



Small generation units: collecting mandatory information to create small-scale technology certificates for systems installed from 1 April 2022

# A resource for agents

February 2022

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# About this guideline

The Clean Energy Regulator requires specific information for the creation and validation of small-scale technology certificates (STCs) to comply with the *Renewable Energy (Electricity) Act 2000* and the Renewable Energy (Electricity) Regulations 2001. The REC Registry is a secure internet-based registry system that facilitates the creation, registration, transfer and surrender of STCs. This guideline is designed to assist agents to collect mandatory information as part of their registration of small generation units (SGUs) in the REC Registry.

Agents should incorporate the information set out in this guide into their own forms or systems, to ensure all the required information is captured to validly create STCs. All agents must record this information and provide evidence if requested by the Clean Energy Regulator during the audit and STC validation process.

# System type details

Specify the small generation unit installed and complete the system information that applies to the installation. There are 3 types of small generation units eligible under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme:

- S.G.U Solar (deemed)
- S.G.U Wind (deemed)
- S.G.U Hydro (deemed)

# **Installation details**

## For solar systems

Installation date	[the date solar system is complete and capable of producing electricity]
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Was a solar retailer	Choose from one of the following options
involved in the procurement	• Yes
and sale of the installation?	• No

If you indicated that a solar retailer was involved in the procurement and sale of the solar PV system additional fields will appear in the REC Registry. Data entry for these fields is mandatory.

Retailer name	[the legal entity that sold the solar PV system to the owner]
Retailer ABN	[the 11-digit Australian Business Number of the retailer name provided, ABN numbers only, no spaces]
Retailer representative first name	[the first name of the retailer's representative]
Retailer representative last name	[the last name of the retailer's representative]
Retailer representative role	[the position held by the retailer's representative]

Agents creating STCs must include the legal entity and ABN of the party that sold the solar PV system to the system owner. This may be the same company that installed the system, a wholesaler or an individual.

STC creators will need to ensure their systems are adapted to collect and record this information.

This information is required to complete the mandatory 'Retailer name' and 'ABN' fields. This will involve understanding the contractual relationships and/or terms and conditions between parties involved in the selling and purchase of a solar PV system to create STCs. Agents will need to include the first name, last

name and role of the retailer's representative. These details must match the representative that signs the retailer written statement.

If a solar retailer was not involved in the procurement, sale and installation of the solar PV system then select 'No' for the 'Was a retailer involved in the procurement and sale of the system' question. You will need to supply evidence that a retailer was not involved in the system's installation upon request.

National	[the unique 10- or 11-character reference used to identify the network connection point
metering identifier (NMI)	at the site of your installation]

Agents creating STCs are required to provide the national metering identifier (NMI) at the site of the installation of the solar PV system. This is a mandatory field for solar PV systems where the site of the installation is part of the National Electricity Market (NEM). Where the site of the installation of the solar PV system is not part of the NEM, this field may be left blank.

	PV module brand	[the Clean Energy Council (CEC) approved brand of the photovoltaic module]	
PV module model       [the CEC approved model of the photovoltaic module]	PV module model	[the CEC approved model of the photovoltaic module]	

Where a system consists of multiple types of panel brands and models, each brand and model must be on the CEC's approved module list. Each different panel module brand and model must also be entered into the REC Registry.

Inverter manufacturer	[the name of the manufacturer of the inverter]
Inverter series	[the series of the inverter]
Inverter model number	[the model number of the inverter]

Where a system consists of multiple inverters, each inverter manufacturer, series and model must be entered into the REC Registry.

System mounting	Choose from one of the following options:
type	Building or structure
	Ground mounted or free standing
Complete unit	Choose from one of the following options:
	• Yes
	• No

Installation type	Choose from one of the following options:
	New system [the first system installed at the address]
	Replacement system [all previous system components removed/decommissioned]
	Extension system [components added to existing system]
	Additional system [new separate system at the same address]

You are required to indicate if you are installing a complete unit or not. Please be aware that adding capacity to an existing system is not considered a complete unit.

