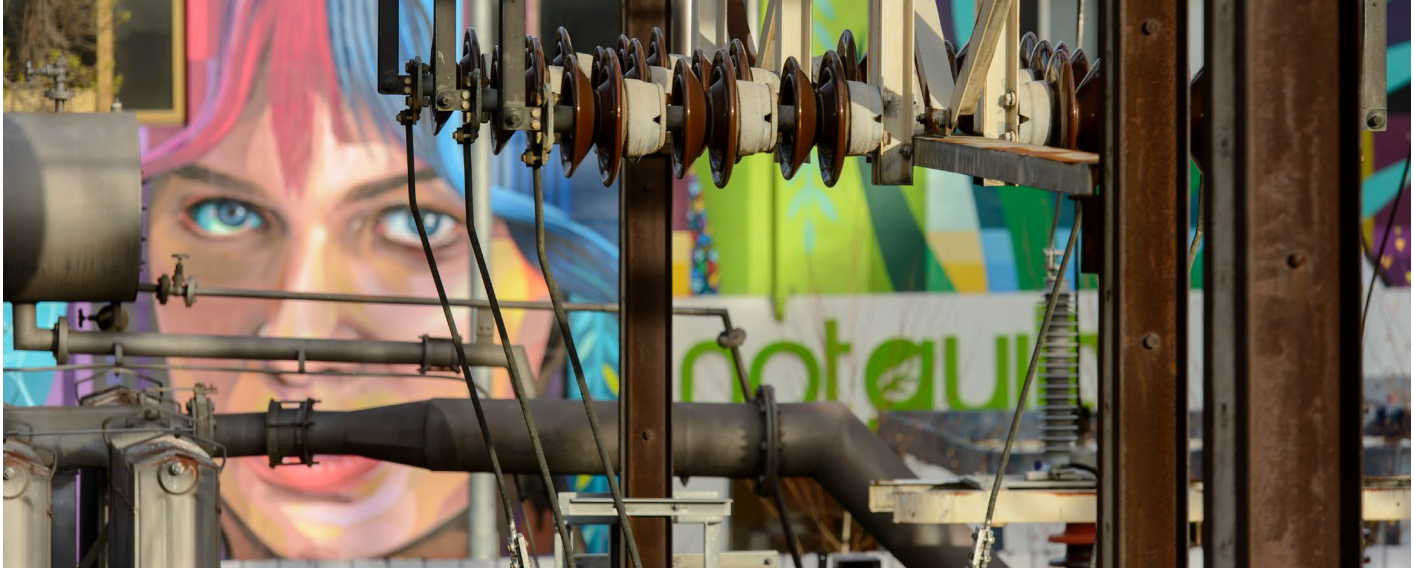
Tariffs Overview

2025-2030 Regulatory Proposal

SA Power Networks

Empowering South Australia

Contents



Executive summary

SA Power Networks provides electricity distribution services supporting 1.7 million people via more than 900,000 customer connections.

As a regulated business, revenue is determined by the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) every five years in accordance with National Electricity Rules, often referred to as the 'Reset' process.

SA Power Networks recovers its revenues via set prices otherwise known as tariffs. The role of tariffs is to determine from whom and how the AER- allowed revenue should be recovered from customers via their retailer. Tariffs should be reflective of the cost of using the distribution network and different types of customers will use different parts of the network.

The development of tariff structures and tariff strategy is also required as part of the Reset process. This strategy is documented within a Tariff Structure Statement (TSS), which is created in consultation with customers and stakeholders, and is part of a suite of strategies to manage and develop the distribution network at least cost to customers.

For the 2025-30 period, the tariff strategy is focusing on incentivising flexible and efficient use of the distribution network. Getting this right means we can avoid unnecessary investment in additional network capacity to meet the changing way customers are using the network.

The capacity of our network is built to meet maximum customer demand and, increasingly, to accommodate reverse power flows from increasing volumes of energy exported by customers, mainly from solar generation. But for much of the year our network has plenty of spare capacity. Our tariffs are therefore designed to send price signals to encourage more utilisation of our network at non-peak times. Our costs to build, operate and maintain our network are largely fixed. Improving the utilisation of the existing network reduces the need for costly future augmentation works and lowers costs for all customers.

SA Power Networks is facing a period of great change with the continued rapid uptake of rooftop solar, batteries and electric vehicles, collectively known as distributed energy resources. Well-designed tariffs aid the business and customers to continue to enable the energy transition to an electrified future delivering affordable, clean and reliable energy supply to customers.

The 2025-30 tariff strategy has been created and refined with input from a broad and diverse group of our customers and stakeholders through a series of in-depth 'Focussed Conversations' workshops.

This will be our third TSS approved by the AER and continues the transition to more cost-reflective tariffs.

We consider many of our current tariff structures will remain fit for purpose over the 2025-30 period and therefore these will be proposed again with minimal or no change. Key areas where we will propose tariff structure changes are:

- Increasing the Solar Sponge window in Residential tariffs to 6 hours: 10am – 4pm;
- Establishing new tariffs that incentivise both Residential and Business customers to be flexible with their usage;
- Refining the Small Business tariff class to recognise Small Business customers as consuming less than 40 MWh p.a. and creating a new Medium Business tariff class for business customers using between 40MWh p.a. and 160 MWh p.a.; and
- Adding additional generation tariff options for Major Business customers who connect at higher voltage parts of the distribution network.

In addition to 'traditional' consumption-based tariffs, our TSS will also discuss the development of new export tariffs.

This document is only discussing consumption-based tariffs. We will address export tariffs in a separate document.

As Australian households and businesses continue to take up rooftop solar and other customer energy resources, parts of the electricity network will need to be upgraded over time to ensure the network has enough capacity to transport the increasing volume of energy being fed in from these resources. In 2021, the Australian Energy Market Commission made changes to the National Electricity Rules that clarify the obligations on electricity distribution networks like SA Power Networks to plan for future levels of exports and

invest appropriately in network capacity to meet demand for export services. The rule changes also allow for the cost of this network investment to be recovered via export tariffs.

Like time-of-use tariffs today, export tariffs will allow SA Power Networks to send a pricing signal to customers to indicate when exports into the grid are a cost or benefit to the grid. These tariffs may include both a charge for energy sent into the grid if it is at a time when the grid is under constraint, or a credit for energy exported at a time when this benefits the grid. The tariff may also be zero for times when exported energy does not affect the grid. The intent of export tariffs is to ensure cost-reflective pricing, that is, money spent for the purpose of enabling exported energy into the grid is recovered from those who are exporting into the grid.

Key components to our export tariff strategy and structure include:

- Export tariffs will be developed for all Residential, Small and Medium Business customers with PV systems up to 30kW and will reflect a Grade of Service (GoS)[1].
- Large and Major customers including PV sites above 30kW are not mandatorily assigned to an export tariff.
- All GoS export customers will have a daily free export limit of 9kWh between 10am-4pm
- All GoS export customers will have free export outside of 10am-4pm
- GoS export customers with Accumulation meters will have simplified pricing which suits the meter data available. On average, these customers will face a similar charge as smart meter customers for the year through a simplified pricing structure.

The transition pathway to export tariffs, that is, whether all new and existing customers will be subject to export tariffs and when, will be determined by the People's Panel.

1 The proposed GoS for 2025-30 is 95% based on stakeholder feedback through the Focussed Conversations. A 95% GoS enables a solar customer to export all their surplus energy into the grid 95% of the time, but may have their solar output reduced 5% of the time when the network is congested.

1. Introduction

SA Power Networks is the primary electricity distribution network service provider in South Australia, operating in a complex and changing electricity industry.

Being a monopoly business, our revenues are determined by an independent regulator, the Australian Energy Regulator (AER), within a legislated regulatory framework.

Our allowed revenues, and the distribution tariff structures through which we recover these revenues from our customers, are determined, or "Reset", by the AER every five years. Our allowed revenue for the current, 2020-25 regulatory period is $3,915 million.

The key step in our Reset process is developing through significant customer and stakeholder consultation a "Regulatory Proposal" which sets out our proposed work plans, and the associated expenditure and revenue forecasts to deliver those plans over the next regulatory period (1 July 2025 – 30 June 2030). Our next Proposal is due to be submitted to the AER by January 2024. The AER will then review our Proposal and finalise our 2025-30 expenditure and revenue allowances by April 2025.

In tandem with this revenue setting process, we also are undertaking stakeholder consultation on how we should apply network tariffs (prices) to recover the allowed revenue from residential and business customers. This process is focused on how we can equitably share the costs of managing and maintaining the electricity distribution network across a range of different customers with differing energy needs and behaviours.

In the upcoming regulatory period, SA Power Networks continues to face challenges as it reframes its role as a distribution network managing a one-way flow of energy to customers to one that now facilitates two-way energy flows. This provides an incredible opportunity for the business to respond innovatively to these issues through both network solutions and tariff strategy.

Incentivising customers to be flexible with their load and generation is one example of our thinking on tariff strategy in 2025-30 responding to customer and network needs. It is critical that our tariff strategy complements the overall network strategy by providing medium to long term pricing signals to encourage customers to change their electricity behaviour in ways that benefits them and reduces the potential for inefficient investment in capacity. These practices will support the transition to an electrified future.

