

The below submission has been lodged and confirmed on the AEMC Web site.

Submission Type: Rule Change

Reference: Access, pricing and incentive arrangements for distributed energy resources

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Comments: The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) last week announced that Australians could soon be charged for exporting solar to the grid to help cope with electricity "traffic jams".

BUT other solutions exist and could be implemented instead.

1)The first is to change our energy usage to marry up with peak periods of solar energy generation.

That means where possible, using things like pool filters, washing machines, dryers and other energy-intensive appliances during the middle of the day.

2)Another option is to upgrade our electricity grid infrastructure, Dr Verbic said.

"If you replace the existing wires with thicker ones, the over-voltage is no longer an issue," he said.

"But reverse power can still be a problem. This can be dealt with by replacing protection systems in the transformers."

3) Batteries are a third option that can help evenly distribute power across the day by absorbing it at peak generation periods and releasing it when our power demand is highest.

... An electricity distribution model called the local use of system tariff (LUOS) can be used in conjunction with batteries to reduce power costs for people without batteries or solar.

4) A further option is to regulate how much energy is exported into the grid at different times of day from each rooftop solar unit, using a mechanism called a "dynamic operating envelope".

... This requires all newly installed rooftop solar systems to have inverters that can be instructed to stop exporting energy to the grid.

From later this year, they will be required to have the ability to regulate the amount of energy they export — a dynamic operating envelope mechanism.

Source:

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/science/2021-03-30/solar-power-electricity-should-owners-pay-to-supply-grid/100035198>