If the system is an extension or additional system, you must provide detailed information on the position of the new panels relative to the existing system (i.e., east of existing panels, on northern roof, on shed etc.). System upgrades without an explanation of the location of the new panel(s) will be failed by the Clean Energy Regulator.

### **Deeming period**

Since 2016, the <u>deeming period</u> for solar PV systems decreases by one year, every year until 2030. This will reduce the number of certificates that can be created for an eligible system.

Deeming period	Choose from one of the following options:
penou	• One
	• Five
	A single maximum deeming period

For further information, access the Clean Energy Regulator website about <u>deeming period decline</u><sup>1</sup> under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme.

### **Rated power output**

Rated power output	[the capacity of the system in kW peak, up to 3 decimal places]
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Provide the rated power output, in kilowatts (kW) of the solar PV system. Please note that the rated power output is the total rated power output of the **panels** and not the inverter.

### **Componentry – panels and inverters**

Panels	[the number of panels for the installation]
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Provide the number of panels for the installation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/RET/Scheme-participants-and-industry/Agents-and-installers/deeming-period-decline</u>

Panel serial number(s)	[the panel serial numbers of each panel installed]	
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Provide the serial numbers of each installed panel. In the REC Registry you must enter all the serial numbers associated with the installation on separate lines. Once you have entered the complete serial number on one line, press enter to get to the next line. Do not add full stops, commas or semi colons into the field.

Inverters	[the of number inverters for the installation]	
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Provide the number of inverters for the installation.

Inverter serial number(s)	[the serial number(s) of the inverter(s) installed]
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Provide the serial number(s) of each inverter(s) installed, this includes micro inverters. In the REC Registry you must enter all the inverter serial numbers associated with the installation on separate lines. Once you have entered the complete serial number on one line, press enter to get to the next line.

## Previous systems failed by the Clean Energy Regulator

Previous systems failed by the Clean Energy Regulator	Choose from one of the following options:
	• Yes
	• No

You must indicate if you are creating certificates for a system that has previously been failed by the Clean Energy Regulator. If yes, you will need to provide the previously failed accreditation code and an explanation why the STCs are being recreated.

## Type of connection

Type of connection to the electricity grid	Choose from one of the following options:
	Connected to an electricity grid without battery storage
	Connected to an electricity grid with battery storage
	Stand-alone (not connected to an electricity grid)

If you selected 'Connected to an electricity grid with battery storage', additional fields will appear in the REC Registry. The Clean Energy Regulator encourages the disclosure of battery storage information. Please provide the following additional information about the installed battery storage system:

Battery storage manufacturer	Start typing the name of the manufacturer and select from options as they appear. If no options appear, continue to enter manufacturer name as text.
Battery storage model	Start typing the model number and select from options as they appear. If no options appear, continue to enter model number as text.

Is the battery system part of an aggregated control?	<ul> <li>Please indicate whether the battery storage system is part of an aggregated control or not.</li> <li>Choose from one of the following options:</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> </ul>
Has the installer changed the default manufacturer setting of the battery storage system?	<ul> <li>Please indicate whether the installer changed the default manufacturer settings or not.</li> <li>Choose from one of the following options:</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> </ul>

## Identifiers

You may like to create a reference for your SGU registration. This can be an attribute you can use to search for your SGU registration(s) in the REC Registry.

You may also wish to create a certificate tag to identify certificates when searching and completing other REC Registry transactions.

## **Compulsory written statement - solar retailer**

For more information regarding the solar retailer compulsory written statements, see the <u>solar retailer page</u> on the Clean Energy Regulator's website<sup>2</sup>.

# You must indicate (either yes or no) that you have the following:

### A written statement by the solar retailer stating:

- the name of the installer of the unit
- whether or not the installer is an employee or a subcontractor of the solar retailer.

