FINAL DECISION

AusNet Services
Distribution Determination
2021 to 2026

Attachment 1
Annual revenue requirement

April 2021

AUSTRALIAN
ENERGY
REGULATOR

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Note

This attachment forms part of the Australian Energy Regulator (AER)'s final decision on the distribution determination that will apply to AusNet Services for the 2021–26 regulatory control period. It should be read with all other parts of the final decision.

The final decision includes the following attachments:

Overview

Attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement

Attachment 2 – Regulatory asset base

Attachment 3 – Rate of return

Attachment 4 – Regulatory depreciation

Attachment 5 – Capital expenditure

Attachment 6 – Operating expenditure

Attachment 7 – Corporate income tax

Attachment 8 – Efficiency benefit sharing scheme

Attachment 9 – Capital expenditure sharing scheme

Attachment 10 – Service target performance incentive scheme

Attachment 12 – Customer service incentive scheme

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Attachment 15 – Pass through events

Attachment 16 – Alternative control services

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Attachment 19 – Tariff structure statement

Attachment A – Negotiated services

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1 Annual revenue requirement

This attachment sets out our final decision on AusNet Services' annual revenue requirement (ARR) for the provision of standard control services (SCS) over the 2021–26 regulatory control period. Specifically, it sets out our final decision on:

- the ARRs (unsmoothed), which are the sum of annual building block costs
- the total revenue requirement, which is the sum of the ARRs
- the annual expected revenues (smoothed)
- the X factors.

We determine AusNet Services' ARRs using a building block approach. We determine the X factors by smoothing the ARRs over the regulatory control period. The X factor is used in the CPI–X methodology to determine the annual expected revenue (smoothed).

1.1 Final decision

We determine a total ARR of $3463.3 million ($ nominal, unsmoothed) for AusNet Services for the 2021–26 regulatory control period, reflecting our final decision on the various building block costs. This is an increase of $103.0 million ($ nominal) or 3.1 per cent to AusNet Services' revised proposed total ARR of $3360.2 million.[1] The key reasons for the increase are the lower expected inflation rate that resulted from our inflation review which increases regulatory depreciation (Attachment 4) and also an increase in the rate of return (Attachment 3).

We determine the annual expected revenue (smoothed) and X factor for each regulatory year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period by smoothing the ARRs. Our final decision is to approve total expected revenues of $3470.5 million ($ nominal) for AusNet Services for the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

Table 1.1 shows our final decision on the ARR, annual expected revenue, and X factor for each year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

Table 1.1 AER's final decision on AusNet Services' revenues for the 2021–26 regulatory control period ($ million, nominal)

	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	Total
Return on capital	225.1	223.9	222.7	218.7	212.8	1103.2
Regulatory depreciation[a]	184.9	163.2	163.0	168.5	170.8	850.4
Operating expenditure[b]	244.9	253.2	262.2	272.1	283.4	1315.8

[1] AusNet Services, *Revised Regulatory Proposal - PTRM Model (2022–26),* updated 24 March 2021.

	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	Total
Revenue adjustments[c]	84.6	53.9	32.8	12.4	10.2	193.9
Cost of corporate income tax	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Annual revenue requirement (unsmoothed)	739.5	694.3	680.7	671.7	677.1	3463.3
Annual expected revenue (smoothed)	**690.8**	**692.4**	**694.1**	**695.7**	**697.4**	**3470.5**
X factor[d]	n/a[e]	1.73%	1.73%	1.73%	1.73%	n/a

Source: AER analysis.

(a) Regulatory depreciation is straight-line depreciation net of the inflation indexation on the opening regulatory asset base (RAB).

(b) Includes debt raising costs.

(c) Includes revenue adjustments from the efficiency benefit sharing scheme (EBSS), the capital expenditure sharing scheme (CESS) and the demand management innovation allowance mechanism (DMIAM). Includes a reduction of $0.7 million due to the deferral of Kalkallo project.

(d) The X factors will be revised to reflect the annual return on debt update. Under the CPI–X framework, the X factor measures the real rate of change in annual expected revenue from one year to the next. A negative X factor represents a real increase in revenue. Conversely, a positive X factor represents a real decrease in revenue.

