

I STRONGLY oppose the proposed increase to fixed electricity charges under EPR0097.

Increasing the fixed portion of bills will unfairly penalise households that have made the effort to use less electricity and those who have made the financial sacrifice to invest in rooftop solar and batteries that support energy generation in the system!

Households have reduced demand on the grid and made significant private investments to support Australia's clean energy transition.

They should not be worse off because of it.

Small and low-use households will be hit hardest. A pricing structure that shifts more costs into fixed charges disproportionately affects pensioners, renters, apartment dwellers and energy-conscious families.

There is also a serious long-term risk. If fixed charges continue to rise, households who can afford solar, batteries and backup systems will increasingly consider leaving the grid altogether. That would reduce the customer base that pays for shared network costs, pushing prices even higher!

I implore the AEMC to reject the proposed irrational changes that will increase fixed charges at the expense of equity, efficiency and long-term grid stability and to protect fair usage-based pricing and maintain strong incentives for households to reduce demand and invest in solar energy

A fair grid should reward people who use less and generate clean power, not punish them for it through increased fixed charges that have NO basis to actual energy used!