



australian
energy
producers

2024–2025 Excellence Awards

SUBMISSION CRITERIA



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About the awards

Since 2001, the Australian Energy Producers Excellence Awards, previously known as the APPEA Excellence Awards, have showcased the oil and gas industry's unwavering commitment to maintaining high environmental and safety standards.

The Australian Energy Producers Excellence Awards provide an opportunity to recognise and share the outstanding work undertaken across our member companies to constantly improve operations for the benefit of the environment, health and safety, workforce and the communities where we operate.

There are four Excellence Awards categories, each focused on specific areas of upstream petroleum operations, a new award recognising the best small

business submission and the Chair's Award that is presented to the most outstanding project across all categories.

Australian Energy Producers encourages all award recipients to actively promote excellence and consider ways in which innovations and leading practices can be shared across the industry. To improve visibility and industry sharing, award winners and honorable mentions are encouraged to present their project/initiative after the Australian Energy Producers Conference via a webinar.

This document provides information to support the submission process, which runs from Friday 17 January 2025 to close of business, AWST, Wednesday 19 March 2025.

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

Award categories and criteria

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

- Environment Project Excellence Award
- Safety Project Excellence Award
- Community Development Excellence Award
- Workforce Development Excellence Award

This year we are introducing the **Australian Energy Producers Small Business Excellence Award**, which will recognise applications across the four categories from organisations with 100 or fewer full-time equivalent employees. This award recognises initiatives and outcomes derived in a small business environment that demonstrate innovation and new approaches to solve problems and improve outcomes.

The **Australian Energy Producers Chair's Award** is the principal award and recognises the most outstanding project across all the categories.

All award submissions are assessed on criteria that cover:

- leadership and culture
- key project achievements and outcomes
- risk management
- stakeholder contributions and meaningful engagement
- project innovation
- insights and knowledge sharing
- specific contributions relating to the award category

Full details of these criteria are listed on pages 4–7.

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 2024 calendar year. Member and associate member companies can provide multiple applications across any categories of their choice.

Timeline

- Applications open
Friday 17 January 2025
- Applications close
Wednesday 19 March 2025
- Award presentations
Wednesday 28 May 2025
in conjunction with the Gala Dinner at the Australian Energy Producers Annual Conference (Brisbane)

Environment Project Excellence Award Criteria

The Australian Energy Producers Environment Project Excellence Award recognises excellence in environmental research and projects that have led to improved environmental outcomes in the upstream oil and gas industry, with outcomes that exceed regulatory requirements and community expectations.

Submission criteria

Projects nominated for the Environment Project Excellence Award will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Leadership and culture

The company's leadership and culture materially contributed to the project's objectives, design and implementation.

Key project achievements and outcomes

The project set clear objectives, strategies and metrics to achieve the desired outcomes.

Risk management

The project implemented best practice or innovative methods to identify and manage existing and emerging risks.

Stakeholder contributions and meaningful engagement

The project actively engaged stakeholders in its development and implementation to improve results and includes ongoing stakeholder involvement.

Project innovation

The project demonstrates innovative and effective use of advanced technologies (e.g. automation, digitisation, clean technologies) and independent scientific input (e.g. commissioned or reviewed studies).

Insights and knowledge sharing

The project delivered useful insights and results that have broader application within the organisation and/or the wider industry.

Environmental contributions

The project delivered:

- improved environmental outcomes and a better understanding of the surrounding environment and prevailing conditions
- reduced uncertainty in environmental decisions
- new approaches to effectively address environmental challenges, and/or
- measurable positive environmental impact, supported by results or case studies.

Safety Project Excellence Award Criteria

The Australian Energy Producers Safety Project Excellence Award recognises innovative and effective approaches to improve workplace safety and safety outcomes in the Australian upstream oil and gas industry. A key focus of the safety award is the ability to transfer knowledge and expertise to other workplaces, leading to improved safety performance and outcomes across our industry.

Submission criteria

Projects nominated for the Safety Project Excellence Award will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Leadership and culture

The company's leadership and culture materially contributed to the project's objectives, design and implementation.

Key project achievements and outcomes

The project set clear objectives, strategies and metrics to achieve the desired outcomes.

Risk management

The project implemented best practice or innovative methods to identify and manage existing and emerging risks to safety.

Stakeholder contributions and meaningful engagement

The project actively engaged stakeholders and incorporated feedback to improve safety outcomes, including ongoing stakeholder involvement.

Project innovation

The project demonstrates innovative and effective use of advanced technologies (e.g. automation, digitisation, clean technologies) and independent scientific input (e.g. commissioned or reviewed studies).

Insights and knowledge sharing

The project delivered useful insights and results that have broader application within the organisation and/or the wider industry.

Safety contributions

The project delivered:

- improved safety outcomes and a better understanding of safety issues and risks
- reduced uncertainty in safety related decisions
- new approaches to effectively address safety challenges
- measurable positive safety impact, supported by results or case studies.