(e) AusNet Services is not required to apply an X factor for 2021–22 because we set the 2021–22 expected revenue in this decision. The expected revenue for 2021–22 is around 0.03 per cent lower than the approved total annual revenue for 2020 in real terms, or 2.0 per cent lower in nominal terms after taking into account the escalation by the half year Consumer Price Index (CPI) to allow comparison of the revenue from 1 July 2021 onwards.

1.2 AusNet Services' revised proposal

AusNet Services' revised proposal included total expected revenues (smoothed) of $3367.1 million ($ nominal) for the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

Table 1.2 sets out AusNet Services' revised proposed ARR, the annual expected revenue, and the X factor for each year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

Table 1.2 AusNet Services' revised proposed revenues for the 2021–26 regulatory control period ($ million, nominal)

	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	Total
Return on capital	215.6	215.1	215.3	212.5	208.1	1066.6
Regulatory depreciation[a]	168.5	146.8	146.4	152.1	155.0	768.7
Operating expenditure[b]	245.8	255.1	265.1	276.1	288.6	1330.8
Revenue adjustments[c]	84.7	54.1	32.9	12.3	10.2	194.1
Cost of corporate income tax	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Annual revenue requirement (unsmoothed)	714.5	671.1	659.6	653.1	661.9	3360.2
Annual expected revenue (smoothed)[d]	**665.6**	**669.5**	**673.4**	**677.3**	**681.3**	**3367.1**

	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26	Total
X factor	n/a[d]	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	1.75%	n/a

Source: AusNet Services, *Revised Regulatory Proposal - PTRM Model (2022–26),* updated 24 March 2021.

(a) Regulatory depreciation is straight-line depreciation net of the inflation indexation on the opening RAB.

(b) Includes debt raising costs.

(c) Includes revenue adjustments from EBSS, CESS and DMIAM. Includes a reduction of $0.7 million due to the deferral of Kalkallo project.

(d) AusNet Services is not required to apply an X factor for 2021–22 because we set the 2021–22 expected revenue in this decision.

1.3 Assessment approach

We did not change our assessment approach for the ARR from our draft decision. Attachment 1 (section 1.3) of our draft decision details that approach.[2]

1.4 Reasons for final decision

For this final decision, we determine a total ARR of $3463.3 million ($ nominal, unsmoothed) for AusNet Services for the 2021–26 regulatory control period. This is an increase of $103.0 million ($ nominal) or 3.1 per cent to AusNet Services' revised proposed total ARR of $3360.2 million ($ nominal) for this period. This reflects the impact of our final decision on the various building block costs.

The changes we made to AusNet Services' revised proposed building blocks include (in nominal terms):

- an increase in the return on capital of $36.5 million or 3.4 per cent (Attachments 2, 3 and 5)
- an increase in the regulatory depreciation of $81.6 million or 10.6 per cent (Attachment 4)
- a reduction in the operating expenditure (opex) forecast of $14.9 million or 1.1 per cent (Attachment 6)[3]
- no change to the cost of corporate income tax of zero (Attachment 7).
- a reduction in the revenue adjustments of $0.2 million or 0.1 per cent (section 1.4.2 and Attachments 8, 9 and 11).[4]

