
Sub-threshold tariffs 2025-26

Friday, 28 February 2025



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Introduction

In accordance with Rule 6.18.1C of the National Electricity Rules (NER), AusNet is notifying the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) of its intention to trial the following sub-threshold tariff from 1 July 2025.

The sub-threshold tariff is:

- **24 hour dedicated circuit** – a dedicated circuit tariff with a 24 hour charging window.

1. Sub-threshold tariff notification

Distributor	AusNet
Total cumulative revenue of all sub-threshold tariffs (\$ and % AAR)	Approximately \$7.46 million, equivalent to 0.83% of the AAR in the upcoming regulatory year.
Confirmation for publication	AusNet confirms that this document contains no commercial or private information and provide permission for the AER to publish this notification on their website.

The sections below outline each sub-threshold tariff under this notification.

1.1. 24 hour dedicated circuit

Name of trial	24 hour dedicated circuit
Objectives of trial	<p>The primary objective of the trial is to support system security by increasing the electricity load that can be leveraged to respond to Minimum System Load (MSL) events called by AEMO.</p> <p>A secondary objective is to better understand how we can utilise residential hot water load to manage periods of minimum demand outside of MSL events, which are often correlated with periods of high rooftop solar generation in the middle of the day.</p> <p>We will use learnings to inform the dedicated circuit tariff proposed in our 2026-31 TSS.</p>
Retailer engagement	We have consulted with a retailer on one potential application of the trial tariff. Engagement with other retailers will continue up until trial commencement, and for the duration of the trial period.
Consumer engagement	<p>Eligible customers who qualify will automatically be placed on the trial tariff. This will provide the maximum level of response during minimum load periods.</p> <p>We will define a customer communications plan as part of the initiative, which may include website messaging.</p>
Expected consumer and/or retailer response	We expect retailers to pass through the signals to residential customers directly as there will be no change in price and customers will continue to have uninterrupted access to hot water.
Proposed tariff (structure and pricing)	A dedicated circuit tariff with a 24 hour charging window. The 24 hour charging window will provide flexibility so that the hot water load can be scheduled at any time of the day. This will provide the ability to switch on dedicated circuits during periods of minimum demand in the middle of

the day when rooftop solar generation is high, but also heat during the early mornings to ensure access to hot water is not interrupted.

Refer to section 1.1.1 for the tariff structure and indicative pricing.

Links to TSS strategy and Export tariff transition strategy (if applicable)	This trial aligns with the pricing objectives outlined in our current TSS and the pricing principles in the NER. Findings from the trial will also inform our proposed dedicated circuit tariff in the 2026-31 TSS.
Forecast revenue (\$ and % AAR)	Approximately \$4.47 million, equivalent to 0.50% of the AAR in the upcoming regulatory year.
Trial start date	1 July 2025
Duration of trial	One regulatory year, until the end of the current regulatory control period.
Potential changes and triggers	AusNet will review the customer take up over the duration of the trial. Any adjustments to the trial parameters will be made in collaboration with affected consumers and stakeholders.
Notification date	28 February 2025
Optional information	
Forecast volumes	Up to 85,000 participants.
Potential additions	N/A
Location of trial	AusNet's distribution area.
Other	Available to residential customers with an existing dedicated circuit. Customers may opt out at any time during the trial period in which case AusNet will place them onto the tariff that they were previously assigned to prior to opting into the tariff trial.

1.1.1. Proposed structure and pricing

Below is the proposed structure and pricing for the 24 hour dedicated circuit trial tariff.

Tariff component	Description	Unit	Indicative NUOS price*
Dedicated circuit	12AM to 12AM Monday to Sunday	c/kWh	4.9332

Due to our billing system architecture, the 24 hour dedicated circuit trial tariff is required to be paired with existing tariff structure on the primary circuit that will allow for the trial dedicated circuit to be billed correctly. For customers participating in the trial, they will be assigned to one of the following residential tariffs which will be the dedicated circuit variants of the existing residential single rate and ToU tariffs that will be used under this trial.¹

For example:

Tariff code: NEE19T

Tariff component	Description	Unit	Indicative NUOS price
Fixed charge	Fixed amount	\$/year	146.70

¹ For clarity, only the dedicated circuit component of the dedicated circuit variants of the residential single rate and ToU tariffs will be subject to Rule 6.18.1C of the NER.

Block 1	1020 kWh per quarter	c/kWh	14.2645
Block 2	kWh balance	c/kWh	14.2645
Dedicated circuit	12AM to 12AM Monday to Sunday	c/kWh	4.9332




Tariff code: NAST17T

Tariff component	Description	Unit	Indicative NUOS price
Fixed charge	Fixed amount	\$/year	146.70
Peak	3PM to 9PM Monday to Sunday (local time)	c/kWh	24.7266
Off peak	All other times	c/kWh	4.9332
Dedicated circuit	12AM to 12AM Monday to Sunday	c/kWh	4.9332

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