



australian
energy
producers

2025–2026 Excellence Awards

SUBMISSION CRITERIA



About the awards

The Australian Energy Producers Excellence Awards recognise leadership and innovation across Australia's upstream oil and gas sector. They celebrate initiatives that deliver measurable improvements in environmental stewardship, community and social investment, innovation and technology, and safety and wellbeing.

From 2026, the Awards have been streamlined into four categories, each focused on a specific area of upstream petroleum operations.

To improve visibility and encourage the sharing of leading practices across the sector, Australian Energy Producers will showcase award recipients and their achievements through multiple channels – including presentations at the annual Conference, digital features and industry webinars.

This document provides information to support the submission process, which runs from Thursday 29 January 2026 to close of business (AWST) on Friday 13 March 2026.

For full details, including terms and conditions, please visit our [website](#).

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AEP Excellence Awards Summary

Australian Energy Producers is pleased to invite submissions in the following categories:

- Environmental Stewardship**
- Community and Social Investment**
- Innovation and Technology**
- Safety and Wellbeing**

Projects will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Leadership and culture
- Objectives, outcomes and impact
- Risk management and assurance
- Stakeholder engagement and collaboration
- Innovation and continuous improvement
- Insights and knowledge sharing
- Strategic alignment with AEP priorities

Full details of these criteria are listed on page 5.

Eligibility

An applicant must be a full or associate member of Australian Energy Producers.

Applications must be related to upstream oil and gas projects and activities in Australia, where the core activity occurred in the 2025 calendar year.

Member and associate member companies can provide multiple applications across any categories of their choice.

Timeline

- Applications open**
Thursday 29 January 2026
- Applications close**
Friday 13 March 2026
- Award presentations**
Wednesday 20 May 2026 in conjunction with the Conference Dinner at the Australian Energy Producers Annual Conference (Adelaide)

AEP Excellence Award Categories

The AEP Excellence Awards celebrate members' achievements across four categories reflecting our industry's commitment to excellence and leadership.

Members are invited to submit nominations for one or more of the following categories:



Environmental Stewardship

Recognises excellence in advancing sustainable practices and environmental protection in the oil and gas sector



Community and Social Investment

Celebrates innovative projects that deliver lasting social and economic benefits to communities



Innovation and Technology

Showcases the development and application of new technologies or leading approaches that drive progress in the oil and gas sector



Safety and Wellbeing

Honours initiatives that demonstrate exceptional commitment to protecting the health, safety and wellbeing of people in the workplace

AEP Excellence Award Selection criteria

A single, consistent selection framework will be applied across all award categories, built around seven core elements of excellence.

Projects nominated for Excellence Awards will be evaluated against the following selection criteria:

Leadership and culture

Demonstrates how leadership, governance and organisational culture influences project design and delivery.

Risk management and assurance

Shows effective risk management and assurance processes to validate outcomes and maintain integrity.

Innovation and continuous improvement

Highlights innovative technologies or approaches that deliver efficiency, sustainability or social benefits.

Strategic alignment with AEP priorities

Shows how the project supports AEP's advocacy, influence, public awareness and member engagement.

Objectives, outcomes and impact

Defines clear goals, measures results, and demonstrates measurable and lasting outcomes.

Stakeholder contributions and meaningful engagement

Demonstrates meaningful engagement and collaboration with stakeholders to improve outcomes and build trust.

Insights and knowledge sharing

Provides evidence of lessons learned and knowledge shared across the organisation or sector.

Assessment process

Submissions will be assessed by a panel of judges.

Panel members will be required to declare any actual or potential conflicts of interest. Where a conflict of interest is identified, the relevant judge will step aside from the assessment of the affected nomination(s).

If the panel is unable to reach a consensus, additional assessors may be engaged to review the relevant submissions before a final decision is made.

The judging panel has full discretion in determining the outcomes of the Excellence Awards. Australian Energy Producers reserves the right not to award category winners in any given year.

Terms and conditions

To review the full terms and conditions for the Excellence Awards, please click [here](#).

How to apply

- 1** Review the award categories on page 4 to determine which category best suits your nomination. Member and associate member organisations may submit multiple applications across any categories of their choice. You can save your submission at any stage and return to complete it later.
- 2** Visit [here](#) to download the application form.
- 3** Prepare the application form for the relevant award and include evidence to support your nomination. Structure your application using the selection criteria subheadings outlined on page 5. The written component should not exceed 2,000 words, excluding supporting documentation.
- 4** A representative of the organisation with appropriate authority should review the awards' terms and conditions before submitting an application. These are available on the application form and can also be downloaded [here](#).
- 5** Gather appropriate supporting material to accompany your submission. Additional collateral such as imagery (a minimum of six images is required), video, graphics, reports, brochures, and publications should be included to strengthen your nomination.
- 6** Upload the required images to an online platform such as Flickr or Dropbox, and include the access link in your application.
- 7** Prepare a summary of 50 words describing the project being nominated.
- 8** Go to the online submission portal and complete the online form. Attach the application form, including the 50-word project summary and an 8-word project description, along with any supporting documentation. This should include the link to the required images, as well as any relevant videos, brochures, or website links.
- 9** Once your submission has been completed online, you will receive an email confirmation.

Submission deadline

Submissions must be lodged via the online submission portal, with relevant details and associated declaration, prior to the published closing date, close of business, AWST,

Friday 13 March 2025

Submit here

Any further questions?

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