

## IMPORTANT UPDATE

📅 Published: September 19, 2025.

# ⚡ Battery STCs: Cheaper Home Batteries Program

Use this quick reference guide to stay on top of the Cheaper Home Batteries Program, and keep track of updates as the scheme develops and requirements are refined. For more information, visit [CER website](https://www.dcceew.gov.au/cheaper-home-batteries) or [dcceew.gov.au/cheaper-home-batteries](https://www.dcceew.gov.au/cheaper-home-batteries)



## 1. Updated Requirements for Modular Batteries <sup>NEW</sup>

The CER introduced new requirements for modular battery submissions.

### What battery serials should I scan?

#### 🔌 New Battery Units

- ✅ Capture the serial number on the base unit (Master Serial or Controller Unit)
- ✅ Capture every individual battery module serial

#### CAPTURE SERIALS



Battery serials (Master)

Locked  
Tap for  
details



Battery module serials

Locked  
Tap for  
details



#### 🔌 All-in-One Battery Systems - Integrated inverter batteries

- ✅ Enter the **same serial number** in both the **Battery Serial Number** and **Inverter Serial Number** fields
- ✅ Scan every module serial

#### + Additional Modules

- ✓ Capture the serial number on the base unit (Master Serial or Controller Unit)
- ✓ Capture all **new** battery module serials

**If any of your BSTC applications got failed because of this reason, rest assured we'll rectify and re-lodge the claim for you. If you didn't capture all serials at the time of install, kindly supply them so we can proceed to recreate the job.**



## 2. How to list SigenStor batteries NEW

SigenStor systems have two parts:

- a controller/inverter, and
- stackable battery modules

The CEC-approved model name follows this pattern:

**SigenStor-[Controller kW] [Phase] – [Total battery capacity kWh]**

Examples

- **SigenStor-5S-5** → 5 kW single-phase controller + 5 kWh (1×5 kWh module)
- **SigenStor-5S-10** → 5 kW single-phase controller + 10 kWh (2×5 kWh modules)
- **SigenStor-5T-24** → 5 kW three-phase controller + 24 kWh (3×8 kWh modules)
- **SigenStor-10T-16** → 10 kW three-phase controller + 16 kWh (2×8 kWh modules)

### Why this matters

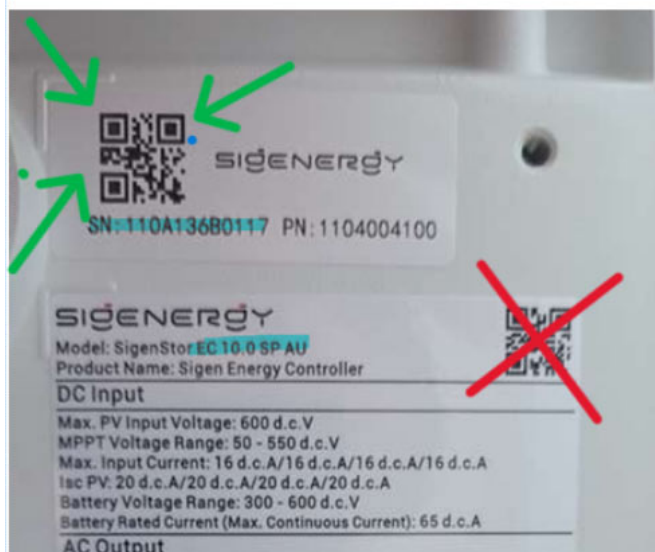
The **exact system configuration** must be **CEC-approved** to be eligible. Listing modules as separate systems when there is only one controller will delay or invalidate the claim.

### How to list it correctly

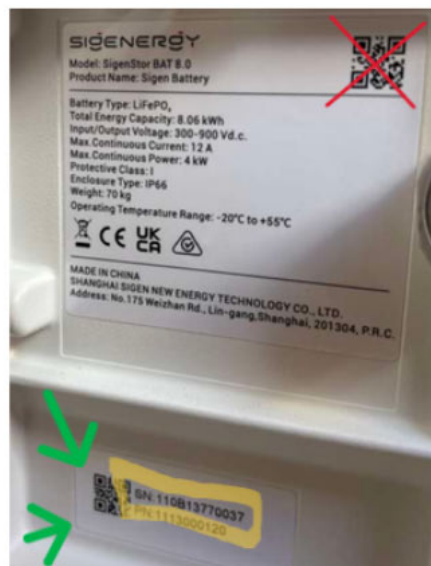
- [Check the CEC Website](#) to make sure the configuration you're installing is CEC approved
- **Do not** list each battery module as its own SigenStor system unless you're actually installing multiple controllers.
- **Common mistake**  
Installer fits 1× 10 kW three-phase controller + 2× 8 kWh modules and lists:  
**2 × SigenStor-10T-8 ❌** (this implies two controllers)
- **Correct listing:**  
**SigenStor-10T-16 ✓** (one 10 kW three-phase controller with 16 kWh total)

## What serials need to be scanned?

### Master Serial number



### Module Serial number



✓ Scan the serial number located on the sticker above or below the nameplate.

✗ The QR code on the nameplate throws a product code, **do not scan**.



## 3. CER Processing Times

We understand how important fast processing is, especially for small businesses managing tight cash flow. As the Cheaper Home Batteries Program rolls out, the Clean Energy Regulator (CER) will be manually reviewing all battery STC applications. This means processing will take a little longer than usual.

To help your jobs progress smoothly, **please ensure you submit accurate and compliant applications the first time**.

This will reduce delays and help us process certificates faster for everyone. If you're unsure, check out our [Tips Before You Submit](#).



