Tasmanian Economic Regulator

Comparison of Electricity and Gas Prices Available to Small Customers in Australia

November 2026

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary ..... **iii**

1 Introduction **1**

2 Electricity: Residential general usage and controlled load tariffs **4**

2.1 Residential general usage/controlled load tariffs 4

2.2 Residential non-concession customers 5

2.2.1 Range of bills for non-concession customers 5

2.2.2 Comparison of annual bills 5

2.3 Residential concession customers 6

2.3.1 Range of bills for concession customers 6

2.3.2 Comparison of annual bills 6

3 Electricity: Residential time-of-use tariffs **7**

3.1 Residential time-of-use tariffs summary 7

3.2 Residential non-concession customers 8

3.2.1 Range of bills for non-concession customers 8

3.2.2 Comparison of annual bills 8

3.3 Residential concession customers 9

3.3.1 Range of bills for concession customers 9

3.3.2 Comparison of annual bills 9

4 Electricity: Business general usage tariffs **10**

4.1 Business general usage tariff summary 10

4.2 Business customers – 3 717 kWh 11

4.2.1 Range of bills for small-business customers 11

4.2.2 Comparison of annual bills 11

4.3 Business customers – 10 000 kWh 12

4.3.1 Range of bills for small-business customers 12
4.3.2 Comparison of annual bills 12
5 Electricity: Business time-of-use tariffs 13
5.1 Business time-of-use tariff summary 13
5.2 Business customers 14
5.2.1 Range of bills for small-business customers 14
5.2.2 Comparison of annual bills 14
6 Electricity: Bass Strait Islands 15
7 Natural gas 16
7.1 Natural gas summary 16
7.2 Residential customers 17
7.2.1 Range of bills for residential customers 17
7.2.2 Comparison of annual bills 17
7.3 Business customers 18
7.3.1 Range of bills for small-business customers 18
7.3.2 Comparison of annual bills 18
Appendix 1: Electricity and gas retailers, distribution areas and tariffs used 19
A1.1 Electricity 19
A1.2 Gas 23

Executive Summary

The Tasmanian Economic Regulator's annual *Comparison of Electricity and Gas Prices Available to Small Customers in Australia* report compares electricity and gas prices available to small customers in Tasmania and across mainland Australia. The report is prepared in accordance with section 10C of the *Electricity Supply Industry Act 1995* (the ESI Act).

This report examines 380 retail electricity tariffs and 424 gas tariffs available across Australia on 1 September 2026 and compares the resulting annual bills between jurisdictions. The Regulator has continued its approach of calculating median tariffs and annual bills for each jurisdiction.

Both regulated standing offer tariffs and market offer contracts are considered in this report. Regulated tariffs are set by independent regulators, except in Western Australia and the Northern Territory, where standing offer tariffs are set by their respective governments. Market offers are unregulated and can be changed by a retailer at any time.

Electricity bill comparisons in this report are presented as:

- a regulated-tariff comparison, which includes regulated tariffs only; and
- an all-tariff comparison, which includes both regulated tariffs and market offers in the analysis.

For each comparison, the representative tariff is the tariff that produces the middle-ranked (median) annual bill for the relevant jurisdiction and tariff type.

Unless otherwise stated, annual electricity bills are calculated at typical Tasmanian customer consumption levels. Business general usage bills are also calculated at an annual consumption of 10 000 kWh. Equivalent comparisons for electricity bills are also presented for residential concession customers.

There are two Tasmanian gas retailers, Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy, that offer reticulated natural gas to small residential and business customers. Their annual bills are compared with the range of annual bills and the jurisdictional average annual bills calculated for each mainland jurisdiction.

Details on the methodology for this report can be found in the Regulator's Methodology Guide.[1]

[1] *Comparison of Electricity and Gas Prices Available to Small Customers in Australia*, Methodology Guide, Version 1.1, November 2026.

Key findings - Electricity

Table E.1 summarises Tasmania's annual bills and rankings under the regulated-tariff and all-tariff comparisons.

- Tasmanian regulated tariffs continue to result in some of the lowest annual bills in Australia.
- For residential customers on time-of-use tariffs, the Tasmanian regulated tariff results in the lowest annual bills for both non-concession and concession customers.
- For residential customers on general usage/controlled load (heating and hot water) tariffs, Tasmania records the second lowest annual bill for non-concession customers and the lowest annual bill for concession customers.
- For small business customers on time-of-use tariffs, the Tasmanian regulated tariff results in the lowest annual bill.
- For small business customers on general usage tariffs, Tasmanian regulated tariffs result in the lowest annual bill at the typical Tasmanian consumption level and the national average consumption level.
- Results are also favourable in the all-tariff comparison, which includes both regulated tariffs and market offers.

Table E.1 Annual Tasmanian electricity bills and rankings under the regulated-tariff and all-tariff comparisons

				Regulated-tariff comparison[2]		All-tariff comparison		National
	Tariff	Concession	Consumption	Bill	Rank[3]	Bill	Rank[4]	Avg Bill[5]
Residential	General usage/ controlled load	Non-concession	7 796 kWh	$2 561	2	$2 555	2	$2 796
		Concession	6 515 kWh	$1 578	1	$1 573	2	$1 949
	Time-of-use	Non-concession	8 108 kWh	$2 483	1	$2 483	1	$2 930
		Concession	7 687 kWh	$1 705	1	$1 705	2	$2 308
Business	General usage		3 717 kWh	$1 637	1	$1 637	2	$1 962
			10 000 kWh	$3 337	1	$3 336	2	$4 095
	Time-of-use		11 622 kWh	$3 462	1	$3 461	2	$4 482

2 Tariffs offered by competing Tasmanian electricity retailers tend to be closely aligned, resulting in similar annual bills under the regulated-tariff and all-tariff comparisons.

3 The regulated-tariff ranking compares Tasmania with the representative regulated tariff for other National Electricity Market (NEM) jurisdictions. Western Australia and the Northern Territory have been excluded as these jurisdictions are outside the NEM and prices are set by their respective governments rather than an independent regulator.

4 The all-tariff ranking compares Tasmania with each jurisdiction's representative tariff, selected from all regulated tariffs and market offers included for that jurisdiction and tariff type.

5 The national average bill is the average of the representative jurisdictional bills in the all-tariff comparison.

Key findings - Natural gas

Compared to mainland jurisdictions, Tasmanian natural gas prices are high due to a range of factors, including the small size of the gas market, the corresponding absence of economies of scale, and the cost of importing gas to Tasmania. Natural gas is only available in limited areas in Tasmania and not on the BSI.

Two retailers, Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy, currently offer natural gas to small customers in Tasmania. There is no separate concession available specifically for gas customers in Tasmania. Eligible households may instead receive the Tasmanian electricity concession.

