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# Getting solar just got even smarter

Regulatory updates set to make solar up to 25% cheaper to install

Published by Zembl, October 2026

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# New incentives to make solar more achievable for business

## New nationwide Solar (STC) incentives - eligibility to expand by ten times

The federal commercial solar rebate is being expanded to cover solar systems up to 1 MW, ten times the old 100 kW limit. The change is expected to cut the cost of installing a mid-sized commercial solar system by up to 25% from **1 October 2026**, subject to the necessary regulations being in place.

## Commercial solar rebate at a glance

| | |
|---|---|
| **Scheme** | Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES), running since 2011 |
| **What changed** | Eligible system size cap lifted from 100 kW to 1 MW (10x) |
| **Headline value** | Up to 25% off the cost of a mid-sized install |
| **Expected start** | 1 October 2026, subject to regulations being finalised |
| **Mechanism** | Upfront STC discount, usually applied at point of sale by installer |
| **Administered by** | Clean Energy Regulator |
| **Announced** | 5 August 2026, Minister Chris Bowen, DCCEEW |

IMPACT **up to 25%** potential reduction in upfront cost and payback timeframes for Solar installations^

^Indicative only. Actual discounts depend on system size, location, installation date, certificate prices, installation costs, provider charges and eligibility. Subject to the relevant regulations being in place. State and territory incentives may also apply. Source: Australian Government SRES expansion.

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# Solar suitability checklist for businesses

## Got the space?

Solar panels require unobstructed access to sunlight to perform effectively. Consider your rooftop space and its proximity to any nearby buildings or trees that could obstruct its access to sunlight.

## What are your usage patterns?

Review your electricity bills to understand your peak and average energy consumption. Consider how your energy needs fluctuate throughout the day and year, taking into account seasonal and operational peaks and troughs.

## Do you own the building?

If you do, the decision to install Solar will be up to you. If not, bear in mind that you'll need to negotiate with your landlord and usually need to have around 4 years left or greater on your lease.

## Are you aware of the upfront cost?

While the long-term savings from solar are compelling, it's important to consider the initial investment required for panel purchase and installation. The good news is, most installers offer flexible financing options, either directly or through specialist providers. In addition, government schemes offer increasingly attractive incentives which reduce both upfront Capex and investment payback timeframes. (See page 2.)

## Is sustainability a business priority?

Getting buy-in on a significant Solar transformation for bigger businesses generally means bringing multiple stakeholders along for the journey. If your customer base or shareholders value green initiatives and corporate responsibility, Solar can bring benefits to your business far beyond the power bill.

## Are you familiar with the rebates?

Government incentives can significantly reduce your upfront cost. The federal solar rebate (SRES), now expanded to systems up to 1 MW, can cut the cost of a mid-sized install by up to 25%. State and territory programs may also apply.

If you've got questions about Solar Energy and Batteries for your business, contact your Zembl Customer Success team on 1300 957 721 or via dedicatedsupport@zembl.com.au

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# The bottom line on solar: A client journey

**How Tresillian saved $17,899 annually on energy with Solar.**

Tresillian requested Zembl's support to implement Solar into their business. Together with Solar Choice, Zembl provided expert industry guidance on system design, electrical safety, and the use of advanced optimisers to accommodate the specific needs of a healthcare setting.

| **Energy savings achieved** | **STC Rebate secured** |
| --- | --- |
| $17,899 per annum^ | $19,686* |

★★★★★

"The entire process was seamless, from the evaluation of the energy contract to the installation of the solar system. The financial benefits we've gained will allow us to continue focusing on providing high-quality clinical services to families."

**- Peter Hinrichsen, COO Tresillian**




^Savings are estimates only and are based on comparing the customer's previous energy rates with the new rates arranged through Zembl, using the customer's historical usage data. Actual savings may vary depending on changes to energy usage, future rates, and other factors outside of Zembl's control. Past savings are not a guarantee of future outcomes.
*Solar savings are based on Tresillian's actual results. Savings and rebates vary by system, site and usage

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# How do I get Solar Panels and Batteries?

As a valued Zembl customer, you can access Energy Efficiency solutions including expert Solar and Battery advice from our exclusive partner and nationally trusted Solar solution provider Solar Choice.

Solar Choice is used by more than 1 million Australians every year to guide them to the right solar solution. They provide unbiased recommendations and have been trusted by more than 3,000 businesses since 2008 for Solar tendering and advice.

Together with Solar Choice, Zembl can provide a Solar feasibility study, clearly showing the upfront investment and timeframes for when your investment will pay you back, using cutting edge predictive tools based on your business data.

**To see if Solar is a good fit for your business, simply submit your details to request further information.**

Request further information

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