### A written statement by the solar retailer stating:

• that the unit will perform in accordance with the contract (or the quote accepted) for the sale of the unit to the owner of the unit, except to the extent that that performance is prevented by circumstances outside the solar retailer's control.

### A written statement by the solar retailer stating

- the unit is
  - » complete, and
  - » generating electricity or capable of generating electricity.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> <u>http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/RET/Scheme-participants-and-industry/solar-retailers</u>

- if the unit is a grid connected power system that:
  - » the unit is connected to the grid; or
  - » the solar retailer has completed the solar retailer's obligations under the contract (or the quote accepted) relating to the connection of the unit to the grid.

### A written statement from the solar retailer stating:

- the solar retailer provided information in writing to the owner of the unit about feed in tariffs and export limits for the unit, and
- that the solar retailer has provided information in writing to the owner of the unit about one or more of the following for the unit:
  - » the expected payback period
  - » the expected energy savings
  - » the expected cost saving.
- that the information provided on feed-in tariffs, export limits, expected payback period, energy and cost savings is true, complete and correct.

### A written statement from the solar retailer stating:

- that any actual or potential conflicts of interest of the solar retailer relating to the sale or installation of the unit, or the creation of certificates for the unit, including any conflicts of interest in relation to persons or entities related to the solar retailer, have been:
  - » (i) disclosed to the owner of the unit; and
  - » (ii) managed appropriately.

### A written statement from the solar retailer stating:

- that a declaration by the Regulator that the solar retailer is ineligible to make solar retailer statements is not in effect on the day the statement is given
- that for each statement for the purposes of small-scale technology certificate (STC) eligibility you have obtained a statement that the information in the statement is true, correct and complete.

Installation date	[the date the system was installed]
System brand	[the brand of the installed wind system]
System model	[the model of the installed wind system]
Inverter manufacturer	[the name of the manufacturer of the inverter]
Inverter series	[the series of the inverter]
Inverter model number	[the model number of the inverter]

## For wind systems

## Site specific audit report

You must indicate if a site-specific audit report for the installed wind system is available. A site-specific audit report will only be required if you are electing **not** to use the default resource availability.

## **Unit installation**

Complete unit	Choose from one of the following two options:
	• Yes
	• No

You are required to indicate if you are installing a complete unit or not. Adding capacity to an existing system is not considered a complete unit.

Installation type	Choose from one of the following options:
	New system [the first system installed at the address]
	Replacement system [all previous system components removed/decommissioned]
	Extension system [components added to existing system]
	Additional system [new separate system at the same address]

## **Deeming period**

The deeming period for small-scale wind systems is either one or 5 years. Small-scale wind systems may create STCs for each subsequent one- or 5-year period until the scheme ends in 2030.

Deeming period	Choose from one of the following options:
	• One
	• Five

For further information, access the Clean Energy Regulator website about <u>deeming period decline</u><sup>3</sup> under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme.

## **Rated power output**

Rated power output	[the capacity of the system in kW, up to 3 decimal places]
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Provide the rated power output, in kilowatts (kW) of the small-scale wind system. The rated power output is the total rated power output of the **turbine** and not the inverter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> <u>http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/RET/Scheme-participants-and-industry/Agents-and-installers/deeming-period-decline</u>

## **Resource availability figure**

Resource availability	Choose from one of the following options
figure	• Yes
	• No

You must indicate if you wish to use the default resource availability figure of 2,000 hours per annum for the wind system. If the default figure is not selected, you must indicate the resource availability figure (in hours per annum) for the wind system. Please note if you do not select to use the default resource availability figure, you will be asked to provide evidence (including a site-specific audit report) justifying the figure you wish to use. To avoid delays in the processing of your application please contact the Clean Energy Regulator if you are not choosing the default resource availability.

## **Equipment model serial number(s)**

Equipment model serial number(s) [the serial number(s) of the wind turbine equipment used]	
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You must provide the serial numbers for all equipment used as part of the wind system installation.