2. Tariff Structure Statement and Annual Pricing Proposals

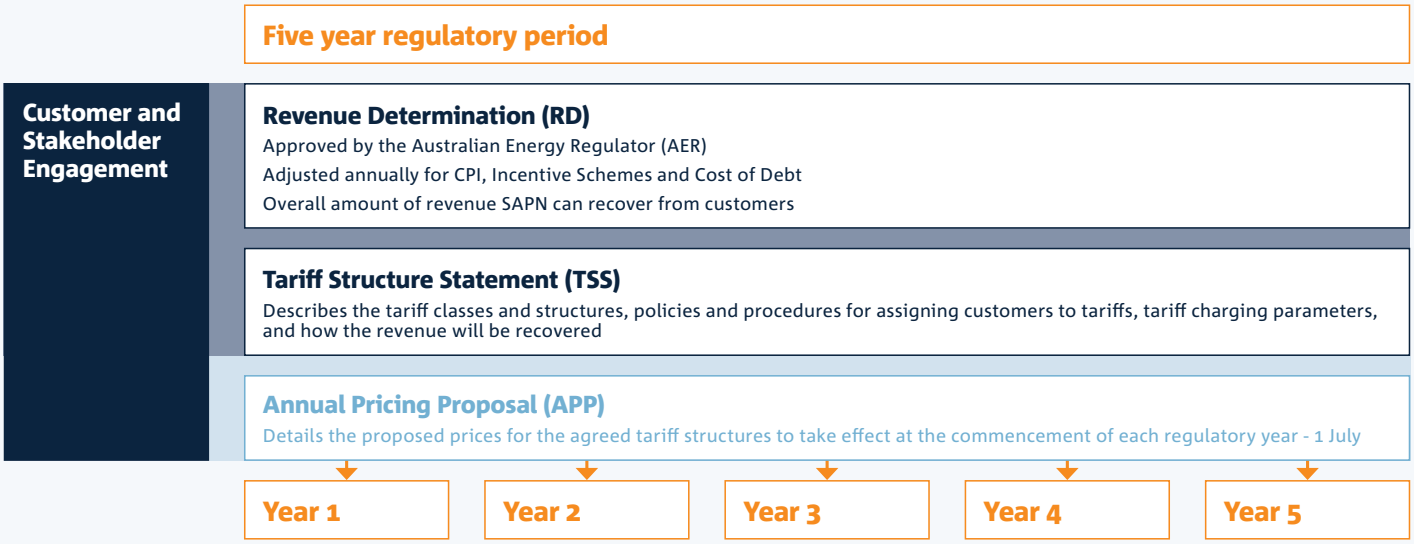
We will lodge our proposed 2025-30 Tariff Structure Statement (TSS) as part of our full Regulatory Proposal to the AER in January 2024.

Extensive stakeholder consultation is guiding the development of this TSS which will describe the tariff classes and structures, policies, and procedures for assigning customers to tariffs and tariff charging parameters. These matters will be fixed for the 2025-30 regulatory period to provide customer certainty. Any proposed departures from the TSS within the period would create uncertainty and require SA Power Networks to recommence the entire regulatory process which is not considered desirable by SA Power Networks or the AER. Some tariff flexibility within the five-year period is enabled via trial tariffs. These are tariffs developed to trial innovative concepts which can be incorporated in future regulatory periods. As a result of trialling tariffs through the current period, three trial tariff concepts are being incorporated into the proposed tariff strategy for 2025-30.

SA Power Networks submits Annual Pricing Proposals (APP) to the AER each year for approval, in line with the requirements and direction set out in the TSS. The APP outlines the proposed prices to take effect at the commencement of each regulatory year (1 July) for each tariff. The APP accounts for the annual changes in our approved revenues by adjusting for CPI, Cost of Debt, and incentive payments. The AER will approve the APP if it complies with the National Electricity Rules and TSS.

The TSS for 2025-30 will be SA Power Networks' third iteration of the document. Our current 2020-25 TSS provides us with a strong starting position and is largely fit for purpose for the next period. From here we are able to adapt and evolve the tariff strategy to meet the needs of customers and the network as it transitions to better support two-way energy flows and enable greater electrification of energy use in South Australia. Our tariffs are one component of a range of measures to encourage efficient utilisation of the network and lower overall network costs for all customers.

SA Power Networks also provides public lighting, meter reading services for accumulation meters and ancillary network services which the AER has classified as Alternative Control Services. The costs of providing these Alternative Control Services are recovered through separate fees and charges included in our APPs and listed separately from our distribution tariffs.



3. Network tariffs

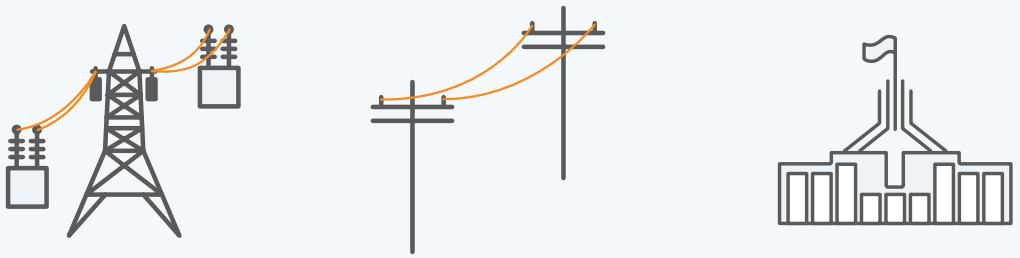
We recover our allowed revenues through Distribution Use of System tariffs.

We are also billed Transmission Use of System charges from the transmission network service provider, ElectraNet, and administer jurisdictional schemes on behalf of the South Australian Government. We incorporate these costs into 'network tariffs'. Retailers then include these network tariffs as one component of their overall electricity retail bills to their individual customers.

To restate, our network tariffs comprise:

- SA Power Networks Distribution Use of System (DUoS) tariffs;
- ElectraNet's Transmission Use of System (TUoS) charges; and
- Jurisdictional Service Obligations (JSO) amounts which arise from costs to administer schemes imposed by the South Australian Government.

Network charges are referred to as NUoS and are one component of the overall retail bill.



Network Use of Service (NUoS) = Transmission Use of Service (TUoS) + Distribution Use of Service (DUoS) + Jurisdictional Service Obligation (JSO)

Annual network tariff changes seek to ensure we ultimately only recover the total revenue we are allowed to recover for the five-year regulatory period. The annual revenue allowance is determined every five years by the AER, we forecast consumption volumes by tariff class for the upcoming regulatory year and adjust tariff prices to recover the allowed revenue for the upcoming year. If we have recovered more than our allowed revenue during any given year, we will return it to customers in the following year. Conversely, if we have not recovered our allowed amount of revenue, we will seek to recover it from customers in the following year. SA Power Networks is only allowed by the AER to recover an approved amount of revenue each year, no more.

4. Cost-reflectivity and metering

Network tariffs are designed to encourage better utilisation of the network through sending price signals to customers (via retailers) which reflect the cost of providing our services to them.

Prices are cheaper when capacity is spare and are more expensive when capacity is more scarce. The type of electricity meter is a key factor in tariff design. Interval meters are remotely-read meters which record how much electricity is used every 30 minutes and are read each day remotely (ie from desktop). These meters enable more cost-reflective, 'time of use' tariff arrangements. Currently 35% of our customers have interval meters, otherwise known as 'smart' meters.

The remainder have accumulation meters which record total energy data only: they do not record what time of day the energy is used. Accumulation meters are typically manually read every quarter (approximately every 90 days). As these meters are unable to differentiate at what time of day the consumption occurred, we are unable to design distribution tariffs with different time of day pricing signals.

Since December 2017, all new and replacement metering must be interval meters. New initiatives are being considered to target 100% of meters being smart by 2030. As customers continue to transition away from legacy accumulation meters to interval meters, they will be transitioned to more cost reflective, 'time of use' tariffs.

5. Customer and stakeholder engagement – Focussed Conversations

In the development of our Tariff Structure Statement for 2025-30 SA Power Networks has brought together a broad and diverse group of customers and stakeholders to consult in depth on tariffs.

There have been a series of 10 workshops held, five each for consumption tariffs and export tariffs. These workshops have included a large number of members from SA Power Networks' existing Tariff Working Group. The Tariff Working Group meets on a regular basis and supports ongoing engagement with tariff trials, new initiatives and emerging network issues.

Detailed analysis has been presented to the group to review, discuss, and provide feedback. The wide range of experiences and at times divergent viewpoints within the group has culminated in the development of a tariff strategy which complements the business' overarching strategy of delivering clean, reliable, and affordable energy supply.