## 4. Tips Before You Submit

Before you click Submit, please double-check the following to avoid unnecessary delays:

- ✓ **Date of test:** Ensure that Certificate of Electrical Compliance, STC form, and commissioning selfie all show the same date.
- ✓ **Signatures:** All signatures must be captured **on or after** the job was completed, **never before**.
- ✓ **Installer onsite evidence:** The installer must take at least **three selfies** clearly showing they were onsite.

✔ **Photo quality:** Battery and inverter nameplates must clearly show the serial number and model.

✔ **Battery Serials:** Provide correct and accurate serials. Refer to '[What battery serials should I scan?](#)'

If there are any issues with your job, our team will contact you to resolve them before it can be submitted to the CER.



Please take a moment to review everything carefully before you click submit to avoid unnecessary delays.



## 5. Your Daily Install Limits

SAA-accredited installers are limited to:

 **2 x PV installs only**, or

 **2 x battery installs only**, or

 **1 x PV + 1 x battery install**

*(Even if both are at the same address)*

We've combined PV and Battery STCs into a single form to simplify data capture onsite.



However, a solar + battery installation counts as two separate applications, even if they are for the same address.



## 6. Battery STCs & State Incentive Compatibility

### Western Australia

Households in WA can claim both the **federal CHBP battery STCs** and the **WA Residential Battery Scheme** (rebate or loan), provided the following are met:

- Minimum battery size: 5 kWh usable capacity
- Must participate in a VPP
- Available to Synergy and Horizon Power customers
- Must use WA-approved battery equipment

### New South Wales

Under the NSW Peak Demand Reduction Scheme, PRCs created via the **BESS2** (batteries enrolled in a 12-month VPP demand response contract) **can be stacked** with Battery STCs.

Always confirm compatibility and compliance with the relevant state program.



## 7. Battery STC Eligibility Summary

- ✓ Commissioned on/after 1 July (Certificate of Compliance date)
- ✓ 5–50kWh usable capacity eligible (Total onsite capacity less than 100kWh nominal)
- ✓ Battery and inverter (if required) must be CEC-listed
- ✓ On-grid systems must be VPP-capable - If battery is not VPP-capable, the inverter must be VPP-capable
- ✓ Off-grid systems must have a CEC-listed inverter



Installed or supervised by an SAA-accredited installer:

- Grid Connected Battery Systems (GCBS)
- Off Grid- Stand Alone Power Systems (SAPS)

- ✓ Installer selfies at start, middle and end, and compliance evidence captured via Formbay
- ✓ A site is eligible to claim Battery STCs once. Support will be provided for one battery system at a single premises.

Visit [dceew.gov.au/cheaper-home-batteries](https://dceew.gov.au/cheaper-home-batteries) for more details.



## 8. FAQ: Can I Add a Battery Module to an Existing Stackable battery system?

**NEW**

As outlined in the **CER Website**, STCs can be claimed for new battery modules added to an existing stackable battery system.

**The final configuration of the stackable battery system must be on the CEC's approved product list at the date of certification.**

### How do I create job on Formbay to claim STCs on battery modules?

# Create Battery STC Form



[Start job creation](#)

If in doubt, always check the [CEC battery list](#) before proceeding.



## 9. FAQ: When is a System Considered “Installed”?

### Commissioning = First Energised.

A system is considered commissioned when it is first energised, even if:

- It is turned off immediately after testing
- Internet setup or monitoring is still pending

### Certificate of Compliance

Under state and territory safety regulations, if you energise and begin testing the system, you are required to issue a Certificate of Electrical Compliance.

- The Certificate of Compliance date determines whether the job is eligible for Battery STCs under the Cheaper Home Batteries Program (CHBP).
- If the Certificate of Compliance is dated before 1 July 2025, the system is not eligible – even if the battery was later switched off.

### Compliance Warning

Providing false information or re-issuing a Certificate of Compliance that doesn't reflect the true commissioning date **is considered fraud**.

### What if Work Started Before 1 July?

The battery system is still eligible if:

- It was not electrically connected, and
- A Certificate of Compliance was not issued



## 10. All-in-One Battery Systems

If the inverter and battery are integrated into a single, stackable unit, it is not possible to commission the solar and inverter separately from the battery. Therefore:

- Once the system is wired, tested, and certified, it is considered commissioned in full, including the battery.
- Even if the battery is disabled via software or hasn't been switched on, it still counts as commissioned if electrical work has been completed and a Certificate of Compliance issued.
- Please read CER's release on this [here](#).



**To qualify for Battery STCs, all-in-one systems must be commissioned on or after 1 July 2025.**



## 11. Evidence Off Grid Systems

### Properties more than 1 km from the grid

Off-grid solar batteries more than 1 km from the grid must be on the CEC's approved product list. They don't need to be VPP-capable.

### Properties less than 1 km from the grid

Off-grid solar batteries less than 1 km from the grid must be on CEC's approved product list and either:

- have written evidence from a Distribution Network Service Provider (DNSP) that the cost to connect to the main grid is more than \$30,000
- be VPP-capable (this helps future proof installations that might connect to the grid later).

You don't need to provide written evidence if you choose a solar battery that is VPP-capable.

A DNSP's written evidence must include that the total cost of connecting the unit to the main grid is more than \$30,000. Noting that additional costs to extend the connection, such as to a building, are not included in the \$30,000 amount.

### Adding to an existing off-grid system

If adding a solar battery to an existing off-grid system, written evidence from your DNSP must be provided if the solar battery or inverter are not VPP-capable.