## Previous systems failed by the Clean Energy Regulator

Previous systems failed	Choose from one of the following options:
by the Clean Energy	• Yes
Regulator	• No

You must indicate if you are creating certificates for a system that has previously been failed by the Clean Energy Regulator. If yes, you will need to enter in the previously failed accreditation code and an explanation why the STCs are being recreated.

Type of connection to the electricity grid	Provide one of the following options:
	Connected to an electricity grid without battery storage
510	Connected to an electricity grid with battery storage
	Stand-alone (not connected to an electricity grid)

Select the grid connectivity type relevant to the installation of the wind turbine.

## **Identifiers**

You may wish to create a reference for your SGU registration. This can be an attribute you can use to search for your SGU registration(s) in the REC Registry.

You may also wish to create a certificate tag to identify certificates when searching and completing other REC Registry transactions.

# For hydro systems

Installation date	[the date the system was installed
System brand	[the brand of the installed hydro system]
System model	[the model of the installed hydro system]
Inverter manufacturer	[the name of the manufacturer of the inverter]
Inverter series	[the series of the inverter]
Inverter model number	[the model number of the inverter]

## Site specific audit report

You must indicate if a site-specific audit report for the installed hydro system is available. A site-specific audit report will only be required if you are electing **not** to use the default resource availability.

## **Unit installation**

Complete unit	Choose from one of the following options:
	• Yes
	• No

You are required to indicate if you are installing a complete unit. Please be aware that adding capacity to an existing system is not considered a complete unit.

Installation type	Choose from one of the following options:
	New system [the first system installed at the address]
	Replacement system [all previous system components removed/decommissioned]
	Extension system [components added to existing system]
	Additional system [new separate system at the same address]

## **Deeming period**

The deeming period for small-scale hydro systems is either one or 5 years. Small-scale hydro systems may create STCs for each subsequent one- or 5-year period until the scheme ends in 2030. This will reduce the number of certificates that can be created for an eligible system.

Deeming period	Choose from one of the following options:
	• One
	• Five

For further information, access the Clean Energy Regulator website about <u>deeming period decline</u><sup>4</sup> under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme.

#### **Rated power output**

Rated power output	[the capacity of the system in kW, up to 3 decimal places]
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Provide the rated power output, in kilowatts (kW) of the small-scale hydro system. Please note that the rated power output is the total rated power output of the **turbine** and not the inverter.

### **Resource availability figure**

Resource availability	[Choose from one of the following options
figure	• Yes
	• No]

You must indicate if you wish to use the default resource availability figure of 4000 hours per annum for the hydro system. If the default figure is not selected, you must indicate the resource availability figure (in hours per annum) for the hydro system. Please note if you do not select to use the default resource availability figure, you will be asked to provide evidence (including a site-specific audit report) justifying the figure you wish to use. This is likely to cause delays in the processing of your application.

### Equipment model serial number(s)

Equipment model serial number(s)	[the serial number(s) of the hydro system equipment used]
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You must provide the serial numbers for all equipment used as part of the hydro system installation.

### Previous systems failed by the Clean Energy Regulator

Previous systems failed	Choose from one of the following options:
by the Clean Energy	• Yes
Regulator	• No

You must indicate if you are creating certificates for a system that has previously been failed by the Clean Energy Regulator. If yes, you will need to enter in the previously failed accreditation code and an explanation why the STCs are being recreated.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/RET/Scheme-participants-and-industry/Agents-and-installers/deeming-period-decline</u>

Type of connection to the electricity grid	Provide one of the following options:
	Connected to an electricity grid without battery storage
5.10	Connected to an electricity grid with battery storage
	• Stand-alone (not connected to an electricity grid)

Select the grid connectivity type relevant to the installation of the hydro system.

## Identifiers

You may wish to create a reference for your SGU registration. This can be an attribute you can use to search for your SGU registration(s) in the REC Registry.