6. Revenue recovery methodology

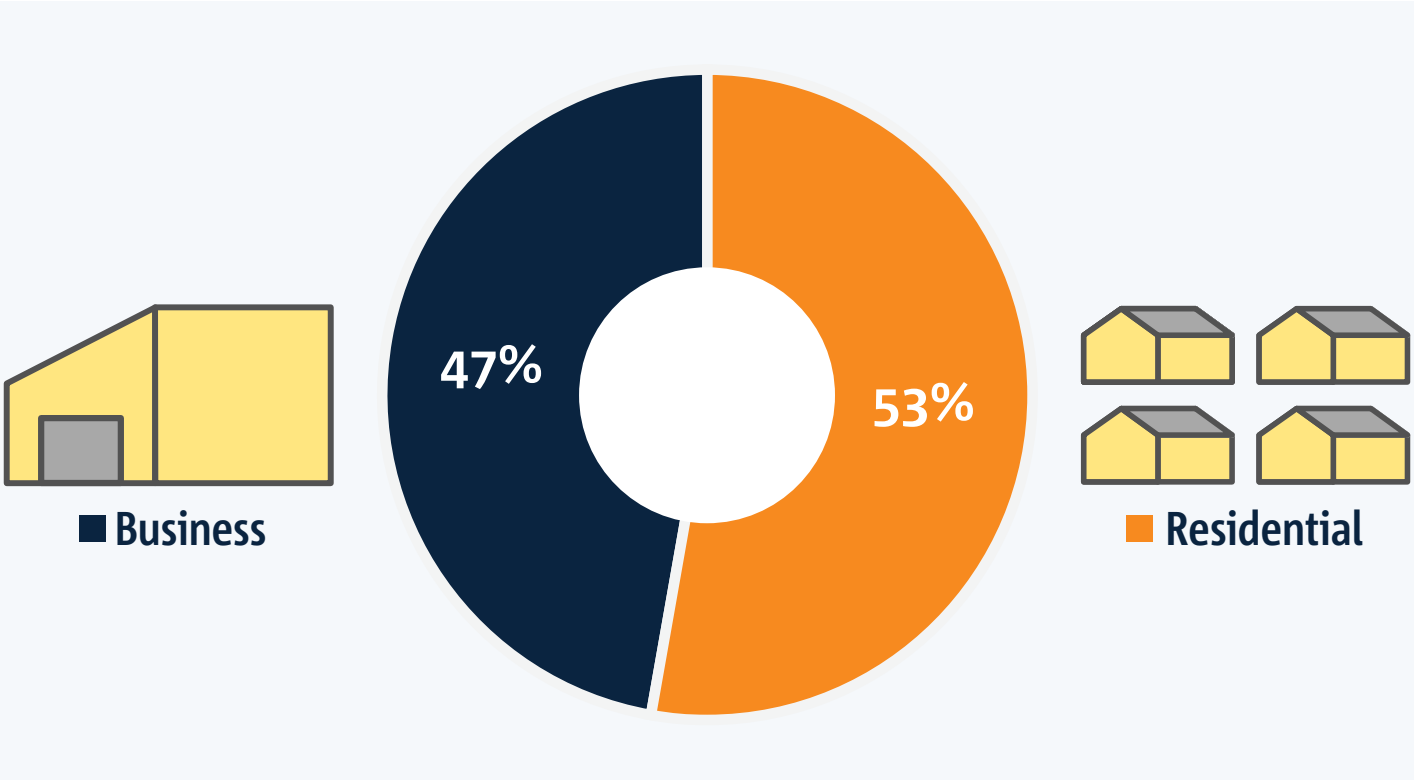
Network tariffs have no impact on the total revenue SA Power Networks is allowed to recover.

However, tariffs do determine how and from which customers revenues should be recovered.

Residential vs. Business

SA Power Networks is proposing to continue with the same methodology which was applied in 2020-25. This methodology considers key metrics including, but not limited to, number of customers and usage. Business represents about 11% of customers but about 60% of usage. We currently recover 53% of revenues from Residential customers and 47% of revenues from Business customers and would expect a similar proportion of recovery in 2025-30.

Proposed revenue recovery for 2025-30



Fixed and variable charges

Network tariffs comprise fixed and variable charges. In 2025-30 SA Power Networks is proposing to continue to increase the daily fixed supply charge for Residential and Small Business Customers. We consider this increase to be more cost reflective for these customer cohorts as a greater proportion of customer related network costs will be recovered on a per customer basis.

This increase in fixed charges is also considered to be more equitable for customers with and without Distributed Energy Resources such as solar, noting that the average Residential customer has annual consumption from the network of 4,000 kWh p.a. This is approximately 20% less than 10 years ago.

In 2020-25 the annual increase in fixed charges is $10 p.a. for Residential customers and $20 p.a. for Small Business customers. SA Power Networks would expect a similar value to be calculated and adopted in 2025-30.

7. Tariff classes

2020-25

For 2020-25, SA Power Networks established, and the AER approved, the following tariff classes:

- Residential
- Small Business
- Large Business
  - Low Voltage
  - High Voltage
- Major Business
  - Substation
  - Sub Transmission

A customer is assigned to one of these tariff classes based on:

- The nature and extent of their usage or intended usage
- The nature of their connection to the network
- The type of meter installed at the customer's site

SA Power Networks can not assign a customer to a tariff class or tariff based on any other factors, including but not limited to, their vulnerability - financial or social or their housing type.

Each tariff class contains a default network tariff which the customer is automatically assigned to when connecting to the network. If a customer has an interval meter, there will be other tariff choices for customers.

We are also obligated by the SA Government to ensure Residential and Business customers who have less than 160MWh consumption p.a. receive a state-wide or 'postage stamp' price, that is, the customer is not advantaged or disadvantaged by price based on their location in the State.

Network charges in South Australia for consumption tariffs are comprised of three components. Different tariff structures will comprise some or all of these charging components.

- Fixed charges: Daily supply charge - $/day
- Variable charges: Peak/Shoulder/Off Peak/ Solar Sponge – c/kWh
- Demand charges: $/kW or $/kVA

2025-30

For the 2025-30 period, SA Power Networks is proposing to retain the existing tariff classes with the addition of a new sub-category within Small Business. This proposed sub-category is in response to customer and stakeholder feedback.

Our proposed 2025-30 tariff classes are summarised in the figures below which show:

- the tariff class;
- the meter types available within the tariff class; and
- the tariff options available based on meter type.

Residential

	ACCUMULATION	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge	
Default	Single Rate | **RSR**	Time of Use | **RTOU**
Customer Choice		Time of Use Prosumer Demand | **RPRO**
		Time of Use Electrify | **RELE**
Options	Diversify EV Rebate | **RDIV**	

Small Business 0-40MWh

	ACCUMULATION	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge	
Default	Single Rate | **BSR**	Time of Use if <120kVA | **SBTOU**
	Two Rate | **B2R**	Time of Use Demand if >120kVA | **MBTOUD**
Customer Choice		Time of Use Demand if <120kVA | **MBTOUD**

Medium Business 40MWh-160MWh

	ACCUMULATION	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge	
Default	Single Rate | **BSR**	Time of Use Demand | MBTOUD
	Two Rate | **B2R**	
Customer Choice		Time of Use if <120kVA | **SBTOU**

Large Low Voltage Business 160+MWh

	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge
Default	Time of Use Annual Demand | **LBAD**
Customer Choice	Time of Use Monthly Demand | **LBMD**
	Time of Use Agreed Demand Flexible | **LBADF**

High Voltage Business 160+MWh

	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge
Default	Time of Use Annual Demand | **HVAD**
Customer Choice	Time of Use Monthly Demand | **HVMD**
	Time of Use Agreed Demand Flexible | **HVADF**

Major Business Substation + Sub Transmission

	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge
Default	Single Rate Annual Demand | **ZSN** | **STN**
Customer Choice	Single Rate Agreed Demand | **ZSN** | **STN**
	Single Rate Agreed Demand Flexible | **ZSNF** | **STNF**

Generation

	INTERVAL
Mandatory	Fixed Supply Charge | **LBG**
	Single Rate Annual Demand | **LBG** | **HVBG** | **ZSNG** | **STNG**
Customer Choice	Single Rate Agreed Demand | **LBG** | **HVBG** | **ZSNG** | **STNG**
Customer Choice	Single Rate Agreed Demand Flexible | **LBGF** | **HVBGF** | **ZSNGF** | **STNGF**

8. Tariff charging components - Consumption

Network charges in South Australia for consumption tariffs are comprised of three components.

Different tariff structures will comprise some or all of these charging components.

- Fixed charges: Daily supply charge - $/day
- Variable charges: Peak/Shoulder/Off Peak/ Solar Sponge – c/kWh
- Demand charges: $/kW or $/kVA

2025-30 Residential tariffs

For Residential customers SA Power Networks has tariffs for both accumulation meters and interval meters. In 2025-30 SA Power Networks is proposing the following tariff structures:

				OPTIONAL Partner Tariff	
Meter Type	**Tariff Name**	**Tariff Code**	**Default/Customer Choice**	**Controlled Load e.g. Hot Water**	**Diversify**
Accumulation meter	Residential Single Rate	RSR	• Default	✓	✓
Interval meter	Residential Time of Use	RTOU	• Default	✓	✓
	Residential Prosumer	RPRO	• Customer choice	✓	✓
	Electrify	RELE	• Customer choice	✓	✓

Residential network tariffs proposed in 2025-30 are largely consistent with the current structures, noting that the changes proposed are geared towards enabling the energy transition across the distribution network by encouraging energy use outside network peaks and incentivising smart charging for EVs.