Tasmanian residential and small business gas bills are high compared with average annual bills in mainland Australia.

- The Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy residential tariffs each result in the second highest annual bill when compared with jurisdictional average annual bills, below only South Australia.
- The Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy business tariffs each result in the highest annual bill when compared with jurisdictional average annual bills.

A summary of annual gas bills for each Tasmanian retailer is included in Table E.2.

Table E.2 Comparison of annual gas bills

		Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy		National	
	Consumption	Bill	Rank	Avg Bill[6]	Range of averages[7]
Residential	36 870 MJ	$2 315	6	$2 079	$1 746 to $2 383
Business	473 000 MJ	$27 653	7	$21 454	$16 214 to $27 653

6 The national average bill is the average of each jurisdiction's average bill.

7 The national average range shows the range of average bills for each mainland jurisdiction and both Tasmanian retailers.

1 Introduction

Each year, the Tasmanian Economic Regulator prepares a report comparing electricity prices available to small customers across Australian jurisdictions, as required by section 10C of the ESI Act.[8]

To support consistent comparisons, it is assumed that prices applying on 1 September 2026 remain in effect for 12 months. In practice, some retailers may change their prices during that period.

The report includes regulated standing offer prices and market offer prices. Market offers that have special eligibility requirements (such as a rooftop solar installation or a club membership) are excluded because they are not available to all customers.

Electricity price comparisons are presented for:

- **Chapter 2**: residential customers under general usage/controlled load tariffs (non-concession and concession customers);
- **Chapter 3**: residential customers under time-of-use tariffs (non-concession and concession customers);
- **Chapter 4**: small business customers under general usage tariffs;
- **Chapter 5**: small business customers under time-of-use tariffs; and
- **Chapter 6**: Bass Strait Islands.

For each jurisdiction and tariff type, the regulated-tariff and all-tariff comparisons use the tariff that produces the middle-ranked (median) annual bill within the relevant tariff population. The Regulator considers that comparing annual bills is the most meaningful way to illustrate differences in prices between jurisdictions. These representative tariffs for each jurisdiction and tariff type are included in Appendix 1.

The regulated-tariff comparison includes regulated tariffs only, while the all-tariff comparison includes all regulated tariffs and market offers included in the analysis. For mainland jurisdictions, the report includes tariffs offered by retailers with more than 10 per cent of the combined residential and small business market in the relevant jurisdiction.

Equivalent comparisons are also presented for residential concession electricity customers after applying the concessions available in that jurisdiction. For Tasmania and most other jurisdictions, concessions are of a

[8] The definition of a small customer varies across Australian jurisdictions, from up to 100 MWh per year in the Australian Capital Territory to up to 160 MWh per year in South Australia. In this report, a small customer is a residential or business customer consuming less than 150 MWh of electricity annually, consistent with the consumption threshold for Tasmania.

fixed monetary value. However, in Victoria and the Northern Territory concessions provide a percentage reduction to supply and usage charges.

Tasmanian consumption levels are drawn from the *Typical Electricity Customers in Tasmania - 2025* report. Although these consumption levels have not changed since the 2024 report, the approach used to calculate annual bills has been updated to incorporate new information, including consumption profiles for small business time-of-use customers published for the first time in the *2026–27 Default Market Offer: Final Determination*.[9] Consequently, annual bill estimates are not directly comparable with those published in the 2025 report.

Residential and business tariff classes presented in this report, and the proportions of Aurora customers in each class, reflect a selection of Aurora Energy's most used regulated tariffs. Customers on other tariff arrangements, such as those with a solar feed-in tariff and irrigation tariff, have not been included.

Table 1.1 Typical electricity customer consumption profiles for 2025

Customer	Tariff	Concession	Annual assumed consumption
Residential	General usage/controlled load	Non-concession	7 796 kWh
		Concession	6 515 kWh
	Time-of-use	Non-concession	8 108 kWh
		Concession	7 687 kWh
Business	General usage[10]		3 717 kWh/10 000 kWh
	Time-of-use		11 622 kWh

Western Australia and the Northern Territory are non-NEM jurisdictions, and electricity prices are set by their respective governments, not an independent regulator. Consequently, annual bills under the Western Australian and Northern Territory tariffs are excluded from regulated-tariff comparisons.

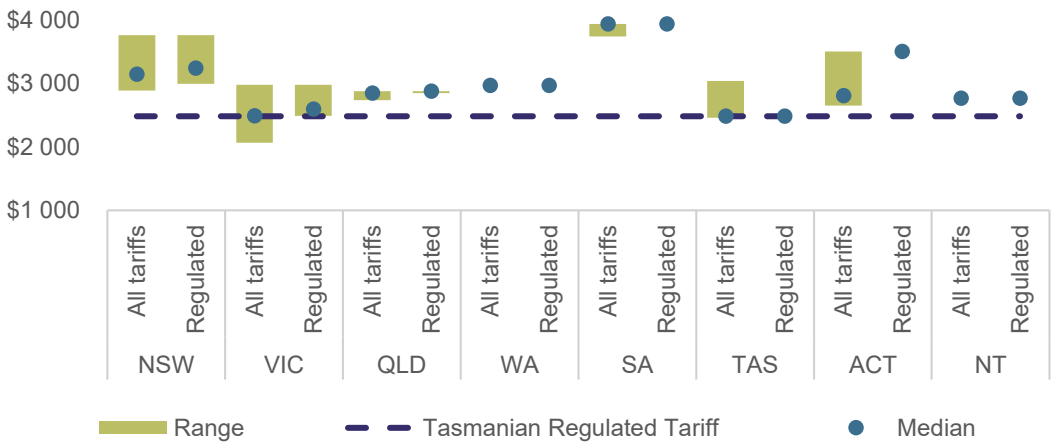
Throughout this report, the Regulator has presented charts that illustrate the range of annual bills under tariffs offered in each jurisdiction.

For example, Figure 1.1 illustrates the range of annual bills for non-concession residential customers on time-of-use tariffs at the annual consumption level of 8 108 kWh. The Tasmanian regulated tariff results in an annual bill of $2 483, while median regulated tariffs across the other NEM jurisdictions result in annual bills ranging from $2 594 to $3 938.

9 Australian Energy Regulator, 2026-27 Default Market Offer: Final Determination, May 2026.

10 The business general usage assumption is low in comparison to other tariffs because it is based on the median consumption of a diverse customer cohort, with a substantial proportion of customers with low usage.

Figure 1.1 Range of annual bills for non-concession residential customers under time-of-use tariffs



Gas price comparisons for residential and business tariffs are presented in **Chapter 7**: Natural gas.