You may also wish to create a certificate tag to identify certificates when searching and completing other REC Registry transactions.

# Installer and designer compulsory written statements

For more information regarding the installer and designer compulsory written statements, see the <u>document requirements for small-scale system installations</u><sup>5</sup> on the Clean Energy Regulator's website.

# You must indicate (either yes or no) that you have the following:

## A written statement from the designer stating:

- the name of the designer of the unit
- the accreditation scheme type or classification, accreditation number of the designer of the unit, and
- that the designer complied with all relevant requirements of the accreditation scheme for the design of the unit.

## A written statement from the installer of the unit stating:

- the name of the installer of the unit, and
- the accreditation scheme type or classification an accreditation number of the installer and designer of the unit, and
- that the installer complied with all relevant requirements of the accreditation scheme for the installation of the unit.

## A written statement from the installer of the unit stating:

- the installer has a copy of the design on the unit, and
- if the design was not modified during the installation the unit that the unit was installed, in all material respects, in accordance with the design, and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>http://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/RET/Scheme-participants-and-industry/Agents-and-installers/Document-requirements-for-small-scale-system-installations</u>

- if the design was modified during the installation of the unit that the modifications were consistent with all relevant requirements of the accreditation scheme for the design of the unit, and that the unit was installed, in all material respects, in accordance with the modified design, and
- that the unit will perform consistently with the design or modified design (as applicable).

### A written statement from the installer of the unit stating:

- that all local and State or Territory government requirements have been met for the installation of the unit, and
- that you have a copy of any documentation required, by the law of the jurisdiction in which the unit was
  installed, to be provided to the owner of the unit certifying that the electrical installation of the unit
  complies with laws relating to safety and technical standards.

### A written statement from the installer stating:

- that if the system uses an inverter, that the model of inverter used in the installation was, when the unit was installed, an approved eligible model of inverter, and
- if the system is a grid-connected power system, that when the unit was installed, the model of inverter used in the installation complied with AS/NZS 4777.2:2020, *Grid connection of energy systems via inverters, Part 2: Inverter requirements* (as existing from time to time)
- for a unit that is a solar PV system the PV module used in the installation was, when the unit was installed, an approved eligible model of PV module.

### A written statement from the installer stating that:

- for a unit that is a solar PV system, the installer was on-site to install or supervise the installation of the unit in accordance with the accreditation scheme under which the person is accredited
- for a unit that is a solar PV system, that you have evidence from the installer of the unit that the installer
  was on-site to install or supervisor the installation of the unit in accordance with the accreditation
  scheme under which the person is accredited.

### For a system that is not grid-connected, a written statement by the installer of the unit that:

- the unit is not grid-connected
- an electrical worker holding an unrestricted license for electrical work issued by the State or Territory authority for the place where the unit was installed undertook all wiring of the unit that involves:
  - » alternating current of 50 or more volts, or
  - » direct current of 120 or more volts.

That for each statement for the purpose of the STC eligibility you have obtained a statement that the information in the statement is true, correct and complete.

Please note, if the system is grid connected you will not have the written statement for a stand-alone system, which means you should indicate 'no' as your response.

There is a document upload section within the REC Registry online form enabling agents to upload documents, such as compliance paperwork.

Submitting documents as you create STCs is voluntary, however, it may reduce the time taken for us to request information from you and for you to respond to our requests.

# **Installation address**

# **Property Type**

Specify one of the following options:

- school
- residential
- commercial.

# **Single or Multi Story**

Specify one of the following options:

- single story
- multi story.

# Property details and address of the installation

Property/boat name or chassis number	[Enter the name of the property or boat or enter the chassis number if applicable]
Unit type	[e.g., apartment, house, garage]
Unit number	[enter the unit number, use letters and numbers if applicable]
Street number	
Street name	
Street type	[e.g., Street, Road, Drive]
Town/suburb	
State/territory	
Postcode	

# Physical installation address co-ordinates

Please provide the following coordinates where property address details are limited.