Solar Sponge

The Solar Sponge window (in which customers pay distribution network charges at a rate that is 20% of peak charges) in all Residential tariffs will be extended to 10:00am – 4:00pm, an additional hour. In the Residential Time of Use default tariff, the Off-Peak window will also be increased to six hours resulting in a reduction of two hours in the Peak windows to 12 hours per day.

Electrify

'Electrify' is an energy based tariff designed for customers who predominantly or solely meet their energy needs through electricity, but have sufficient flexibility in their appliances, e.g. electric vehicles (EV), heat pumps, energy storage etc, to optimise their usage outside peak demand periods. These customers are expected to have an above average energy consumption, so the tariff is structured to provide more opportunities throughout the day to access lower cost electricity outside of distribution network peak periods. Electrify has stronger pricing signals than Residential Time of Use and a simpler structure than Residential Prosumer by having no demand component.

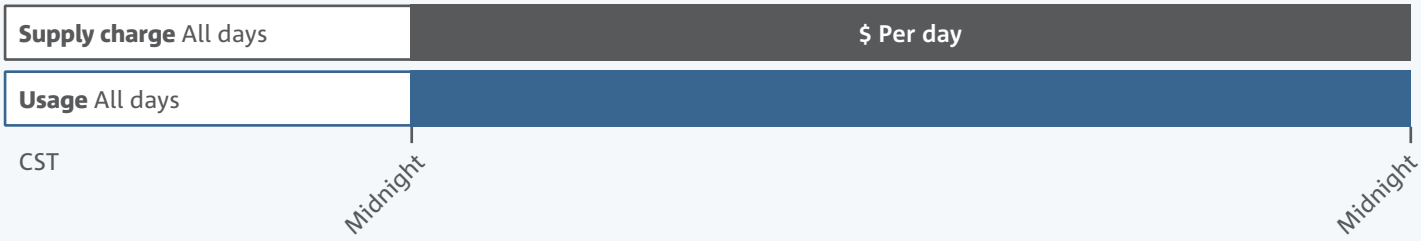
Diversify

'Diversify' offers a daily rebate to incentivise residential customers with an EV to allow SA Power Networks to regulate the charging rate of their smart EV chargers on the rare occasions when the distribution network has limited capacity. This will enable SA Power Networks to increase the diversity of EV charging load thereby avoiding inefficient distribution network investment.

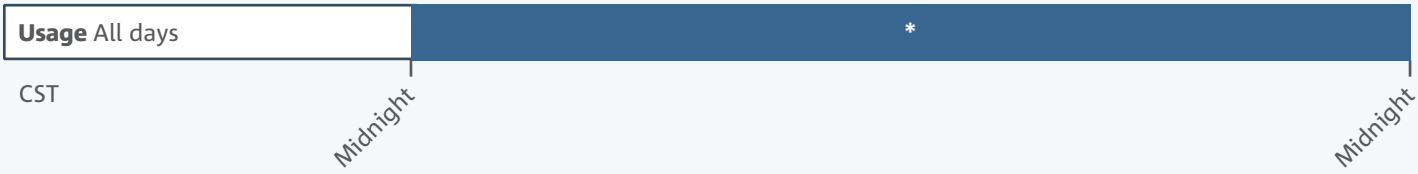
Both Electrify and Diversify were developed as part of the trial tariff process which has informed our thinking for the upcoming regulatory period.

Listed below are the time windows for all Residential tariffs proposed in 2025-30.

RSR | Residential Single Rate

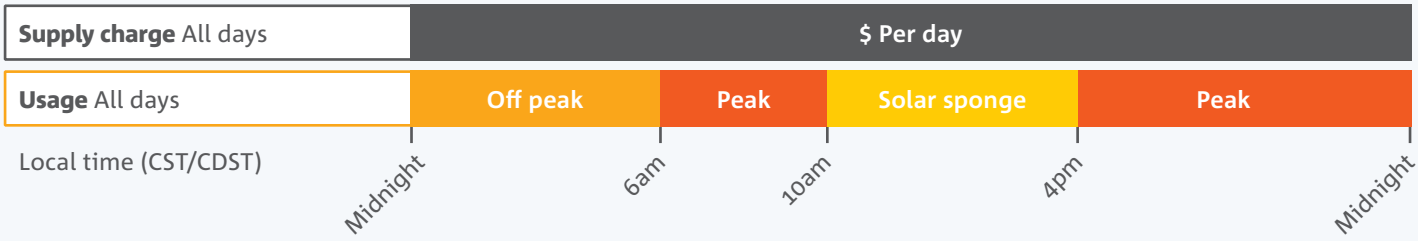


OPCL | Off Peak Controlled Load

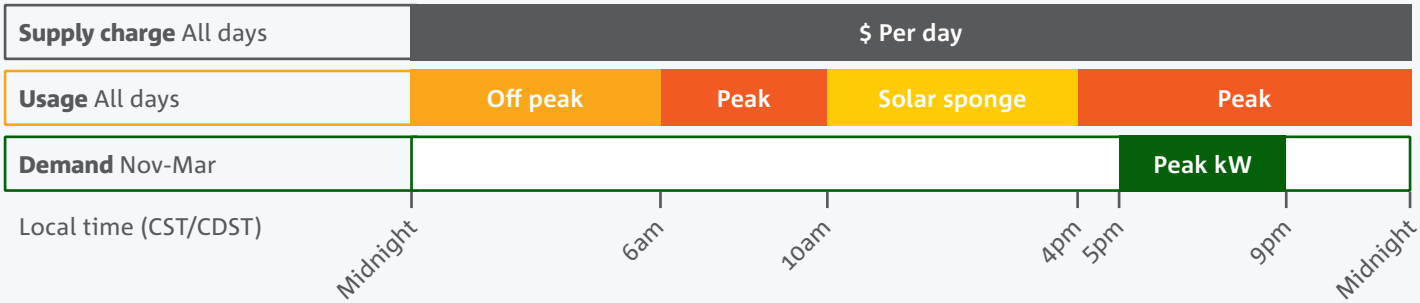


*Time clock is managed by SA Power Networks and typically involves supply usage between 11pm-7am and from 10am-3pm.

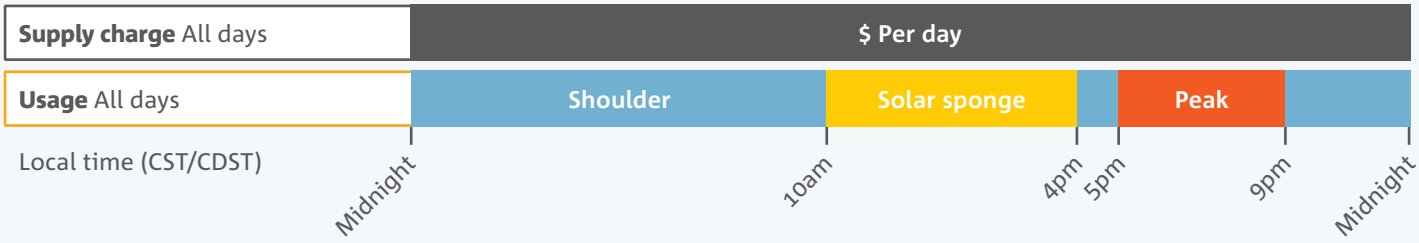
RTOU | Residential Time of Use



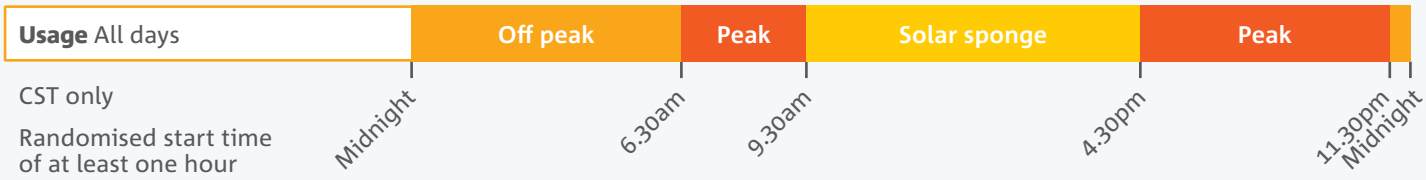
RPRO | Residential Prosumer



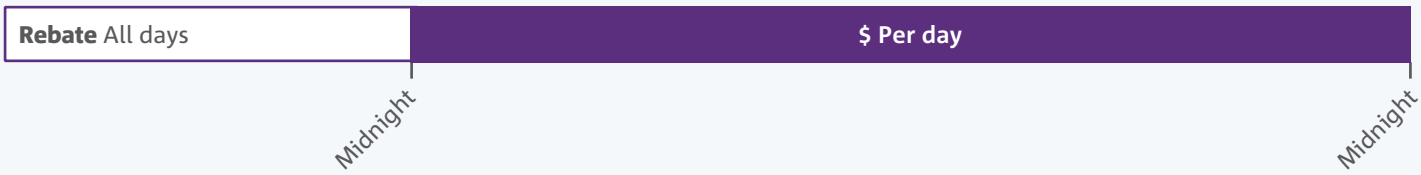
REE | Residential Export Electrify



CL | Time of Use Controlled Load



RDIV | Diversify



2025-30 Business tariffs

SA Power Networks categorises business customers either by consumption or by connection point to the distribution network.

