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**APPI**  
**Policy Challenge**  
**Grant**

**How to present strong**  
**evidence of**  
**policymaker interest**



# Evidence of policymaker interest

**INTRODUCTION**

Letter of support

Summarise

Include evidence

## ▶ Including evidence of policymaker interest in applications

The APPI Policy Challenge Grant supports public policy research for the public good.

Grants are awarded to outstanding academics undertaking new applied policy research, translating existing research for a policy audience, or engaging with policymakers through outreach activities with the aim of tackling the greatest public policy challenges facing Australia.

Applicants must outline how their proposed project relates to a public policy challenge facing governments in Australia and demonstrate that the project will be of interest to policymakers.

Applications should clearly identify which parts of governments the project is relevant to and specify whether the proposal relates to a state, federal or inter-governmental policy priority.

Applicants can choose to provide evidence in the way that best supports their application. There are several ways to provide this evidence effectively. Some examples are outlined below.



# Evidence of policymaker interest

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**LETTER OF SUPPORT**

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## ▶ Include letter(s) of support

Consider submitting a letter(s) of support from relevant stakeholders. Letters of support can come from policymakers, industry, non-government organisations or other organisations relevant to the policy challenge.

You can submit more than one letter of support where you have multiple stakeholders supporting your project.

Letters must be succinct (one-page) and clearly outline how the research will help tackle the specific policy challenge.



# Evidence of policymaker interest

[Introduction](#)[Letters of support](#)**SUMMARISE**[Include evidence](#)

## ▶ Summarise policymaker interest

You can summarise policymaker interest in your 600-word written response to question 4 in the About the Project section.

Note that hyperlinks may not work in the application portal, and you will need to include the full URL.

### Example 1

#### Community engagement in energy infrastructure projects

Across NSW, there have been multiple examples of community kickback linked to the rollout of renewable energy infrastructure which have been well documented (see this article in [The Conversation](#)). If unaddressed, this resistance will undermine the successful transition to net zero and result in NSW Government failing to meet the key objectives of its Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap and the development of Renewable Energy Zones (REZs).

At both federal and state level, there has been acknowledgement of the 'consultation deficit' in recent years which must be addressed to enable net zero goals to be met. The independent [Community Engagement Review](#) conducted by the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner, Andrew Dyer, for the Australian Government's Minister for Climate Change and Energy identified a number of actions necessary to improve community engagement effectiveness and outcomes in the energy transition.

Other organisations have joined together to call for greater government action to address the information deficit around renewable energy infrastructure projects. These include RE-Alliance which [called for](#) governments to invest in building trust for Australia's clean energy shift and NSW Farmers who called for government action to address the lack of community and landholder consultation by renewable energy developers.

With large scale renewable energy projects planned across NSW, there is a pressing need to address the consultation deficit and generate enhanced social licence in support of the energy transition.



# Evidence of policymaker interest

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**INCLUDE EVIDENCE**

## ▶ Include evidence in a table or list

Upload a table or list summarising examples of government/policymaker interest. Aim to be specific and succinct. 1-2 pages of evidence is sufficient. Evidence can vary and may include quotes from ministers, key commitments from government strategies or recommendations from parliamentary inquiries. Make it easy for the assessment panel to understand the relevance of your evidence, noting that they may not be experts or have a background in your policy area.

### Example 2

#### Demonstrating policymaker interest in increasing electric vehicle uptake

EVIDENCE	FURTHER INFORMATION
NSW Government's Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023 aims for a 50% emissions reduction (from 2005 levels) by 2030 and net zero by 2050.	<a href="https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/nsw-plans-and-progress/government-strategies-and-frameworks/climate-change-net-zero-future-act-2023">https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/nsw-plans-and-progress/government-strategies-and-frameworks/climate-change-net-zero-future-act-2023</a>
In September 2023, NSW Minister for Energy and Climate Change, Penny Sharpe said: "Increasing the number of electric vehicles on our roads is an essential step to NSW getting to Net Zero emissions".	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/supercharge-the-shift-evs-in-nsw">https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/supercharge-the-shift-evs-in-nsw</a>
NSW Government EV Strategy aims to increase EV sales to 52% by 2030–31	<a href="https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-09/nsw-electric-vehicle-strategy-210225.pdf">https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/sites/default/files/2022-09/nsw-electric-vehicle-strategy-210225.pdf</a>
NSW Government rolled out EV Ready Building Grant to boost charging infrastructure in apartment buildings	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/electric-vehicle-ready-buildings-grant">https://www.nsw.gov.au/grants-and-funding/electric-vehicle-ready-buildings-grant</a>
NSW Government invested \$260 million in the 2023–24 NSW Budget to increase electric vehicle uptake in NSW	<a href="https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/supercharge-the-shift-evs-in-nsw">https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/supercharge-the-shift-evs-in-nsw</a>
At a federal level, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water has commenced in Jan. 2024 into the transition to electric vehicles.	<a href="https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/House_of_Representatives/About_the_House_News/Media_Releases/Committee_launches_inquiry_into_the_transition_to_electric_vehicles">https://www.aph.gov.au/About_Parliament/House_of_Representatives/About_the_House_News/Media_Releases/Committee_launches_inquiry_into_the_transition_to_electric_vehicles</a>



# Evidence of policymaker interest

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**INCLUDE EVIDENCE**

## ▶ Include evidence in a table or list

### Example 3

#### Demonstrating policymaker interest in increasing the supply of affordable housing across Australia

EVIDENCE	FURTHER INFORMATION
Housing Australia Future Fund (HAFF): A \$10 billion fund established to deliver 30,000 new social and affordable homes within five years (starting 2024).	<a href="https://www.finance.gov.au/government/australian-government-investment-funds/housing-australia-future-fund">https://www.finance.gov.au/government/australian-government-investment-funds/housing-australia-future-fund</a>
National Housing Accord: A partnership with states and territories aiming to build 1.2 million new, well-located homes over 5 years from mid-2024, including 10,000 new affordable dwellings (matched by states for a total of 20,000).	<a href="https://ministers.treasury.gov.au/ministers/jim-chalmers-2022/media-releases/national-housing-accord-working-together-help-tackle">https://ministers.treasury.gov.au/ministers/jim-chalmers-2022/media-releases/national-housing-accord-working-together-help-tackle</a>
Build-to-Rent (BTR) Tax Incentives: Effective January 2025, the government implemented tax concessions for BTR projects that offer at least 10% of their units as affordable housing.	<a href="https://www.ato.gov.au/businesses-and-organisations/assets-and-property/build-to-rent-development-tax-incentives">https://www.ato.gov.au/businesses-and-organisations/assets-and-property/build-to-rent-development-tax-incentives</a>



Avoid uploading lengthy and detailed documents such as an entire government strategy document or a relevant Act. The judging panel will not have time to read them and extract the salient points.

Be specific in highlighting commitments made by government (in strategies, speeches, legislation etc), recommendations made by parliamentary committees or inquiries, or key data demonstrating this is a significant policy challenge.



Use [this template](#) to summarise policymaker interest in your topic area. 1-page of evidence is sufficient.

[Download template](#)



# 2 Contact us

For further grant-related enquiries, please either refer to the FAQs section on the APPI website or contact us via email.

✉ [grants@appi.org.au](mailto:grants@appi.org.au)



Good public policy starts with evidence.

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