Gas consumption levels are sourced from the *Residential energy consumption benchmarks*[11] for residential customers, and from the *2016 Tasmanian Gas Market Report*[12] for business customers.

The detailed methodology for the report can be found in the Regulator's Methodology Guide.[13]

[11] *Residential energy consumption benchmarks*, prepared by Frontier Economics, December 2020, page 52.

[12] Tasmanian Gas Market - Building the Pipeline to Opportunities, prepared by the Tasmanian Small Business Council, August 2016, page 38.

[13] *Comparison of Electricity and Gas Prices Available to Small Customers in Australia*, Methodology Guide, November 2026.

2 Electricity: Residential general usage and controlled load tariffs

Many residential customers purchase electricity under a general usage tariff and an associated controlled load tariff for space heating and hot water systems, with the latter typically having a lower energy price. Approximately 57 per cent of Tasmanian residential customers use a combination of these two tariffs.[14] Energy prices and the median residential general usage/controlled load tariffs are included in Appendix 1.

This chapter shows that at typical consumption levels:

- Tasmania records the lowest annual bill for concession customers and the second lowest annual bill for non-concession customers in the regulated-tariff comparison; and
- Tasmania records the second lowest annual bill for both concession and non-concession customers in the all-tariff comparison.

2.1 Residential general usage/controlled load tariffs

Table 2.1 Summary for residential customers on general usage/controlled load tariffs

	Non-concession customers 36.9% of all Tasmanian residential customers	Concession customers 20.0% of all Tasmanian residential customers
Typical consumption	7 796 kWh	6 515 kWh
Tasmanian annual bill summary		
Regulated-tariff comparison	$2 561	$1 578
All-tariff comparison	$2 555	$1 573
Range of bills	$2 523 - $2 925	$1 504 - $1 840
Tasmanian ranking		
Regulated-tariff comparison	2	1
All-tariff comparison	2	2
National summary		
Average of jurisdictional regulated-tariff comparison	$2 872	$2 013
Average of jurisdictional all-tariff comparison	$2 796	$1 949

[14] Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator, *Typical Electricity Customers in Tasmania 2025.*

2.2 Residential non-concession customers

2.2.1 Range of bills for non-concession customers

Figure 2.1 Range of annual bills under general usage/controlled load tariffs

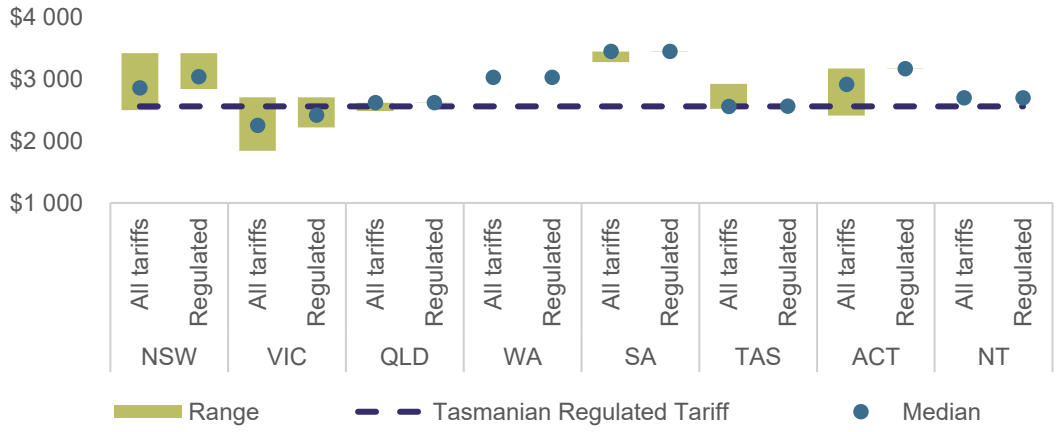


Figure 2.1 illustrates the range of annual bills for non-concession customers at an annual consumption of 7 796 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from approximately $1 845 to $3 448, with greatest variation in New South Wales.

Western Australia and the Northern Territory each have one general usage tariff available for residential customers and therefore no range.

2.2.2 Comparison of annual bills

Victoria records the lowest annual bill in both the regulated-tariff and all-tariff comparisons, with Tasmania ranking second in both comparisons.
South Australia records the highest annual bills under both comparisons.

Table 2.2 Annual bills for general usage and controlled load tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$3 039	4	$2 857	5
VIC	$2 419	1	$2 250	1
QLD	$2 618	3	$2 618	3
SA	$3 447	6	$3 447	8
TAS	**$2 561**	**2**	**$2 555**	**2**
ACT	$3 167	5	$2 915	6
WA	$3 028	Non-NEM	$3 028	7
NT	$2 698	Non-NEM	$2 698	4

2.3 Residential concession customers

2.3.1 Range of bills for concession customers

Figure 2.2 Range of annual bills for concession customers under general usage/controlled load tariffs

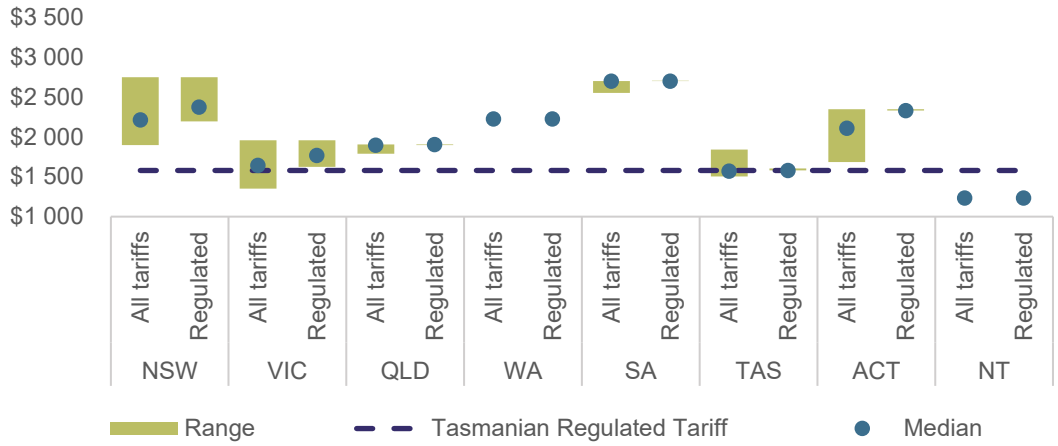


Figure 2.2 illustrates the range of annual bills for concession customers at an annual consumption of 6 515 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from around $1 234 to $2 748, with greatest variation in New South Wales.

2.3.2 Comparison of annual bills

Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison and the second lowest in the all-tariff comparison. The Northern Territory records the lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison, primarily reflecting the value of available concessions rather than lower underlying tariffs.