There are tariffs for Small Business customers with accumulation meters and interval meters. All other businesses are required to have an interval meter. In 2025-2030 SA Power Networks is proposing the following tariff structures:

Small Business | 0-40MWh p.a.

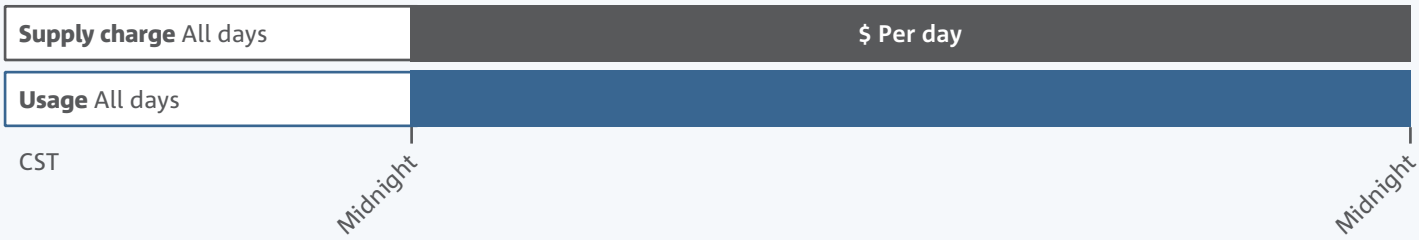
Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice	OPTIONAL Partner Tariff Controlled Load e.g. Hot Water
Accumulation meter	Business Single Rate	BSR	Default	✓
	Business Two Rate	B2R	Default	✓
Interval meter	Small Business Time of Use	SBTOU	Default <120 kVA	
	Small Business Time of Use Electrify	SBTOUE	Customer Choice <120 kVA	
	Medium Business Time of Use Demand	MBTOUD	Default >120 kVA Customer Choice <120 kVA	

Medium Business | 40-160 MWh p.a.

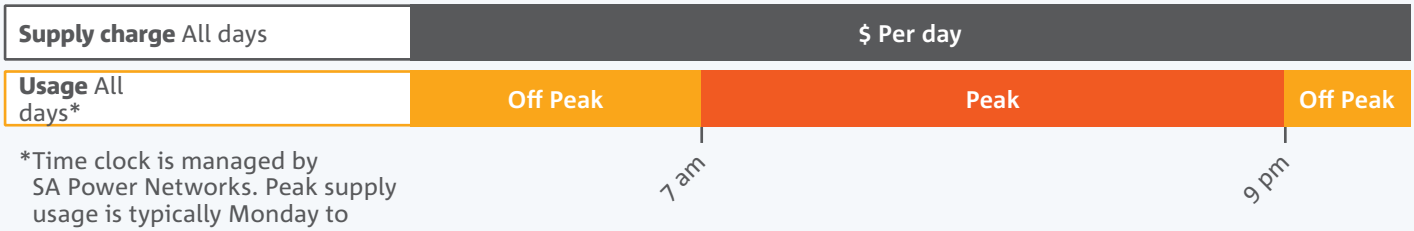
Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice	OPTIONAL Partner Tariff Controlled Load e.g. Hot Water
Accumulation meter	Business Single Rate	BSR	Default	✓
	Business Two Rate	B2R	Default	✓
Interval meter	Medium Business Time of Use Demand	MBTOUD	Default	
	Small Business Time of Use	SBTOU	Customer Choice <120 kVA	
	Small Business Time of Use Electrify	SBTOUE	Customer Choice <120 kVA	

Listed below are the time windows for all Small and Medium Business tariffs proposed in 2025-30.

BSR | Business Single Rate

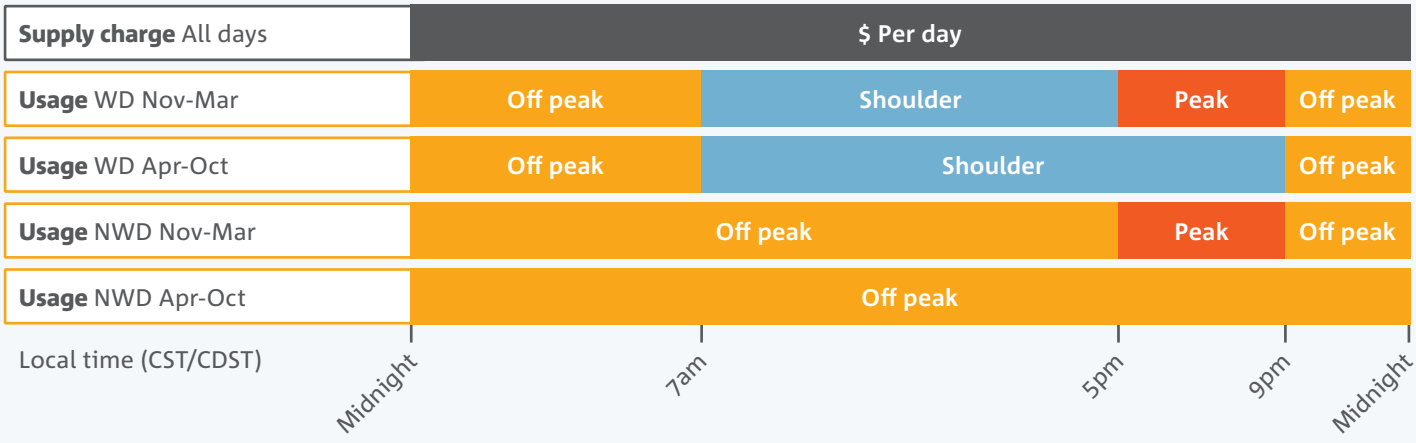


B2R | Business Two Rate

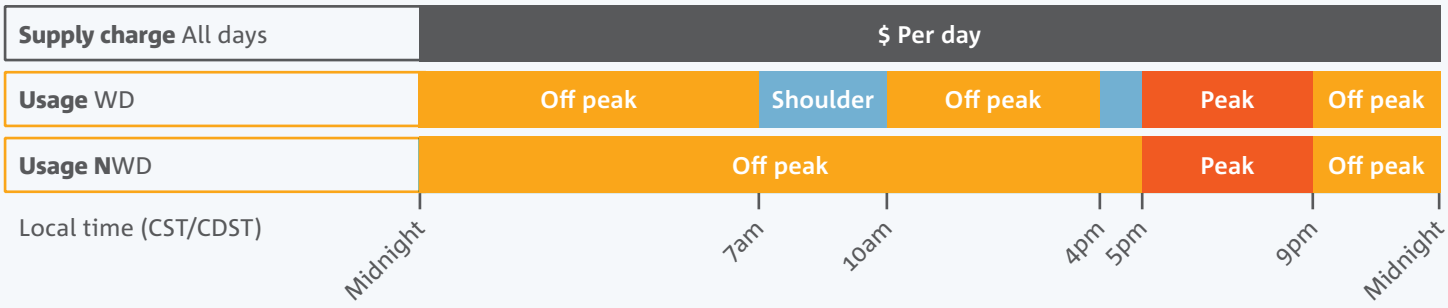


*Time clock is managed by SA Power Networks. Peak supply usage is typically Monday to Friday but can be all days between 7am and 9pm