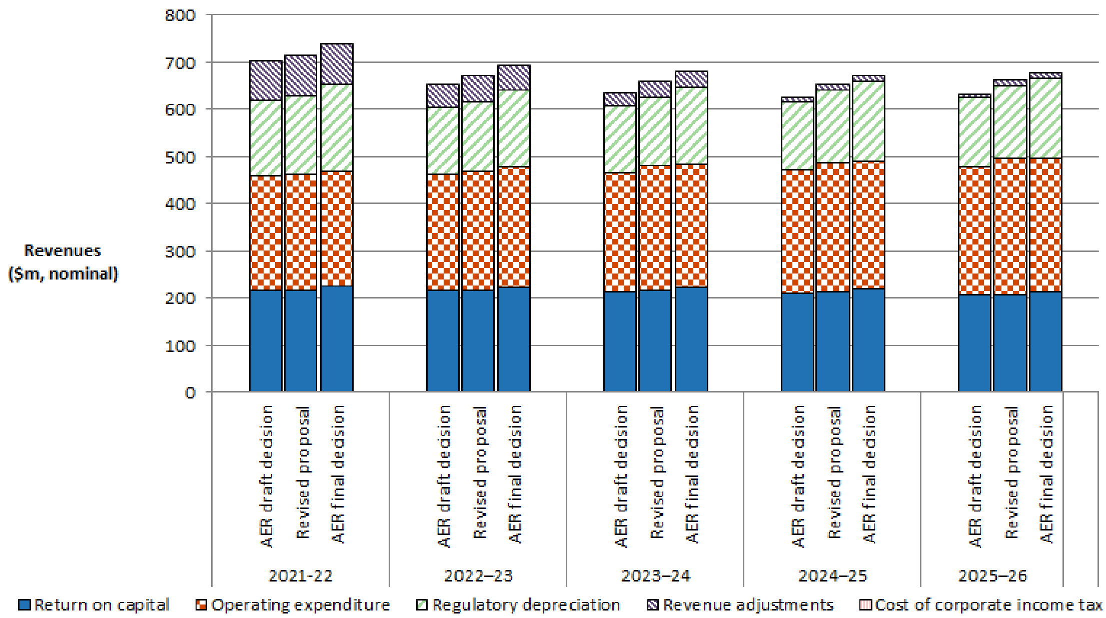
[2] AER, *Draft decision: AusNet Services distribution determination 2021 to 2026, attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement*, September 2020, pp. 6–8.

[3] While we accept AusNet Services' revised proposal opex in $2020–21 terms, the lower inflation in the final decision results in a nominal reduction.

[4] We accept AusNet Services' proposed reduction of $0.7 million due to the deferral of Kalkallo project.

Figure 1.1 shows the building block components from our determination that make up the ARRs for AusNet Services and the corresponding components from its revised proposal and our draft decision.

Figure 1.1 AER's draft and final decisions and AusNet Services' revised proposed annual building block revenue requirement ($ million, nominal)



Source: AER analysis; AusNet Services, *EDPR 2022–26 Revised Regulatory Proposal*, 03 December 2020.

Note: Revenue adjustments include EBSS, CESS and DMIAM amounts. Opex includes debt raising costs.

1.4.1 X factor and annual expected revenue

For this final decision, we determine an X factor for AusNet Services of 1.73 per cent per annum for the four years of the regulatory control period from 2022–23 to 2025–26.[5] The net present value (NPV) of the ARRs is $3038.7 million ($ nominal) as at 1 July 2021. Based on this NPV and applying the CPI–X framework we determine that the expected revenue (smoothed) for AusNet Services is $690.8 million in 2021–22 increasing to $697.4 million in 2025–26 ($ nominal). The resulting total expected revenue for AusNet Services is $3470.5 million for the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