Table 2.3 Annual bills for concession customers on general usage and controlled load tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$2 374	5	$2 215	6
VIC	$1 766	2	$1 645	3
QLD	$1 903	3	$1 897	4
SA	$2 697	6	$2 697	8
TAS	**$1 578**	**1**	**$1 573**	**2**
ACT	$2 327	4	$2 109	5
WA	$2 225	Non-NEM	$2 225	7
NT	$1 234	Non-NEM	$1 234	1

3 Electricity: Residential time-of-use tariffs

There has been an increasing uptake of time-of-use tariffs by residential customers. Network businesses are offering time-of-use tariffs to retailers as they can lead to more efficient use of the electricity networks and avoid some network investment costs by encouraging customers to increase their usage at times when demand on the network is relatively low. Approximately 18 per cent of Tasmanian residential customers use a time-of-use tariff without a solar feed-in tariff.[15] Energy prices and the median residential time-of-use tariffs are included in Appendix 1.

This chapter shows that at typical consumption levels:

- Tasmania records the lowest annual bill for both non-concession and concession customers in the regulated-tariff comparison; and
- Tasmania records the lowest annual bill for non-concession customers and the second lowest annual bill for concession customers in the all-tariff comparison.

3.1 Residential time-of-use tariffs summary

Table 3.1 Summary for residential customers on time-of-use tariffs

	Non-concession customers 11.3% of all Tasmanian residential customers	Concession customers 6.7% of all Tasmanian residential customers
Typical consumption	8 108 kWh	7 687 kWh
Tasmanian annual bill summary		
Regulated-tariff comparison	$2 483	$1 705
All-tariff comparison	$2 483	$1 705
Range of bills	$2 458 - $3 041	$1 681 - $2 225
Tasmanian ranking		
Regulated-tariff comparison	1	1
All-tariff comparison	1	2
National summary		
Average of jurisdictional regulated-tariff comparison	$3 046	$2 415
Average of jurisdictional all-tariff comparison	$2 930	$2 308

[15] Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator, *Typical Electricity Customers in Tasmania 2025.*

3.2 Residential non-concession customers

3.2.1 Range of bills for non-concession customers

Figure 3.1 Range of annual bills for non-concession customers under time-of-use tariffs

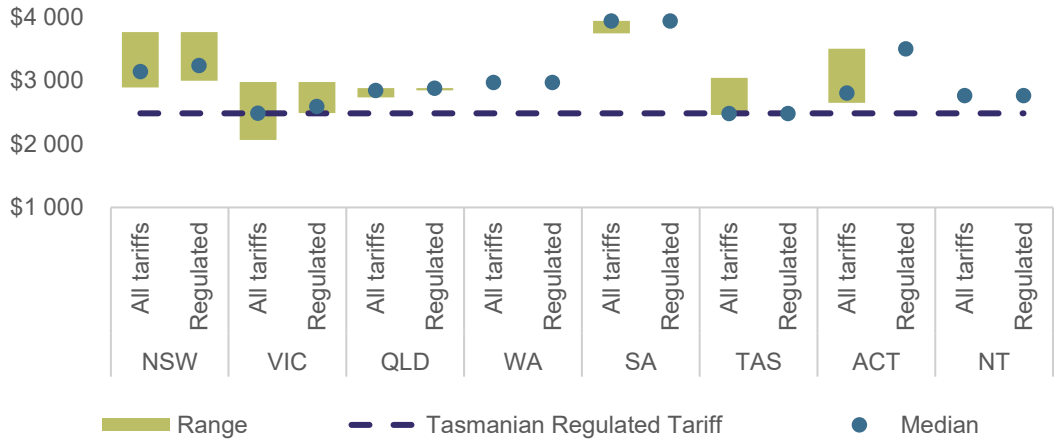


Figure 3.1 illustrates the range of annual bills for non-concession customers at an annual consumption of 8 108 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from around $2 065 to $3 938, with greatest variation in Victoria.

3.2.2 Comparison of annual bills

Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in both the regulated-tariff and all-tariff comparisons. South Australia records the highest annual bill under both comparisons.

Table 3.2 Annual bills for non-concession customers on time-of-use tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$3 241	4	$3 144	7
VIC	$2 594	2	$2 488	2
QLD	$2 878	3	$2 845	5
SA	$3 938	6	$3 938	8
TAS	**$2 483**	**1**	**$2 483**	**1**
ACT	$3 503	5	$2 805	4
WA	$2 969	Non-NEM	$2 969	6
NT	$2 765	Non-NEM	$2 765	3

3.3 Residential concession customers

3.3.1 Range of bills for concession customers

Figure 3.2 Range of annual bills for concession customers under time-of-use tariffs

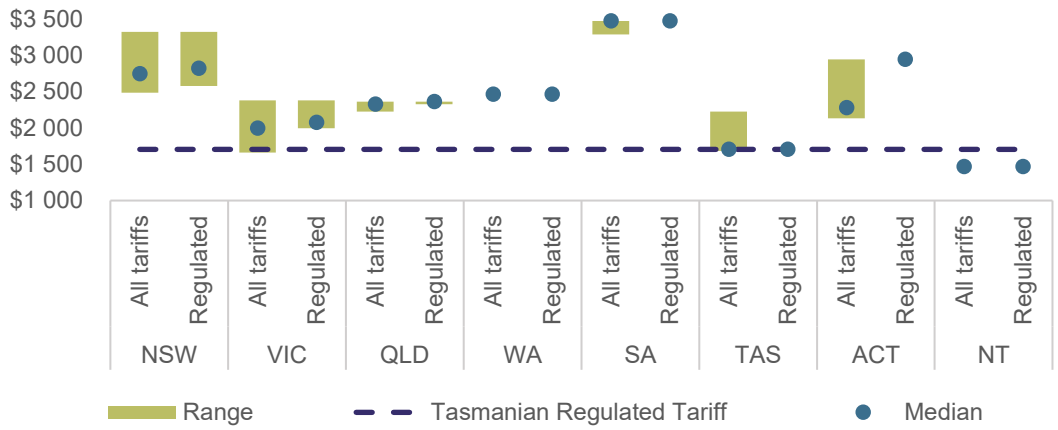


Figure 3.2 illustrates the range of annual bills for concession customers at an annual consumption of 7 687 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from around $1 469 to $3 476, with greatest variation in New South Wales.

3.3.2 Comparison of annual bills

Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison. The Northern Territory records the lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison, with Tasmania ranking second.