Community Development Excellence Award Criteria

The Australian Energy Producers Community Development Excellence Award recognises industry programs and projects that improve social and community outcomes where the oil and gas industry operates. The award values initiatives that deliver impactful, enduring and positive outcomes for local communities, including education and training, access to services, economic development and opportunities for local businesses.

Submission criteria

Projects nominated for the Community Project Excellence Award will be evaluated against the following criteria:

Leadership and culture

The company's leadership and culture materially contributed to the project's objectives, design and implementation.

Key project achievements and outcomes

The project set clear objectives, strategies and metrics to achieve the desired outcomes.

Risk management

The project implemented best practice or innovative methods to identify and manage existing and emerging risks.

Stakeholder contributions and meaningful engagement

The project actively engaged stakeholders to improve social outcomes and community amenity, with ongoing stakeholder involvement in the project.

Project innovation

The project demonstrated innovative and effective use of advanced technologies (e.g. automation, digitisation, clean technologies) and independent scientific input (e.g. commissioned or reviewed studies).

Insights and knowledge sharing

The project delivered useful insights and results that have broader application within the organisation and/or the wider industry.

Community contributions

The project delivered:

- improved results and a better understanding of the needs of the local community
- increased engagement with the local community to enhance community-based decisions
- new approaches to effectively address challenges faced by the local community
- measurable positive impact on the local community, supported by results or case studies.

Workforce Development Excellence Award Criteria

The Australian Energy Producers Workforce Development Excellence Award recognises employer-led initiatives and projects that improve workplace culture and opportunities for workplace development. A key focus of the workforce development award is improved productivity, workplace sentiment and worker attraction and retention outcomes.

Submission criteria

Projects nominated for the Workforce Project Excellence Award will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Leadership and culture

The company's leadership and culture materially contributed to the project's objectives, design and implementation.

Key project achievements and outcomes

The project set clear objectives, strategies and metrics to achieve the desired outcomes.

Risk management

The project implemented best practice or innovative methods to identify and manage existing and emerging risks.

Stakeholder contributions and meaningful engagement

The project actively engaged the workforce in its development and implementation, leading to positive workforce outcomes and ongoing workforce involvement.

Project innovation

The project demonstrates innovative and effective use of advanced technologies (e.g. automation, digitisation, clean technologies) and independent scientific input (e.g. commissioned or reviewed studies).

Insights and knowledge sharing

The project delivered useful insights and results that have broader application within the organisation and/or the wider industry.

Workforce contributions

The project delivered:

- improved results and a better understanding of the needs of the workforce
- increased engagement with the workforce to enhance community-based decisions.
- new approaches to effectively address workforce challenges
- measurable positive impact on the workforce, supported by results or case studies.

Assessment process

Each submission is assessed by a panel of judges.

The panel is provided with a list of nominations and must declare any conflict of interest. If a potential conflict of interest exists, the judge will be asked to step aside from the judging process relating to that nomination/s.

If the panel cannot agree on a final decision, additional assessors will be asked to review the relevant submissions before a final decision is made.

The winner of the Chair's Award is determined by the Australian Energy Producers Chair, or an alternate board member if there is a potential conflict of interest.

The judging panel has full discretion in deciding the outcomes of the Excellence Awards.

Australian Energy Producers reserves the right not to award category winners or Chair's awards 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 Awards Categories on pages 4–7 and ascertain which category is most suitable for your nomination. Member and associate member organisations can provide multiple applications across any categories of their choice. Please note, at any time in the submission process, you can save your incomplete submission and return to it later.
- 2** Visit [here](#) to download the application form.
- 3** Prepare the application form for the relevant award together with evidence to support the nomination. Submissions should use the criteria subheadings on pages 4–7 to structure a response. The word count for submissions, not including supporting documentation, is 2000 words. Weighting of each category is left to the discretion of the applicant.
- 4** A representative from the organisation with the appropriate authority should ensure they review the terms and conditions of the awards before an application is submitted. These can be found on the application form or downloaded from [here](#).
- 5** Gather appropriate supporting material. Submissions are required to provide additional supporting collateral such as imagery (a minimum of six images are requested), video, graphics, reports, brochures and publications.
- 6** Upload the required images to an online site such as Flickr or Dropbox so that the link can be included on the online nomination portal.
- 7** Prepare a 50–60 word summary description of the project that is being nominated.
- 8** Go to the online submission [portal](#) and complete the online form. Attach the application form, including the 50–60 word project description, and any other supporting documentation, including the link to the required images and any relevant videos, brochures or links to relevant websites.
- 9** Once submitted online, you will receive an email confirmation of your submission.

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,

Wednesday 19 March 2025

[Submit here](#)

Any further questions?

Content and criteria

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Administration and application process

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