

Performance of the Regional Investment Activation Fund and the Regional Job Creation Fund

Answers to Supplementary Questions

SunDrive Solar

1. You gave evidence on how the cessation of the RIAF was communicated to you (page 13, uncorrected transcript). What could have been done better about the communication process? Would you have appreciated any feedback on your application despite the ceasing of the RIAF?

We offer two suggestions to improve the process: first, applicants to a newly closed fund could be contacted and offered the opportunity to resubmit the same application for the most appropriate alternative fund. This would make use of the invested effort and resources and encourage economic activity to continue. Second, we would gratefully receive feedback on our submission – some agencies do this effectively, for example, the Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA) provides in-depth and constructive feedback on submissions to refine project objectives, deliverables, budgets, and risk management plans. In the case of NSW funding programs, feedback on the strength of our proposal in aligning with NSW priorities and suggestions that we could explore to make our proposal more attractive or less risky would be invaluable. Both these approaches would demonstrate a commitment to helping local businesses succeed in NSW.