

Submission Type: Rule Change

Reference: Minor changes 1 2025 (Retail)

Organisation: Self

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Comments: I am making this submission on the advice of my federal member of parliament, whom I contacted after my energy retailer advised me that my previous opt-out from a smart meter rollout is no longer valid, and that I will be forced to change to smart meter.

My submission is this: that electricity users should not be forced on to a time-of-use tariff, and should instead be able to opt-in to such a tariff, with the default tariff remaining a single-rate tariff.

Time-of-use tariffs do not provide the benefits to consumers as is often claimed; every electricity user I have spoken to who has switched to a time-of-use tariff has found their electricity bills have risen considerably.

It is also beyond reasonable to expect electricity users to shift their usage to "off-peak" periods, which have changed considerably and are simply not viable. In a nation like Australia with abundant energy resources, punitive time-of-use tariffs amount to nothing more than rationing - something you would expect in a third-world country.