Latitude	[Check that the first number in your latitude coordinate is between -90 and 90]
Longitude	[Check that the first number in your longitude coordinate is between -180 and 180]

# Is there more than one small generation unit installed at this address?

Specify one of the following options:

- no
- yes.

## Additional address and/or system information

If the previously provided/entered address does not adequately describe the location of the system or there is more than one SGU at the address, please provide further detailed information for the Clean Energy Regulator to locate the system.

# **Owner details**

The owner details provided should be the details of the person who owns the system.

## **Owner type, name and contact details**

Owner type	[select one option: individual, corporate body or Government body/trustee
First name	[enter the first name of the owner of the system]
Last name	[enter the last name of the owner of the system]
Phone	
Fax	
Mobile	
Email	

## **Owner postal address**

The owners address must be a valid physical or postal address but does not need to be within Australia.

Select from one of the following options:

- same as installation address [this option may be selected in the REC Registry]
- different physical address
- postal delivery address.

### For different physical address provide the following:

Unit type	[e.g., apartment, house, garage]
Unit number	[enter the unit number, use letters and numbers if applicable]

Street number	
Street name	
Street type	[e.g., Street, Road, Drive]
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

## For postal delivery address provide the following:

Postal delivery type	[e.g., general post office box, roadside mail service, private mail bag service]
Postal delivery number	
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

# **Installer details**

Installer details should be for an individual. Clean Energy Council (CEC) accreditation (to install) is provided to individuals not companies. You must ensure correct accreditation details are being used.

Provide the installer's CEC accreditation number, name and contact details:

CEC accredited installer number	
First name	
Surname	
Phone	
Fax	
Mobile	
Email	

# **Installer postal address**

Select from one of the following options provided in the REC Registry:

- Physical address
- Postal delivery address

### For physical address provide the following:

Unit type	[e.g., apartment, house, garage]
Unit number	[enter the unit number, use letters and numbers if applicable]
Street number	
Street name	
Street type	[e.g., Street, Road, Drive]
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

## For postal delivery address provide the following:

Postal delivery type	[e.g., general post office box, roadside mail service, private mail bag service]
Postal delivery number	
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

# **Electrician details**

Please indicate if the electrician is the same as the installer. The REC Registry online form provides a selectable check box for this option.

Provide the electrician's licence number, name and contact details:

number
--------

First name	
Surname	
Phone	
Fax	
Mobile	
Email	

# **Electrician postal address**

Select from one of the following options provided in the REC Registry:

- physical address
- postal delivery address.

## For physical address provide the following:

Unit type	[e.g., apartment, house, garage]
Unit number	[enter the unit number, use letters and numbers if applicable]
Street number	
Street name	
Street type	[e.g., Street, Road, Drive]
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

## For postal delivery address provide the following:

Postal delivery type	[e.g., general post office box, roadside mail service, private mail bag service]
Postal delivery number	
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

# **Designer details**

System designer details should be for an individual. CEC accreditation for system design is provided to individuals not companies. You must ensure correct accreditation details are being used.

Please indicate if the designer is the same as the installer. The REC Registry online form provides a selectable check box for this option.

If the designer is a different person to the installer, provide the designer's CEC accreditation number, name and contact details:

CEC accredited designer number	
First name	
Surname	
Phone	
Fax	
Mobile	
Email	

# **Designer postal address**

Select from one of the following options provided in the REC Registry:

- physical address
- postal delivery address.

## For physical address provide the following:

Unit type	[e.g., apartment, house, garage]
Unit number	[enter the unit number, use letters and numbers if applicable]
Street number	
Street name	
Street type	[e.g., Street, Road, Drive]
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	

# For postal delivery address provide the following:

Postal delivery type	[e.g., general post office box, roadside mail service, private mail bag service]
Postal delivery number	
Town/suburb	
State	
Postcode	
Country	