

Election Effects

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As most of us are aware, the Federal election has been announced by the Prime Minister for September 14. However, you may not be aware or have not thought about the effects of "Caretaker Mode" which is enacted prior to the election.

The Government will go into Caretaker Mode on August 12, when the PM visits the Governor-General to ask her to formally call the election.

So what does this mean for grants? During Caretaker Mode, the government will not announce any successful applicants or enter into new funding agreements. If you are applying for a government grant that has no closing date, such as Commercialisation Australia or the Clean Technology Investment Program, you should take this into consideration.

If you are aiming for an outcome from your grant application before the election, you should take into consideration how long it will take for a decision to be made (usually around 6-8 weeks) and then the time it takes to sign a funding agreement if you are successful (up to 30 days).

If you don't hear a decision before Caretaker Mode kicks in on August 12, you won't find out until the next ministry is appointed.

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