Table 3.3 Annual bills for concession customers on time-of-use tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$2 821	4	$2 747	7
VIC	$2 078	2	$1 995	3
QLD	$2 363	3	$2 328	5
SA	$3 476	6	$3 476	8
TAS	**$1 705**	**1**	**$1 705**	**2**
ACT	$2 946	5	$2 281	4
WA	$2 463	Non-NEM	$2 463	6
NT	$1 469	Non-NEM	$1 469	1

4 Electricity: Business general usage tariffs

The typical Tasmanian small business consumption is estimated to be 3 717 kWh per year, which is the median consumption for Aurora Energy's business customers on the general usage tariff. Approximately 67 per cent of Tasmanian business customers use a general usage tariff.[16] The average Australian small business consumption level is approximately 10 000 kWh per year.[17] Energy prices and median business tariffs are included in Appendix 1.

This chapter shows that at the typical Tasmanian small business general usage consumption level:

- Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison and the second lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison.

At the assumed average Australian small business general usage consumption level:

- Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison; and
- Tasmania records the second lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison.

4.1 Business general usage tariff summary

Table 4.1 Summary for business customers on general usage tariffs

	Tasmanian consumption (3 717 kWh)	National consumption (10 000 kWh)
Tasmanian annual bill summary		
Regulated-tariff comparison	$1 637	$3 337
All-tariff comparison	$1 637	$3 336
Range of bills	$1 589 - $1 804	$3 213 - $4 042
Tasmanian ranking		
Regulated-tariff comparison	1	1
All-tariff comparison	2	2
National summary		
Average of jurisdictional regulated-tariff comparison	$2 036	$4 197
Average of jurisdictional all-tariff comparison	$1 962	$4 095

[16] Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator, *Typical Electricity Customers in Tasmania 2025.*

[17] Australian Energy Regulator, 2026-27 Default Market Offer: Final Determination, May 2026, page 109.

4.2 Business customers – 3 717 kWh

4.2.1 Range of bills for small-business customers

Figure 4.1 Range of annual bills under available business general usage tariffs (3 717 kWh)

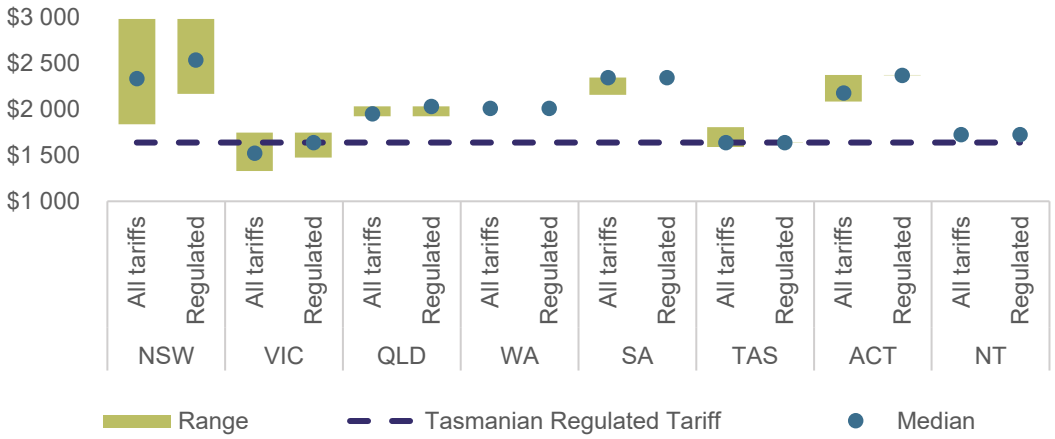


Figure 4.1 illustrates the range of annual bills for small business customers on general usage tariffs at an annual consumption of 3 717 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from around $1 328 to $2 981, with greatest variation in New South Wales.

4.2.2 Comparison of annual bills

Tasmania and Victoria record the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison, with both bills rounding to $1 637. Victoria records the lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison, with Tasmania ranking second.

Table 4.2 Annual bills for small business customers on general usage tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$2 536	6	$2 333	7
VIC	$1 637	1	$1 522	1
QLD	$2 031	3	$1 949	4
SA	$2 344	4	$2 344	8
TAS	**$1 637**	**1**	**$1 637**	**2**
ACT	$2 368	5	$2 178	6
WA	$2 008	Non-NEM	$2 008	5
NT	$1 726	Non-NEM	$1 726	3

4.3 Business customers – 10 000 kWh

4.3.1 Range of bills for small-business customers

Figure 4.2 Range of annual bills under available business general usage tariffs (10 000 kWh)

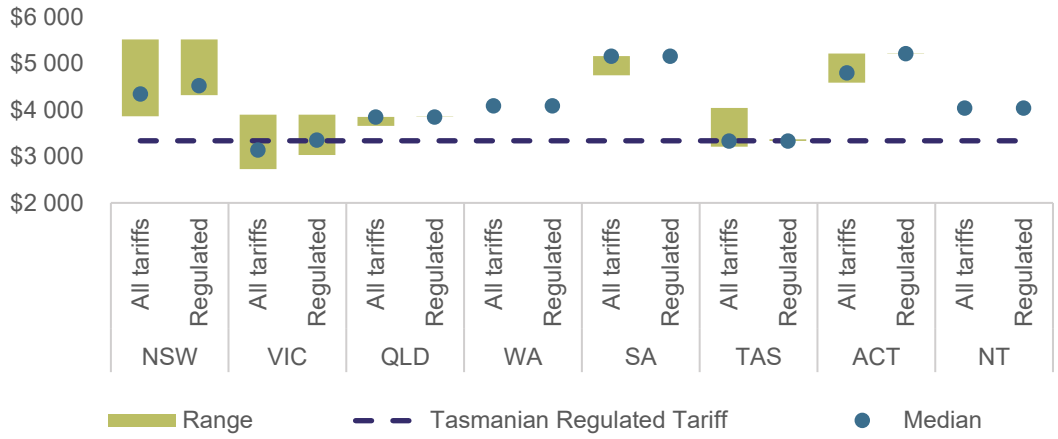


Figure 4.2 illustrates the range of annual bills for small business customers on general usage tariffs at an annual consumption of 10 000 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from around $2 729 to $5 517, with greatest variation in New South Wales.

4.3.2 Comparison of annual bills

Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison. Victoria records the lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison, with Tasmania ranking second.

Table 4.3 Annual bills for small business customers on general usage tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$4 523	4	$4 343	6
VIC	$3 356	2	$3 138	1
QLD	$3 849	3	$3 849	3
SA	$5 161	5	$5 161	8
TAS	**$3 337**	**1**	**$3 336**	**2**
ACT	$5 216	6	$4 799	7
WA	$4 090	Non-NEM	$4 090	5
NT	$4 043	Non-NEM	$4 043	4

5 Electricity: Business time-of-use tariffs

The typical Tasmanian small business time-of-use customer is estimated to consume 11 622 kWh per year, based on the median consumption for Aurora Energy's customers on the time-of-use tariff. Approximately 17 per cent of Tasmanian small business customers use a time-of-use tariff.[18] Energy prices and median business tariffs are included in Appendix 1.

