Residential Time of Use Plus Tariff Trial



Empowering South Australia

25 February 2021

SA Power Networks is proposing a new network tariff to encourage customers to use more of their energy outside peak demand times.

Objectives of the trial

The proposed tariff trial Residential Time of Use Plus (RToUP) aims to provide stronger pricing signals than Residential Time of Use (RToU) and a simpler structure than Residential Prosumer (RPRO) (no demand component).

The RToUP through its price signals and structure aims to encourage residential customers to change their electricity usage behaviours by shifting usage away from peak times, when the network is under its greatest constraints and moving that usage to the middle of the day when there is an excess amount of solar in the distribution network.

The peak times of 5:00pm–9:00pm November to March under RToUP are short, at 4 hours per day for 5 months of the year.

Retailer engagement

SA Power Networks have engaged in conversations with one Retailer, IO Energy, who has indicated that they will implement RToUP. This tariff offering will be a more targeted and simplified version of their current 'Lightening' plan. We also raised the prospect of a residential trial with Retailers at a December 2020 presentation. Future information sessions will be held during the trial period.

SA Power Networks plans to discuss the tariff trial with all Retailers with particular emphasis on the 10 Virtual Power Plants (VPPs) which are currently operating in South Australia.

Consumer engagement

Retailers and VPP's will develop retail offers for customers.

Proposed tariff (structure and pricing)

Peak	5:00pm–9:00pm November to March (Same as RPRO Demand time)
Shoulder	All other times
Solar Sponge	10:00am—3:00pm (Same as RToU and RPRO)
Status	Opt-in tariff trial

NUoS	SA Power Networks RTOUP Indicative only at 2020/21 prices	Price vs Residential Single Rate 0.1378 \$/kWh 2020/21
Supply – \$/Day	0.4658	
Peak – \$/kWh	0.4410	3.20 Times
Shoulder – \$/kWh	0.1145	0.83 Times
Off Peak – \$/kWh		
Solar Sponge – \$/kWh	0.0206	0.15 Times

Forecast revenue	Up to \$4.06 million, equivalent to 0.5% AAR, if the trial is fully subscribed at approximately 8,000 participants
Trial start date	1 July 2021
Duration of trial	1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022. The extension of the trial will be reviewed by February 2022.
Notification date	25 February 2021
Forecast volumes	Up to 8,000 residential customers could participate in the trial
Location of trial	State-wide

Potential changes and triggers

If the desired outcomes are achieved through this tariff trial then SA Power Networks would strongly consider extending the duration of the trial into future regulatory years through to 2025 with a view to include such a tariff in the 2025–30 Tariff Structure Statement. If the trial fails, the trial could conclude in June 2022.

Trial take up will depend on Retailer and VPP interest in the concept, and customer interest in the consequent retail offers.

Energy usage November to end of March (Summer)

Energy usage April to end of October (rest of year)



