



25 June 2026

Anna Collyer

Chair

Australian Energy Market Commission

GPO Box 2603

Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Ms Collyer,

Solar Citizens is an independent charity based in Australia working to bring down bills and reduce carbon emissions by growing uptake of renewable energy and clean transport. Established in 2013, we have grown to have more than 200,000 active supporters, and we represent the 10 million Australians (one-third of the population) living in homes powered by rooftop solar, the 500,000+ who have adopted clean transport, and the many more who remain locked out of consumer energy resources (CER). Australia had the highest rooftop solar per capita in the world, and the only federal battery rebate.

Solar Citizens's new initiative, EV Drivers Australia, is Australia's first organised consumer voice for electric vehicle drivers in national policy debate. Over 500,000 Australians now drive EVs, yet their perspectives are almost entirely absent from the conversations that affect them most. The initiative represents ordinary Australians who drive EVs and are affected by policy decisions — not manufacturers, not industry bodies.

Solar Citizens and EV Drivers Australia submit their support for the submission drafted by Nexa Advisory and their concerns about the Commonwealth Government Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (DCCEEW)'s proposed rule change to enable its Accelerating Electric Vehicle Charging (AEVC) Program.

Expanding EV charging infrastructure is essential to achieving Australia's EV targets and delivering on transport electrification's central role in Australia's Net Zero Plan. EV sales have skyrocketed in 2026 in light of the global fuel crisis and fuel price hikes, approaching 30% of total new vehicle sales in May 2026. ¹

¹ [Electric Vehicle Council 2026](#)

While charging black spots is a genuine problem that must be addressed, eliminating them should not come at the cost of consumer choice across the board. We strongly support giving EV drivers maximum choice in how and where they charge, and we oppose any measures that limit contested markets or funnel drivers into regulated monopolies.

Solar Citizens particularly supports the concerns raised by Nexa Advisory that the proposed rule change would allow regulated monopoly network companies to move into the EV charging market and recover their costs through everyone's electricity bills. This risks distorting competition, undermining consumer protections, and making ordinary electricity users foot the bill for transport infrastructure.

Solar Citizens recommends that:

- The rule change not proceed in its current form;
- Should the rule change proceed, recommendations from Nexa Advisory should be incorporated;
- Rule changes to increase the rollout of EV charging infrastructure should not enable cost recovery by DNSPs from all households through default Regulatory Asset Base recovery to pay for transport infrastructure;
- DNSPs should be supported to provide network-enabling functions only for EV charging infrastructure.

We welcome the opportunity to further discuss any aspect of our submission.



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