In previous reports, small business time-of-use bills were calculated at the Tasmanian consumption level and an assumed average Australian consumption level of 20 000 kWh. The Regulator has updated its assumed average Australian consumption level to 10 000 kWh to better reflect the consumption levels used in other jurisdictional comparisons. As the two consumption levels are now sufficiently close, presenting comparisons at the Tasmanian and Australian consumption levels would provide limited additional insight.

Accordingly, this chapter shows that at the typical Tasmanian small business time-of-use consumption level:

- Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison; and
- Tasmania records the second lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison.

5.1 Business time-of-use tariff summary

Table 5.1 Summary for business customers on time-of-use tariffs

	Tasmanian consumption (11 622 kWh)
Tasmanian annual bill summary	
Regulated-tariff comparison	$3 462
All-tariff comparison	$3 461
Range of bills	$3 340 - $4 880
Tasmanian ranking	
Regulated-tariff comparison	1
All-tariff comparison	2
National summary	
Average of jurisdictional regulated-tariff comparison	$4 558
Average of jurisdictional all-tariff comparison	$4 482

[18] Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator, *Typical Electricity Customers in Tasmania 2025.*

5.2 Business customers

5.2.1 Range of bills for small-business customers

Figure 5.1 Range of annual bills under available business time-of-use tariffs

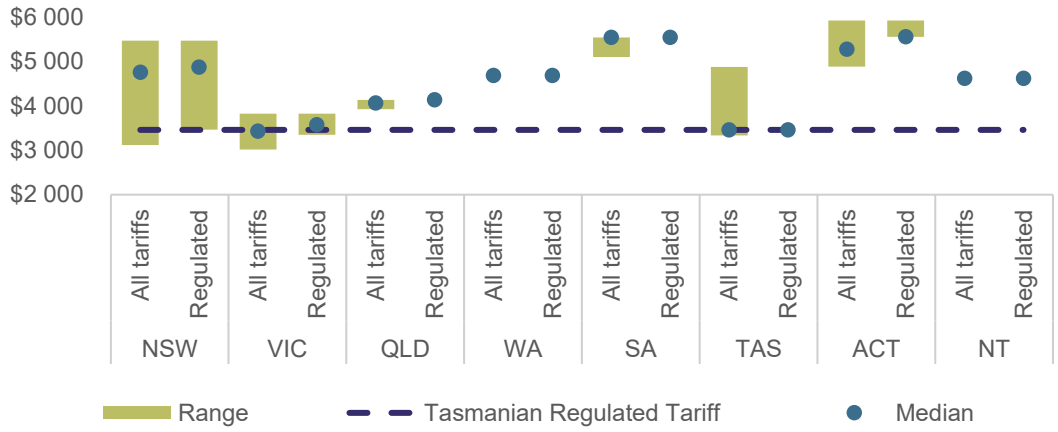


Figure 5.1 illustrates the range of annual bills for small business customers on time-of-use tariffs at an annual consumption of 11 622 kWh. The spread of annual bills is from around $3 017 to $5 930, with greatest variation in New South Wales.

5.2.2 Comparison of annual bills

Tasmania records the lowest annual bill in the regulated-tariff comparison. Victoria records the lowest annual bill in the all-tariff comparison, with Tasmania ranking second.

Table 5.2 Annual bills for small business customers on time-of-use tariffs

	Regulated-tariff comparison		All-tariff comparison	
	Annual bill	Rank	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$4 878	4	$4 763	6
VIC	$3 572	2	$3 430	1
QLD	$4 137	3	$4 065	3
SA	$5 547	5	$5 547	8
TAS	**$3 462**	**1**	**$3 461**	**2**
ACT	$5 559	6	$5 277	7
WA	$4 690	Non-NEM	$4 690	5
NT	$4 623	Non-NEM	$4 623	4

6 Electricity: Bass Strait Islands

Electricity generation and distribution services on the Bass Strait Islands (BSI) are provided by Hydro Tasmania, with retail services provided by Momentum Energy – which is wholly owned by Hydro Tasmania.

Electricity tariffs on the BSI are subsidised under a Community Service Obligation agreement between Hydro Tasmania and the Tasmanian Government. Under the agreement, tariffs are adjusted on 1 September each year in line with annual movements in regulated electricity prices on mainland Tasmania. Tariffs on the BSI are submitted to the Regulator for approval. Eligible customers can access the same concessions as those on mainland Tasmania.

Tariff 51 is the only electricity tariff offered on the BSI. It is a general usage tariff available to residential and business customers. As no controlled load tariff is available, customers must use the higher general usage rate for purposes such as heating and hot water. Energy prices on the BSI are included in Table A1.9 of Appendix 1.

The annual bills in Table 6.1 are calculated using the corresponding mainland Tasmanian consumption assumptions.

Table 6.1 Summary for customers on the BSI

	Tariff	Customer	Consumption	Annual bill
Residential	General usage	Non-concession	7 796 kWh	$3 048
		Concession	6 515 kWh	$1 940
Business	General usage		3 717 kWh	$1 661
			10 000 kWh	$3 797

7 Natural gas

The Tasmanian natural gas market is very small compared with natural gas markets in other jurisdictions. Natural gas is not available to residential or small business customers in the Northern Territory or on the BSI. Tasmanian gas prices are unregulated. There are two licensed gas retailers in Tasmania that sell to small customers, Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy, each offering a single residential tariff and a single business tariff.

This report only considers small residential and business gas customers, which are defined as those who consume less than one terajoule or 1 000 000 megajoules (MJ) per year. Because some jurisdictions have relatively few tariffs and substantial variation between tariffs, the report compares the two Tasmanian bills with the average annual bills calculated for each mainland jurisdiction. Gas prices by jurisdiction are included in Appendix 1.

This chapter shows that at typical Tasmanian consumption levels:

- Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy offer the same prices, which result in the second highest annual residential bills when compared with jurisdictional average annual bills; and
- the Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy small business tariffs produce the highest annual bills when compared with jurisdictional average annual bills.

7.1 Natural gas summary

Table 7.1 Summary for gas customers on the two available Tasmanian tariffs

	Residential customers	Business customers
Typical consumption	**36 870 MJ**	**473 000 MJ**
Annual bill (Tasmania)		
Aurora Energy	$2 315	$27 653
Solstice Energy	$2 315	$27 653
Ranking		
Aurora Energy	6	7
Solstice Energy	6	7
National		
Range of averages[19]	$1 746 to $2 383	$16 214 to $27 653

[19] The range of averages shows the range of average bills for each mainland jurisdiction and both Tasmanian retailers.