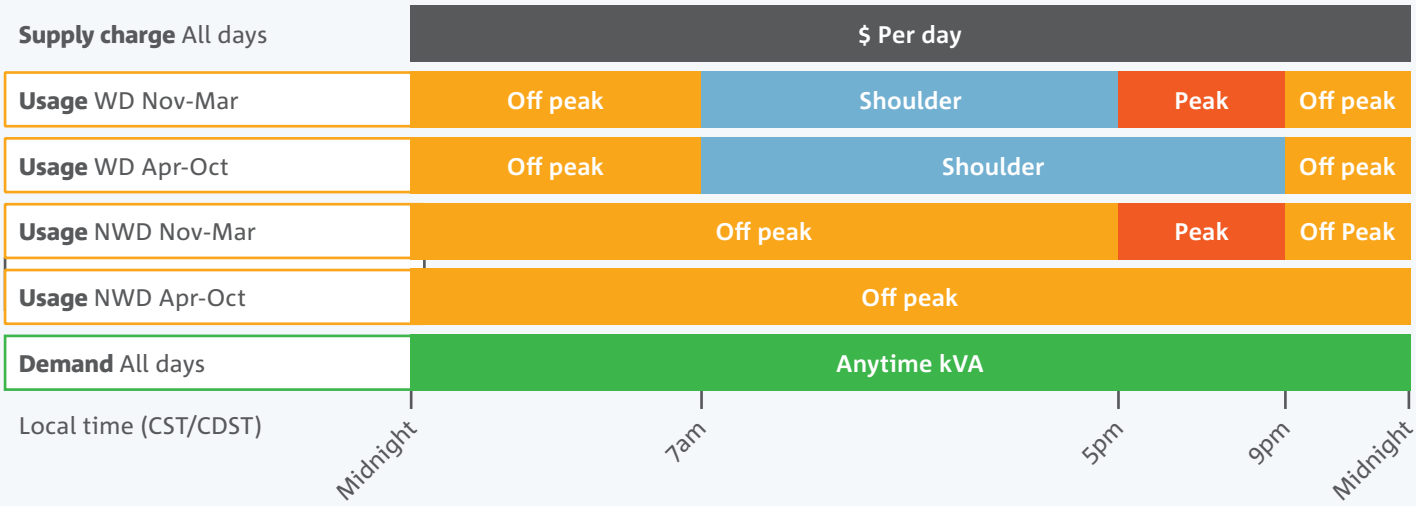
SBTOU | Small Business Time of Use



SBTOUE | Small Business Time of Use Electrify



MBTOUD | Medium Business Time of Use Demand



Responding to customer and stakeholder feedback, SA Power Networks is proposing to segment the Small Business tariff class based on customer usage. Ninety-four percent of Small Business customers have usage between 0-40MWh p.a. In 2025-30 the Small Business tariff class would be defined as 0-40MWh p.a. and Medium Business would be defined as 40-160 MWh p.a. Creating this additional segment allows for different pricing between these segments.

Small Business customers would have a daily supply charge which is set at the same price as Residential customers. This recognises that there is an immaterial difference in network usage between a large residential household using 10MWh p.a. for example and a small business.

Medium Business would have a higher supply charge with lower usage rates.

We have also created a new small business tariff - Small Business Time of Use Electrify, which aims to encourage consumption during the middle of the day when there is an abundance of solar on the network. This tariff was created in response to stakeholder feedback and is part of out tariff trials in 2023-2024. SA Power Networks will review the outcomes of the trial to determine its inclusion in the TSS.

Large Business Low Voltage | 160+MWh p.a.

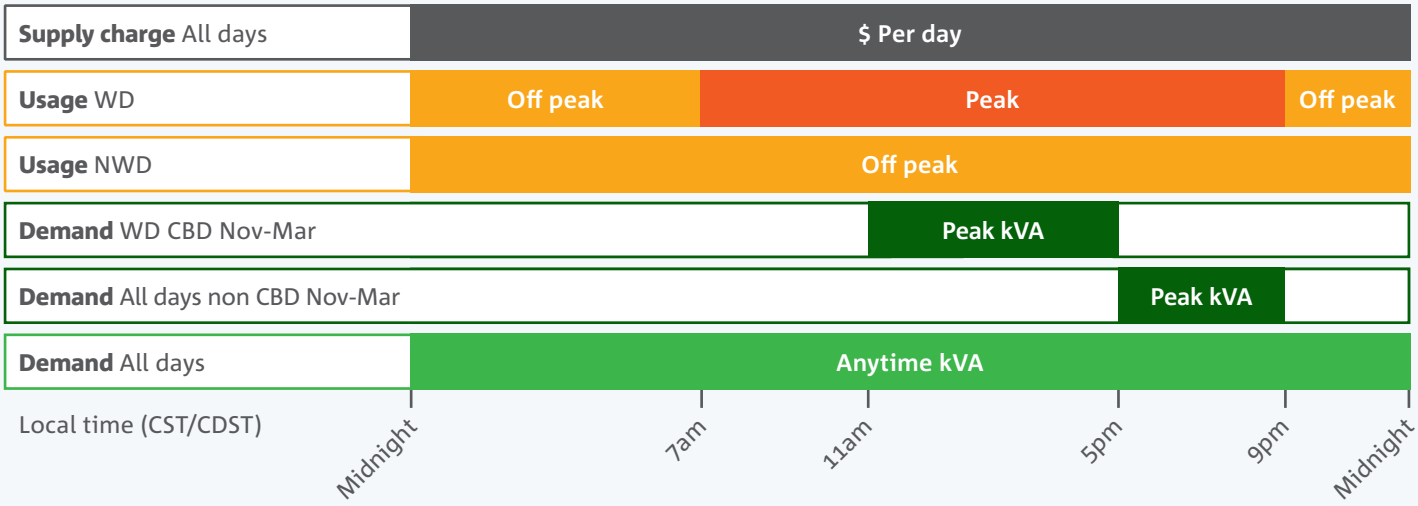
Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice
Interval meter	Large LV Business Annual Demand	LBAD	Default
	Large LV Business Annual Demand Flexible	LBADF	Customer Choice
	Large LV Business Monthly Demand	LBMD	Customer Choice

Large Business High Voltage | 160+MWh p.a.

Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice
Interval meter	Large HV Business Annual Demand	HVAD	Default
	Large HV Business Annual Demand Flexible	HVADF	Customer Choice
	Large HV Business Monthly Demand	HVMD	Customer Choice

Listed below are the time windows for all Large Business Low and High Voltage tariffs proposed in 2025-30.

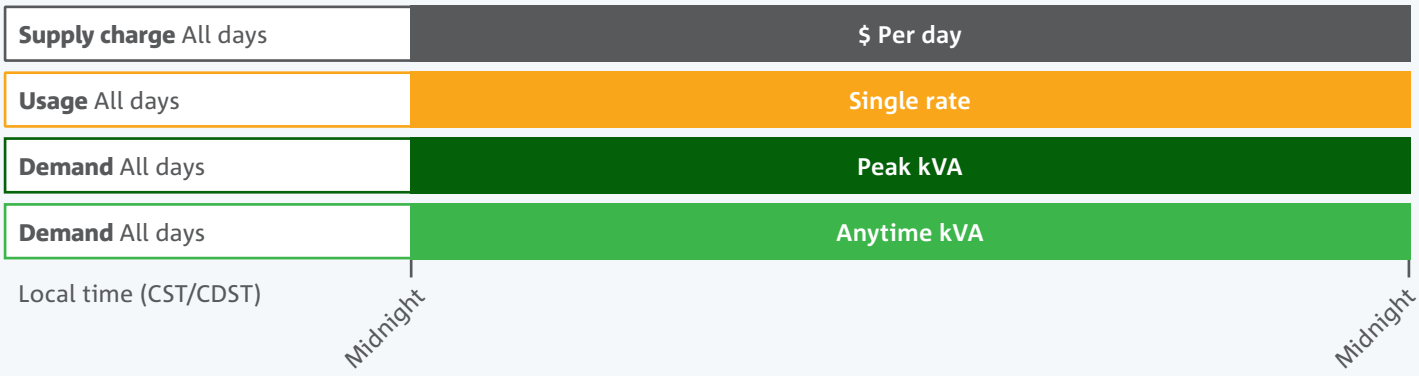
LBAD | Large Low Voltage Business Annual Demand
LBADF | Large Low Voltage Business Agreed Demand Flexible
LBMD | Large Low Voltage Business Monthly Demand
HVAD | High Voltage Business Annual Demand
HVADF | High Voltage Business Agreed Demand Flexible
HVMD | Large High Voltage Business Monthly Demand



Major Business – Zone Substation + Sub Transmission

Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice
Interval meter	Zone Substation	ZSN	Default
	Zone Substation Flexible	ZSNF	Customer Choice
	Sub Transmission	STN	Default
	Sub Transmission Flexible	STNF	Customer Choice

ZSN | Zone Substation
ZSNF | Zone Substation Flexible
STN | Sub Transmission
STNF | Sub Transmission Flexible



In 2025-30 SA Power Networks proposes to introduce flexible tariffs for Large and Major Business customers. Flexible tariffs aim to reward flexible use of the network. If a business is able to be flexible in when they use the network then they will be rewarded with a discounted tariff as their usage is not causing the network to be upgraded. This concept was developed as part of the trial tariff process applicable within regulatory periods and involves customers agreeing to reduce demand when required for specified load values.

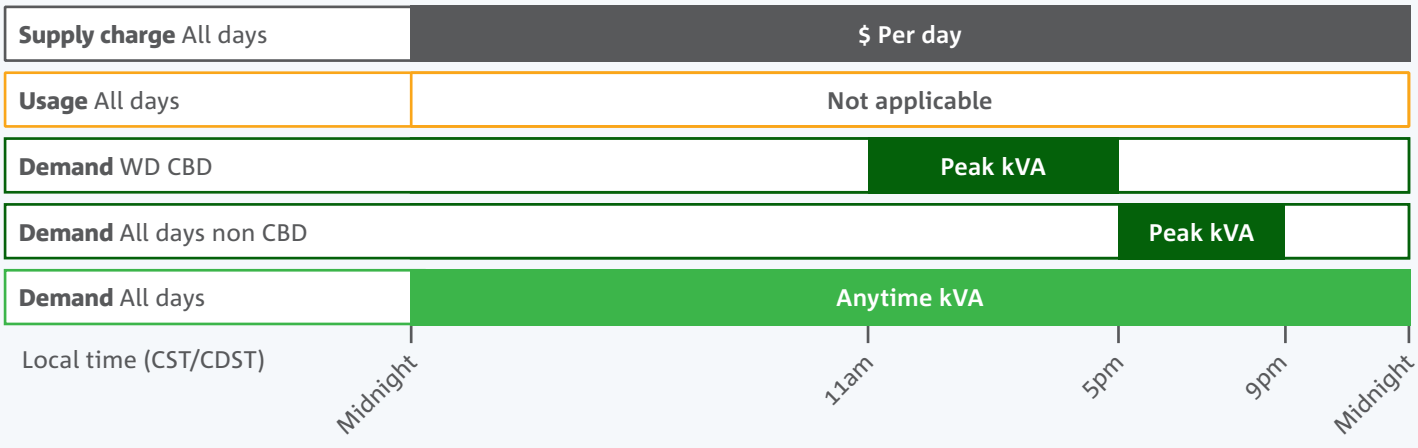
Large Business High Voltage | 160+MWh p.a.

Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice
Interval meter	Large LV Business Generation	LBG	Default
	Large LV Business Generation Flexible	LBGF	Customer Choice
	Large HV Business Generation	HVBG	Default
	Large HV Business Generation Flexible	HVBGF	Customer Choice
	Zone Substation Generation	ZSNG	Default
	Zone Substation Generation Flexible	ZSNGF	Customer Choice
	Sub Transmission Generation	STNG	Default
	Sub Transmission Generation Flexible	STNGF	Customer Choice

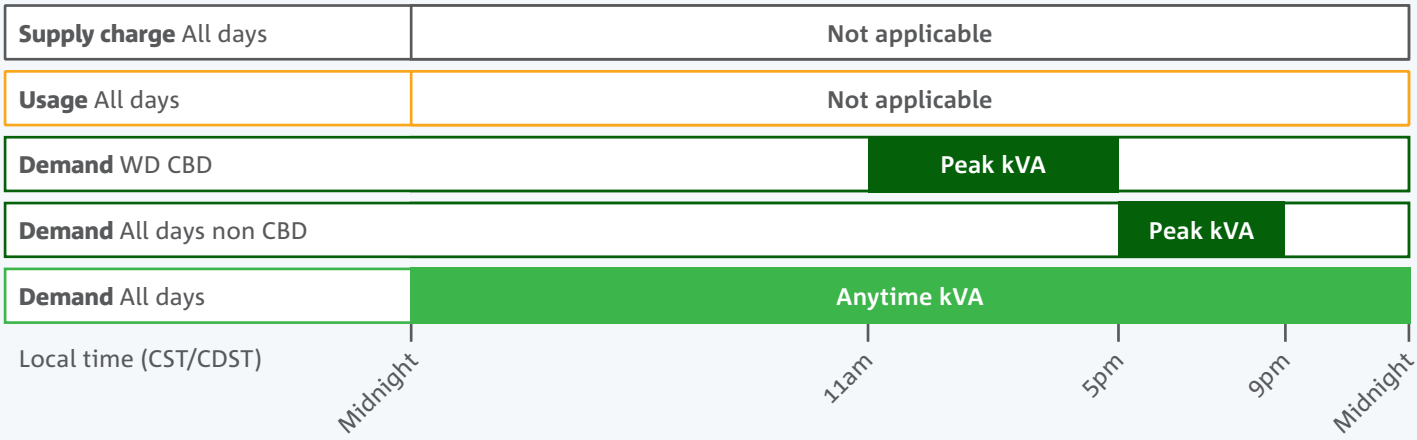
Listed below are the time windows for all Generation tariffs proposed in 2025-30.

LBG | Large Low Voltage Business Generation

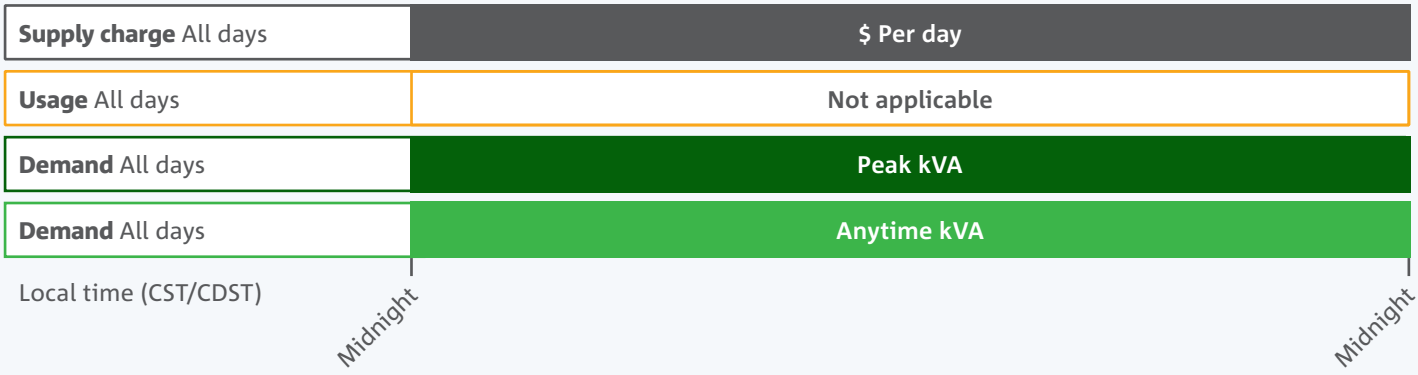
LBGF | Large Low Voltage Business Generation Flexible



HVBG | High Voltage Business Generation
HVBGF | High Voltage Business Generation Flexible



ZSNG | Zone Substation Generation
ZSNGF | Zone Substation Generation Flexible
STNG | Sub transmition Generation
STNGF | Sub Transmission Generation Flexible



Generation tariffs have been expanded to accommodate the increasing number of customers connecting generation at different voltage levels in our network. In 2025-30, SA Power Networks is proposing that all generation customers connecting to the network at Low Voltage and above will have access to a generation tariff. Flexible generation tariffs will also be created to encourage and reward those business who can be flexible with their use of the network.

9. Export tariff

Our distribution network was originally designed to deliver electricity ‘one-way’ to our customers.

Whilst it has an intrinsic capacity to also support the export of some energy, in some areas of our network this capacity is eroding due to the increased penetration of Customer Energy Resources (CER), namely rooftop solar. In South Australia today, more than 1 in 3 residential customers have rooftop solar and approximately 30,000 batteries are in people’s homes.

The AEMC rule change in August 2021 clarified that SA Power Networks can invest in a two-way network, where necessary, and recover these costs from those customers who benefit, that is, customers who export into the network.

Export tariffs are designed to provide a price signal to encourage customers to export energy at times of the day when energy is needed and limit export through self-consumption or battery storage when the network doesn’t need the additional energy, e.g. the middle of the day. These tariffs recover the costs of increased network export capacity.

Export tariffs, like consumption tariffs must comply with the NER, but also must take into consideration the guiding principles of the AER’s Export Tariff Guidelines. Export tariffs must:

- be approved by the AER via the TSS process;
- have a basic export level; that is, the amount of electricity a customer can export to the grid at no charge; and
- not be introduced before 1 July 2025.

The AER will not approve export tariffs unless SA Power Networks can demonstrate the need for two way pricing, which includes demonstrating what the impact of current and future CER penetration is on the network and the associated costs to the network.

For 2025-30 SA Power Networks is proposing expenditure of $71m to upgrade the low voltage network and enable more export capacity so solar customers can continue to export their surplus energy into the grid for the benefit of the wider community. Residential, Small and Medium Business customers connect to the low voltage network and therefore they are the customers who will benefit most from this upgrade to the network and therefore are subject to an export tariff.

Large and Major customers including PV sites above 30kW are not mandatorily assigned to an export tariff.

10. Tariff charging components - Export

Network charges in South Australia for export tariffs are comprised of four components.

Different tariff structures will comprise some or all of these charging components.

