



ARENA



Australian Government
Australian Renewable
Energy Agency

Establishing the social licence to operate large scale solar projects

Presented by Jennifer Brook

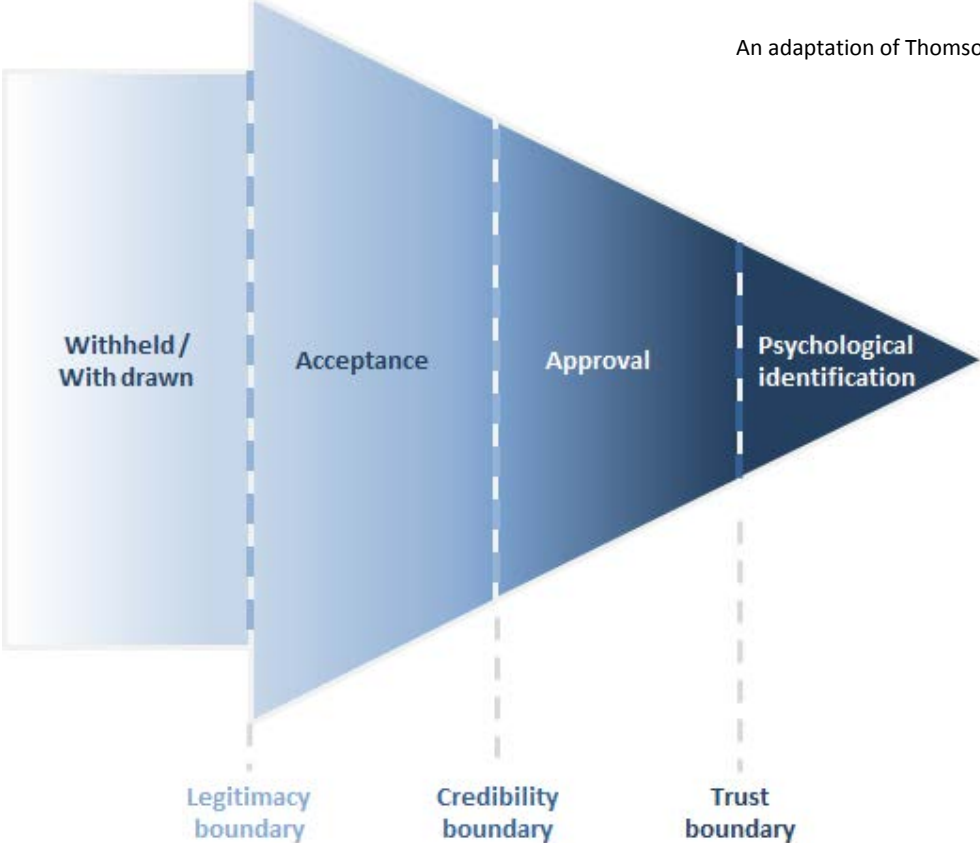
Objectives of the research

To identify the preconditions necessary for utility scale solar facilities to have a social licence to operate in Australia

1. Understand general attitudes
2. Understand what drives acceptability
3. Produce a guide to establishing SLO

Why social licence to operate?

An adaptation of Thomson and Boutilier's pyramid model (2011)