7.2 Residential customers

7.2.1 Range of bills for residential customers

Figure 7.1 Range of annual gas bills for residential customers under available tariffs (36 870 MJ) by jurisdiction

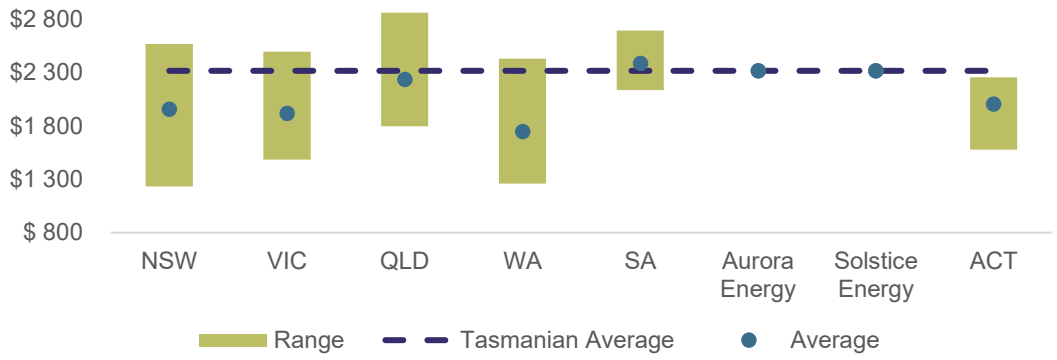


Figure 7.1 illustrates the range of annual bills for residential customers across Australia with an assumed consumption of 36 870 MJ. Annual bills vary substantially within several mainland jurisdictions. The annual bills under the Tasmanian tariffs are above the jurisdictional average annual bill for all mainland jurisdictions except for South Australia.

7.2.2 Comparison of annual bills

The Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy tariffs produce the second highest bills when compared with jurisdictional average annual bills, below only South Australia.

Table 7.2 Comparison of average annual bills for residential gas customers

	Average annual bill	Rank
NSW	$1 955	3
VIC	$1 917	2
QLD	$2 234	5
WA	$1 746	1
SA	$2 383	8
TAS - AURORA ENERGY	**$2 315**	**6**
TAS - SOLSTICE ENERGY	**$2 315**	**6**
ACT	$2 002	4

7.3 Business customers

7.3.1 Range of bills for small-business customers

Figure 7.2 Range of annual gas bills for business customers under available tariffs (473 000 MJ)

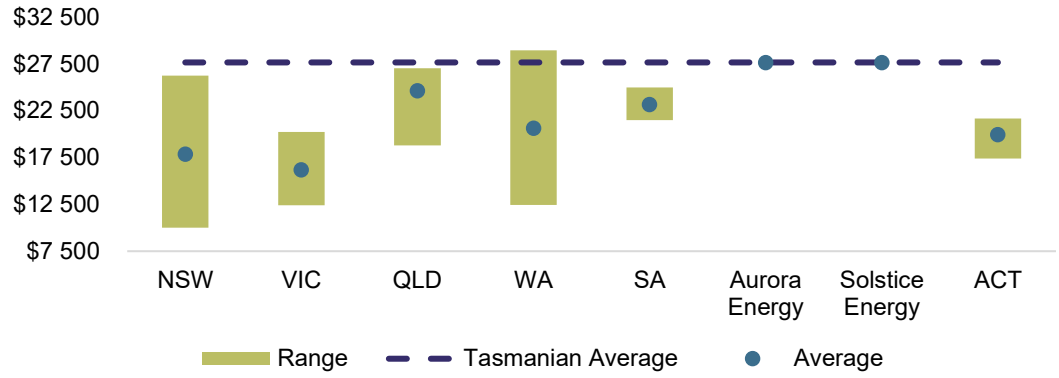


Figure 7.2 illustrates the range of annual bills for small business customers across Australia with an assumed consumption of 473 000 MJ. The annual bills under the Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy tariffs are higher than most individual bills available in other jurisdictions, although one Western Australian tariff produces a higher bill.

7.3.2 Comparison of annual bills

The Aurora Energy and Solstice Energy tariffs each produce an annual bill higher than the average annual bill calculated for every other jurisdiction.

Table 7.3 Comparison of average annual bills for business gas customers (473 000 MJ)

	Annual bill	Rank
NSW	$17 868	2
VIC	$16 214	1
QLD	$24 642	6
WA	$20 658	4
SA	$23 184	5
TAS - AURORA ENERGY	**$27 653**	**7**
TAS - SOLSTICE ENERGY	**$27 653**	**7**
ACT	$19 959	3

Appendix 1: Electricity and gas retailers, distribution areas and tariffs used

A1.1 Electricity

Table A1.1 Electricity retailers with greater than 10 per cent of the combined small customer (residential and business) market in each jurisdiction[20]

Jurisdiction	Retailers			
NSW	AGL	Origin Energy	EnergyAustralia	Red Energy
VIC	AGL	Origin Energy	EnergyAustralia	
QLD	AGL	Origin Energy	Ergon Energy	
WA	Synergy			
SA	AGL	Origin Energy		
TAS	Aurora Energy	Momentum Energy[21]		
ACT	ActewAGL	Origin Energy		
NT	Jacana Energy			

Table A1.2 Electricity distribution areas in each jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Distribution areas				
NSW	Ausgrid	Endeavour Energy	Essential Energy		
VIC	AusNet	CitiPower	Jemena	Powercor	United Energy
QLD	Energex	Ergon			
WA	WA				
SA	SAPN				
TAS	TAS				
ACT	Evoenergy	Essential Energy			
NT	NT				

[20] Tariffs from Tasmanian retailers with market shares below this threshold have been included in this report.

[21] On the BSI.