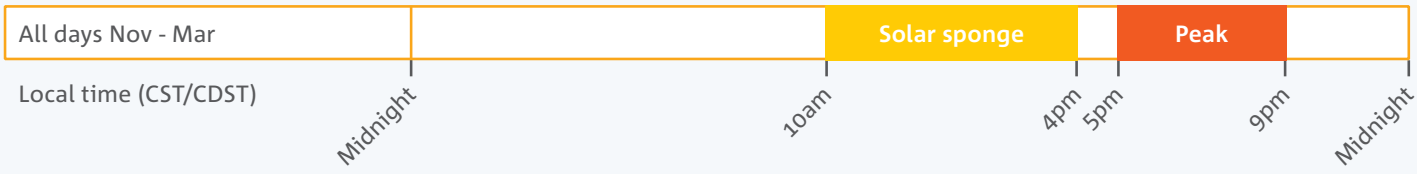
- Basic Export Limit: 9kWh – Free/day
- Variable export charges: c/kWh
- Variable export credits: c/kWh[2]

2025-30 Residential tariffs

For Residential ustomers with PV systems up to 30kW, SA Power Networks has export tariffs for both accumulation meters and interval meters. In 2025-30 SA Power Networks is proposing the following tariff structures:

Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/ Customer Choice	Export Partner Tariff	Export Partner Tariff Credits
Accumulation Meter	Residential Single Rate	RSR	Default	✓[3]	
Interval Meter	Residential Time of Use	RTOU	Default	✓	
	Residential Prosumer	RPRO	Customer Choice	✓	
	Electrify	RELE	Customer Choice	✓	✓[4]

RE | Residential Export

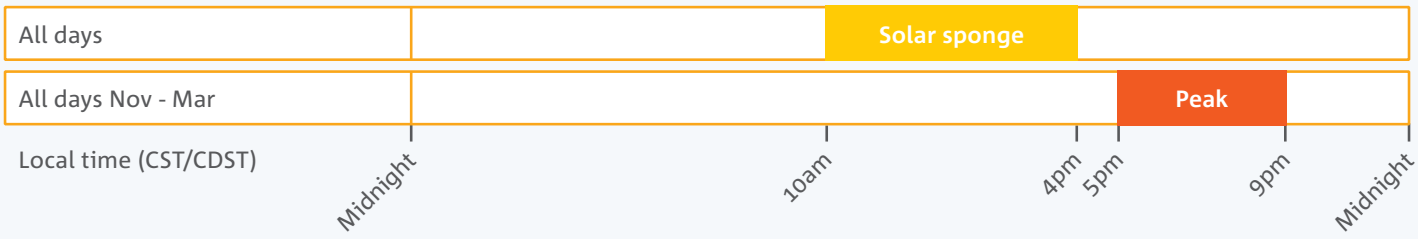


2 This charging component is part of a trial tariff in 2023-24. The outcomes of this trial will inform the TSS.

3 The export tariff will be simplified for customers with an Accumulation meter due to the limitations of meter data.

4 Export credits are part of a tariff trial in 2023-24. SA Power Networks will review the outcomes of the trial to determine how an export tariff credit is incorporated into export tariff structures for 2025-30.

RE | Residential Export Electrify



2025-30 Business tariffs

For Small and Medium Business customers with PV systems up to 30kWSA Power Networks has export tariffs for both accumulation meters and interval meters. In 2025-30 SA Power Networks is proposing the following tariff structures:

Meter Type	Tariff Name	Tariff Code	Default/Customer Choice	Export Partner Tariff Charges
Accumulation Meter	Business Single Rate	BSR	Default	✓[5]
	Business Two Rate	B2R	Customer Choice	✓[3]
Interval Meter	Small Business Time of Use	SBTOU	Default <120kVa Customer Choice	✓
	Medium Business Time of Use Demand	MBTOUD	Default	✓
	Small Business Electrify	SBTOUE	Customer Choice	✓

5 The export tariff will be simplified for customers with an Accumulation meter due to the limitations of meter data.

11. Transition to export tariffs

As part of the TSS, SA Power Networks will outline its strategy to transition CER customers to an export tariff. Customers cannot be mandatorily assigned to an export tariff until 1 July 2025 at the earliest under the NER.

As part of our stakeholder engagement, the People's Panel have been tasked with determining when export tariffs should be introduced in 2025-30. The Panel will be presented with three options for consideration:

1. Transition all export customers on 1 July 2025
2. Transition all export customers on 1 July 2030
3. Transition all new export customers on 1 July 2025 and all existing export customers on 1 July 2030. A new export customer is defined as a customer who has their CER commissioned after 1 July 2023.

Transitioning to export tariffs promotes cost reflectivity as those without CER are not paying for network augmentation to facilitate export for those with CER. The longer the transition period to export tariffs, the longer that all customers will pay for network upgrades that predominately serve export customers.

12. Conclusion

SA Power Networks has outlined its proposed consumption network tariffs for 2025-30 which have been developed in consultation with our customers and stakeholders. These tariffs build upon a strong foundation which was established in the current regulatory period and aim to provide structures which promote efficient utilisation of the distribution network, be cost reflective and support all customers as we transition to an electrified future delivering clean, reliable, and affordable energy supply.

Glossary

Acronym	Definition
Accumulation meter	Meter records total energy data only, it does not record what time of day the energy is used. Meter is read manually by a person going to the location of the meter approximately every 90 days.
Business Single Rate | BSR	Business default tariff for customers with an accumulation meter with up to 160MWh p.a. consumption.
Business Two Rate | B2R	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with between 40MWh – 160MWh p.a. and <120kVA.
Controlled Load | CL	Residential customer choice partner tariff for energy which is supplied to specific appliances, e.g. hot water.
Customer Energy Resources | CER	The name given to renewable energy units or systems that are commonly located at houses or businesses to provide them with power. Examples include rooftop solar, battery storage, electric vehicles and chargers, and home energy management technologies.
Diversify | RDIV	Residential customer choice partner tariff.
DUoS	Distribution Use of Service – The utilisation of the distribution network in the provision of electricity to customers.
Electrify | RELE	Residential customer choice tariff.
Grade of Service | GoS	The level of service that enables a solar customer to export all their surplus energy into the grid. The proposed GoS for 2025-30 is 95%. A 95% GoS enables a solar customer to export all their surplus energy into the grid 95% of the time, but may have their solar output reduced 5% of the time when the network is congested.
HV	High voltage
Interval meter	Meter records how much energy is used every 30 minutes. Meter is read remotely with the energy data being sent each day to the retailer.
JSO	Jurisdictional Service Obligation
kVA	Kilo-volt amps units of apparent total electrical power demand.
kW	A kilo-watt is the electricity generating capacity.

Acronym	Definition
kWh	A kilo-watt hour is the electricity generated over one hour.
Large HV Business Annual Demand | HVAD	Business default tariff for customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the HV network.
Large HV Business Annual Demand Flexible | HVADF	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the HV network who are willing to be flexible with their demand from the HV network.
Large HV Business Generation | HVBG	Business default tariff for generation customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the HV network.
Large HV Business Generation Flexible | HVBGF	Business customer choice tariff for generation customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the HV network who are willing to be flexible with their demand from the HV network.
Large HV Business Monthly Demand | HVMD	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the HV network.
Large LV Business Annual Demand | LBAD	Business default tariff for customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the LV network.
Large LV Business Annual Demand Flexible | LBADF	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the LV network who are willing to be flexible with their demand from the LV network.
Large LV Business Generation | LBG	Business default tariff for generation customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the LV network.
Large LV Business Monthly Demand | LBMD	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with more than 160MWh p.a. consumption connected at the LV network.
LV	Low voltage
Medium Business Time of Use Demand | MBTOUD	Business default tariff for customers with an interval meter with between 40MWh – 160MWh p.a. consumption. Business consumer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with less than 40MWh p.a. consumption.
MW	A mega-watt is the electricity generating capacity. 1 mega-watt equates to 1,000 kilo-watts.
MWh	A mega-watt hour is the electricity generated over one hour.

Acronym	Definition
TUoS	These rules exists so that generators, transmission and distribution networks and retailers are aware of their roles and responsibilities as a market participant and function in accordance with the pre-defined regulations.
National Electricity Rules | NER	These rules exists so that generators, transmission and distribution networks and retailers are aware of their roles and responsibilities as a market participant and function in accordance with the pre-defined regulations.
NUoS	Network Use of Service – The utilisation of the total electricity network in the provision of electricity to customers. NUoS = DUoS + TUoS + PV FiT
Off Peak Controlled Load | OPCL	Residential customer choice partner tariff for energy which is supplied to specific appliances, e.g. hot water.
Partner tariff	A tariff which can be paired with Residential tariff. A Partner tariff cannot be accessed without an accompanying tariff.
Residential Prosumer | RPRO	Residential customer choice tariff.
Residential Single Rate | RSR	Residential default tariff for customers with an accumulation meter.
Residential Time of Use | RTOU	Residential default tariff for customers with an interval meter.
Small Business Time of Use | SBTOU	Business default tariff for customers with an interval meter with up to 40MWh p.a. consumption and <120kVA. Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter with between 40MWh – 160MWh p.a. and <120kVA.
Sub Transmission | STN	Business default tariff for customers with an interval meter connected at Sub Transmission.
Sub Transmission Flexible | STNF	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter connected at Sub Transmission who are willing to be flexible with their demand from Sub Transmission.
Sub Transmission Generation | STNG	Business default tariff for generation customers with an interval meter connected at Sub Transmission.
Sub Transmission Generation Flexible| STNGF	Business default tariff for generation customers with an interval meter connected at Sub Transmission who are willing to be flexible with their demand from Sub Transmission.
TUoS	Transmission Use of Service – The utilisation of the transmission network in the provision of electricity to customers.

Acronym	Definition
Zone Substation | ZSN	Business default tariff for customers with an interval meter connected at the Zone Substation.
Zone Substation Flexible | ZSNF	Business customer choice tariff for customers with an interval meter connected at the Zone Substation who are willing to be flexible with their demand from the Zone Substation.
Zone Substation Generation | ZSNG	Business default tariff for generation customers with an interval meter connected at the Zone Substation.
Zone Substation Generation Flexible | ZSNGF	Business default tariff for generation customers with an interval meter connected the Zone Substation who are willing to be flexible with their demand from the Zone Substation.

SA Power Networks

Empowering South Australia