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Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme

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From 1 April 2022 a range of new legal requirements commenced that directly affect solar businesses whose work relates to claims for small-scale technology certificates.

See our videos for [installers and designers](#), [agents](#), [manufacturers](#) and [solar retailers](#) about the changes and to support your compliance with the new obligations. We have also created a video which provides a [general overview](#) of all the changes.

See our new [forms and guides](#) to assist solar businesses with the new requirements.

We also encourage all Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme businesses to [sign up to the Renewable Energy Target category of our email subscription service](#) to make sure you receive information about these and other important changes which will affect solar businesses during 2022 and 2023.

The Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme creates a financial incentive for individuals and small businesses to install eligible small-scale renewable energy systems such as solar panel systems, small-scale wind systems, small-scale hydro systems, solar water heaters and air source heat pumps. It does this through the creation of [small-scale technology certificates](#) which [Renewable Energy Target liable entities](#) have a legal obligation to buy and [surrender](#) to the Clean Energy Regulator on a quarterly basis. Small-scale technology certificates are provided 'up front' for the systems' expected power generation over a 15 year period or, from 2017, from the installation year until 2030 when the scheme ends. This renewable electricity replaces electricity generated from non-renewable sources. Generally, householders who purchase these systems assign the right to create their certificates to an agent in return for a lower purchase price. The level of this benefit differs across the country depending on the level of solar energy.

Small-scale technology certificates can be created following the installation of an eligible system, and are calculated based on the amount of electricity a system produces or replaces (that is, electricity from non-renewable sources).

The number of small-scale technology certificates required to be submitted by electricity retailers is set each year by the [small-scale technology percentage](#).

System eligibility

Under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme, eligible small-scale renewable energy systems may be entitled to small-scale technology certificates, which can be sold to recoup a portion of the cost of purchasing and installing the system.

Small-scale renewable systems which may be eligible for certificates include:

- [solar photovoltaic \(PV\) panels](#)
- [wind turbines](#)
- [hydro systems](#)
- [solar water heaters, and](#)
- [air source heat pumps.](#)

Learn more about [systems eligible under the Small-scale Renewable Energy Scheme.](#)