Table A1.3 Number of tariffs used per retailer for the selection of the representative tariff in each jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Residential			Business	
Retailer	General usage tariff only	General usage and controlled load tariff	Time-of-use tariff	General usage tariff	Time-of-use tariff
NSW					
AGL		6	6	6	6
EnergyAustralia		9	9	9	12
Origin Energy		6	9	8	9
Red Energy		6	6	6	6
VIC					
AGL		10	10	10	10
EnergyAustralia		15	15	15	15
Origin Energy		14	10	15	15
QLD					
AGL		2	2	2	2
Ergon		1	1	1	2
Origin Energy		3	3	3	3
WA					
Synergy	1		1	1	1
SA					
AGL		2	2	2	2
Origin Energy		3	3	3	3
TAS					
1st Energy		2	2	2	2
Aurora Energy	1	1	1	2	1
CovaU		2	2	2	2
Momentum Energy	1			1	
Solstice Energy		2	2	2	2
ACT					
ActewAGL		3	2	3	3
Origin Energy		3	2	3	3
NT					
Jacana Energy	1		1	1	1

Table A1.4 Representative tariff in each jurisdiction by type

Jurisdiction	Residential			Business	
	General usage tariff only	General usage and controlled load tariff	Time-of-use tariff	General usage tariff	Time-of-use tariff
NSW		Endeavour – EnergyAustralia – Rate Fix	Essential Energy – Origin – Basic	Ausgrid – Origin – Business Go Variable Ongoing	Essential Energy – EnergyAustralia – Balance Plan 12AU
VIC		Powercor – Origin – Go Variable	CitiPower – EnergyAustralia – Standing Offer	Powercor – Origin – Business Go Variable	United Energy – AGL – Business Standing Offer
QLD		Energex – Origin – Basic	Ergon – Tariff 12D	Energex – Origin – Business Go Variable Ongoing	Ergon – Tariff 22D
WA	Synergy – A1		Synergy – Midday Saver	Synergy – L1	Synergy – R1
SA		Origin – Basic	Origin – Basic	AGL – Business Standing Offer	AGL – Business Standing Offer
TAS[22]		1st Energy – 1st Quartz	1st Energy – 'Standing Offer'	1st Energy – 'Standing Offer'	1st Energy – 'Standing Offer'
ACT		ActewAGL – Power On	ActewAGL – Certain Saver	ActewAGL – Business Rewards 8%	Origin – Business Go Variable Ongoing
NT	Jacana – Everyday Home		Jacana – Time of Use	Jacana – Standard Business	Jacana – Time of Use Business

Table A1.5 Energy prices under the representative tariff for general usage/controlled load tariffs - Residential

Jurisdiction	Energy price		Daily charge	
	Controlled load usage price ($/kWh)	General usage price ($/kWh)	General ($/day)	Controlled load ($/day)
NSW	$0.194	$0.317	$1.87	
VIC	$0.161	$0.263	$1.28	
QLD	$0.164	$0.280	$1.92	
WA		$0.333	$1.19	
SA	$0.222	$0.419	$1.80	
TAS	$0.210	$0.279	$1.68	$0.18
ACT	$0.255	$0.341	$1.23	
NT		$0.317	$0.62	

[22] Although 1st Energy offers a product named 'Standing Offer', regulated tariffs in Tasmania are only provided by Aurora Energy.

Table A1.6 Energy prices under representative time-of-use tariffs - Residential

	Energy price			Daily charge
Jurisdiction	Peak ($/kWh)	Off-peak ($/kWh)	Shoulder ($/kWh)	ToU ($/day)
NSW	$0.421	$0.241	$0.241	$2.72
VIC	$0.383	$0.212	$0.166	$1.21
QLD	$0.407	$0.185	$0.250	$1.57
WA	$0.553	$0.243	$0.089	$1.33
SA	$0.562	$0.326	$0.170	$1.80
TAS	$0.362	$0.170		$1.72
ACT	$0.435	$0.155	$0.297	$1.14
NT	$0.332	$0.258		$0.62

Table A1.7 Energy prices under representative general usage tariffs - Business

	Energy price		Daily charge
Jurisdiction	Usage price block 1 ($/kWh)	Usage price block 2 ($/kWh)	General ($/day)
NSW	$0.291		$3.43
VIC	$0.254		$1.58
QLD	$0.278		$2.51
WA	$0.331	$0.374	$2.13
SA	$0.448		$1.86
TAS	$0.328	$0.270	$1.42
ACT	$0.417	$0.445	$1.72
NT	$0.369		$0.98

Table A1.8 Energy prices under representative time-of-use tariffs - Business

	Energy price			Daily charge
Jurisdiction	Peak ($/kWh)	Off-peak ($/kWh)	Shoulder ($/kWh)	ToU ($/day)
NSW	$0.463	$0.244	$0.323	$3.61
VIC	$0.316	$0.181		$1.54
QLD	$0.488	$0.200	$0.271	$2.14
WA	$0.432	$0.130		$3.98
SA	$0.759	$0.352	$0.436	$1.86
TAS	$0.302	$0.128	$0.219	$1.86
ACT	$0.500	$0.327	$0.388	$1.68
NT	$0.402	$0.299		$0.98

Table A1.9 Energy prices for customers on the Bass Strait Islands

Jurisdiction	Energy price General usage price ($/kWh)	Daily charge General ($/day)
BSI	$0.340	$1.09

A1.2 Gas

Table A1.10 Major gas retailers in each jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Retailers			
NSW	AGL	Origin Energy	EnergyAustralia	Red Energy
VIC	AGL	Origin Energy	EnergyAustralia	
QLD	AGL	Origin Energy		
WA	Alinta	AGL	Kleenheat	
SA	AGL	Origin Energy		
TAS	Aurora Energy	Solstice Energy		
ACT	ActewAGL	Origin Energy		

Table A1.11 Gas distribution areas in each jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Distribution areas				
NSW	Jemena	Evoenergy Queanbeyan	APA Central Ranges	AGN	Allgas
VIC	AGN	Multinet	AusNet		
QLD	Allgas	AGN			
WA	Albany	Kalgoorlie-Boulder	Mid-West/South-West		
SA	SA				
TAS	TAS				
ACT	ACT				

Table A1.12 Number of tariffs used per retailer for each jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Retailer	Residential	Business
NSW	AGL	12	10
	Origin Energy	26	27
	EnergyAustralia	16	15
	Red Energy	20	20
VIC	AGL	14	14
	Origin Energy	48	48
	EnergyAustralia	42	42
QLD	AGL	4	4
	Origin Energy	12	12
WA	Alinta	4	3
	AGL	1	1
	Kleenheat	3	1
SA	AGL	2	2
	Origin Energy	3	3
TAS	Aurora Energy	1	1
	Solstice Energy	1	1
ACT	ActewAGL	3	2
	Origin Energy	3	3

Table A1.13 Average gas prices for residential and business customers by jurisdiction

Jurisdiction	Residential		Business	
	Variable unit energy price ($/MJ)	General daily charge ($/day)	Variable unit energy price ($/MJ)	General daily charge ($/day)
NSW	$0.0428	$1.03	$0.0369	$1.15
VIC	$0.0412	$1.09	$0.0333	$1.32
QLD	$0.0510	$0.97	$0.0512	$1.15
WA	$0.0416	$0.58	$0.0424	$1.63
SA	$0.0544	$1.03	$0.0477	$1.67
Tasmania - Aurora Energy	$0.0547	$0.82	$0.0571	$1.74
Tasmania - Solstice Energy	$0.0547	$0.82	$0.0571	$1.74
ACT	$0.0462	$0.81	$0.0410	$1.53

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