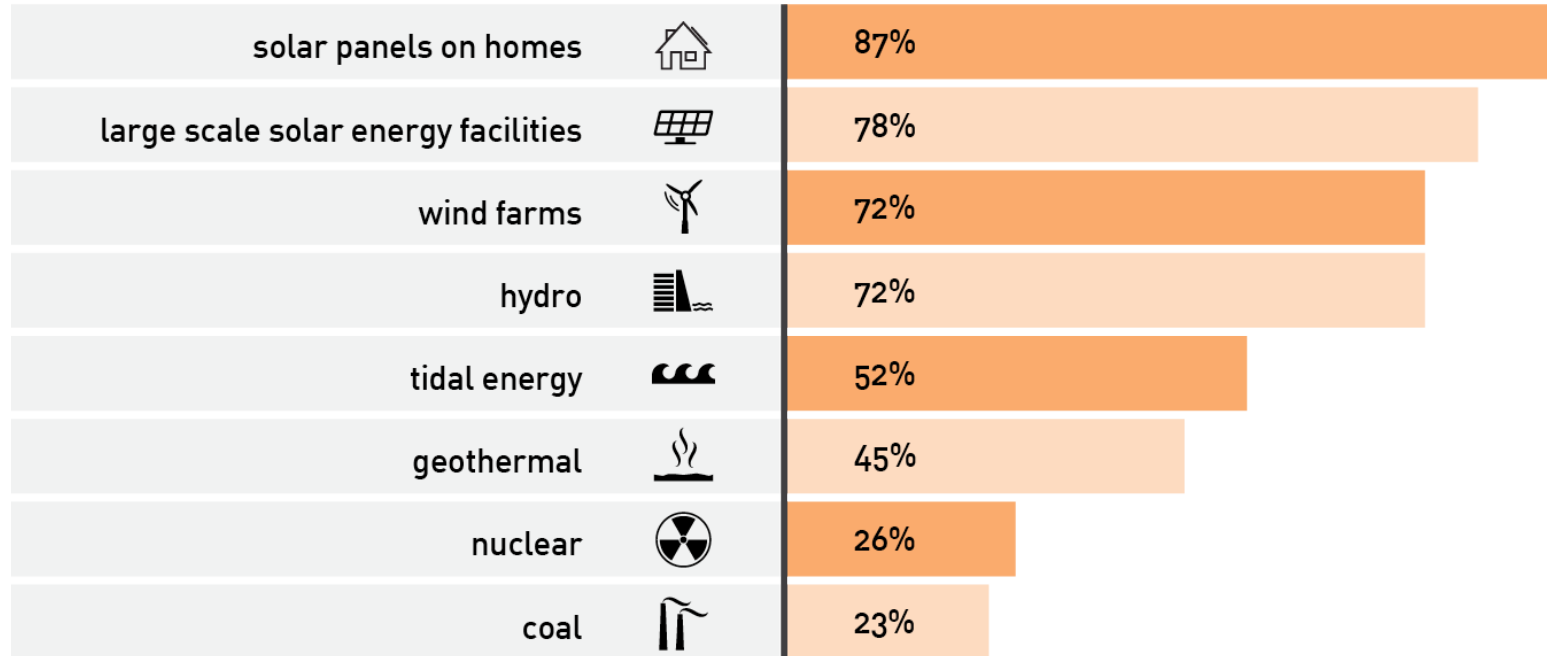


The lack of social licence is impacting the wind industry

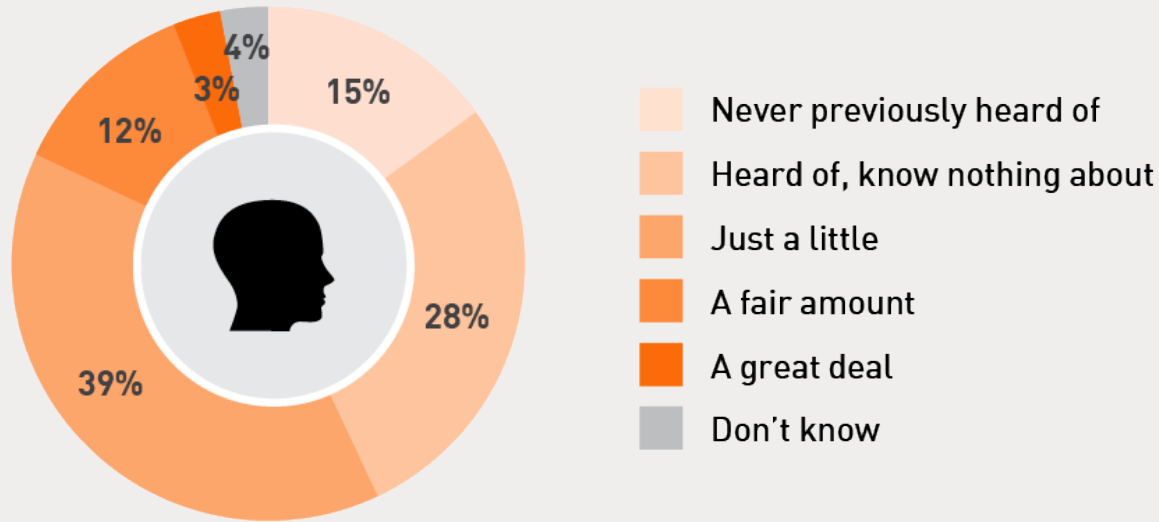


Australians love solar energy...

Most popular sources of energy for Australia: somewhat or strongly in favour...



... but knowledge of large scale solar is limited



Five building blocks underpin SLO for large scale solar



Reliability and efficiency of large scale solar energy projects



Visual impacts of large scale solar energy projects



Environmental impacts of large scale solar energy projects



Economic and employment impacts of large scale solar energy projects



Health impacts of large scale solar energy projects

Engaging with community

How do we go about it?

Research can help establish ...

- Who constitutes 'the community'
- What are the latent attitudes, preconceptions, awareness?
- Where the community is sourcing information from
- And sometimes, research is the first foray into engagement

How do we know if we're doing a good job?

- Some cohorts likely to always be unhappy
 - Track success of government or industry in delivering appropriate communications and opportunities to engage
- Separate feelings towards the infrastructure with experience with the engagement process / success of communications



<http://arena.gov.au/project/utility-scale-solar-installations-social-license-to-operate-in-australia/>