generated by the study and its contribution to industry understanding of approaches to increase hosting capacity or orchestration of DER;</li> <li>(b) how well that knowledge is targeted to specific audiences; and</li> <li>(c) the extent to which knowledge or data obtained through the study will be shared publicly (for example through the <a href="#">AREMI platform</a> or <a href="#">renewables integration stocktake database</a>)</li> </ul>