

From: noreply@123formbuilder.com  
To: Submissions@aemc.gov.au  
Date:  
User: [REDACTED]  
To the [REDACTED] ommission,

I am writing to make a submission to the Pricing Review: Electricity Pricing for a Consumer-Driven Future, and to express my concerns about Recommendation 5.

Increasing fixed network charges would negatively impact solar and battery owners, energy-efficient households, and people trying to do the right thing by reducing their electricity use.

Even households without solar, batteries and energy-efficient homes would be negatively impacted. People who use the least electricity - including single-person households, apartment residents, retirees, and low-income households - would be forced to pay more under this proposal.

Meanwhile, the poles and wires companies, and high-income households with high grid consumption stand to benefit the most from this proposal. These households could save hundreds of dollars every year on their energy bill, even though they are using the most electricity.

I am also concerned that higher fixed charges would extend solar and battery payback periods and weaken incentives for future investment in consumer energy resources, rising slower uptake.

This is at odds with other government policies that encourage households to help deliver a cheaper, cleaner energy system - one that cuts emissions, brings down wholesale energy prices, and reduces the need for costly network upgrades.

Electricity pricing should encourage households to save energy, shift demand, and if they can, invest in solutions that lower system costs - not punish them with higher unavoidable charges.

I urge the AEMC not to proceed with increasing fixed network charges and to properly assess alternative approaches that preserve strong price signals, support consumer energy resources, and deliver fairer outcomes for households.

Thank you for considering my submission.

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To the Market Commission,

I am writing to make a submission to the Pricing Review: Electricity Pricing for a Consumer-Driven Future, and to express my concerns about Recommendation 5.

I believe hit fixed charges would provide preserve incentives and undesirable outcomes in a regulated markets. Poles and lines companies would have no incentive to deliver good service or reliable electricity, since their income would be guaranteed, regardless. Households would have no incentive to invest in efficient power use or solar, as nothing they could do can significantly reduce what they are charged.

If the high fixed charges go ahead, then the high-income households will be incentivised to over-invest in battery & solar, and disconnect from the grid entirely. I've looked into for me, and it is quite feasible with today's products. This would put place further burden, for covering pole and lines company costs, onto lower income households and renters unable to disconnect from the grid.

The only consumers who will benefit from high charges will be the extremely rich, with the largest electricity use with the least efficiency. People with large mansions and huge pools and no solar, will save 1000's of dollars, thanks to higher fixed charges and lower usage costs.

All these perverse outcome are at odds with other government policies that

encourage households to help deliver a cheaper, cleaner energy system - one that cuts emissions, brings down wholesale energy prices, and reduces the need for costly network upgrades.

Poles and line companies will, no doubt, argue a lot of their costs are fixed. But that is not different from and business, like a retailer, the fixed costs of store or warehouse rental dominate their costs, and have to be covered by encouraging business. Poles and lines companies should be working to get more business, by promoting customer to switch from gas heating and petrol cars, to use more electricity instead, with heat pumps and EVs.

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This is a classic case of unjustly and unfairly moving the goalposts for consumers who, after considerable research and expense, have implemented a solar + battery strategy with the objective of countering ever-increasing energy costs and supporting the government's goal of a clean energy future for Australia.

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