

The power to choose



This fact sheet applies to small customers only; that is, residential and business customers that consume less than 150 MWh of electricity per year.

Metering for small customers

Tasmania joined the National Electricity Market in May 2005 and implemented the National Energy Customer Framework (NECF) in July 2012.

For the purpose of implementing the NECF in Tasmania, if you are a residential customer or a business customer consuming less than 150 MWh of electricity per annum, you are a small customer.

Will my business need a new meter?

No. As a small customer, you may continue to use your current meter. However, you and your retailer may agree that an interval meter, which records electricity usage in half hour blocks, would be more appropriate for your circumstances.

An interval meter has the benefit of providing you with detailed energy consumption data which may help you to negotiate the best possible price from your retailer.

If I choose to install a new meter, when should I do this?

It is up to you and your retailer. However, if you need to install a new meter before your electricity contract starts, it is recommended that you do this well in advance as it may take some time to get it organised and installed.

It is important to note that if you do require a new meter to be installed, this may necessitate a power outage, so you may need to plan for this to ensure minimum disruption.

How much will new metering cost?

Your retailer will be able to tell you how much an interval meter will cost.

Does an interval meter give my business any benefits?

An interval meter with a communications link allows for a remote read for billing purposes. This provides you with easy access to your usage volumes and gives you the opportunity to obtain a detailed profile of your electricity usage which, in turn, can allow you to manage your electricity consumption to lower your costs.

Who installs a new meter, and who reads it?

Your electricity retailer can organise for an interval meter to be installed and maintained on your behalf. This meter is then read by a Metering Data Agent, which in most cases can be organised by your retailer. Check with your retailer for further information.

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