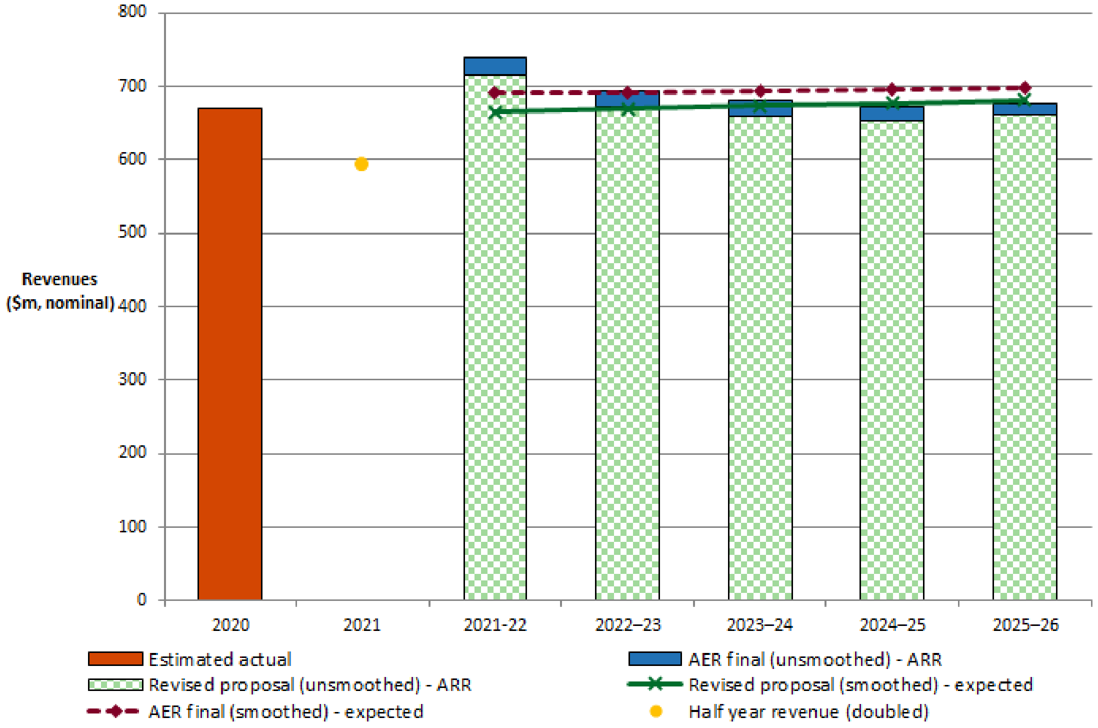
In our draft decision, we considered the 2020 total allowed revenue from AusNet Services' approved pricing proposal, escalated by the half year CPI, should form the 2020–21 starting revenue estimate of $677.4 million, as this was the latest

5 AusNet Services is not required to apply an X factor for 2021–22 because we set the 2021–22 expected revenue in this decision.

available estimate that we have approved.[6] AusNet Services adopted this estimate in its revised proposal.[7] This estimated 2020–21 starting revenue forms the base year to calculate the percentage change for the first year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period (P_0) for our final decision.

Figure 1.2 shows our final decision on AusNet Services' annual expected revenue (smoothed revenue) and the ARR (unsmoothed revenue) for the 2021–26 regulatory control period. For comparative purposes, the revenue for 2021 is shown as double the amount determined for the six month extension period between 1 January 2021 and 30 June 2021.[8] The relatively higher unsmoothed revenues in 2021–22 largely reflects our decision on accelerated depreciation that sees a number of old SCADA units and remote terminal units written off in that year.

Figure 1.2 AER's final decision on AusNet Services' revenue for the 2021–26 regulatory control period ($ million, nominal)



Source: AusNet Services, EDPR 2022–26 Revised Proposal – PTRM Model (2022–26), updated 24 March 2021; AER analysis.

Note: Revenue for 2021 is based on doubling the amount determined for the half year period between 1 January 2021 and 30 June 2021.

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6 AusNet Services, *Revised pricing proposal 2020*, 14 October 2019, p. 12.

7 AusNet Services, *EDPR 2022–26 Revised Proposal – PTRM Model (2022–26),* updated 24 March 2021.

8 AER, *Model – Final decision six-month extension – AusNet Services – 2021 HY Post-Tax Revenue Model,* October 2020.

AusNet Services' revised proposal approach to revenue smoothing was to adopt the draft decision smoothed revenue in 2021–22 and then resmooth the X factor for the remaining 4 years of the regulatory control period.[9] This smoothed revenue profile resulted in a final year difference between smoothed and unsmoothed revenues of 4.9 per cent which is outside our preferred range of ± 3 per cent.[10]

Consistent with its initial proposal, AusNet Services' revised proposal submitted its concerns regarding our method of bill impact calculation which is based on revenue per unit of energy throughput. AusNet Services submitted that revenue per customer was a better way to calculate the bill impact and as such linked this metric to its revenue smoothing approach. In section 1.4.4 we discuss our reasons for maintaining our approach for calculating the bill impact for this final decision.

Subsequent to submitting its revised proposal, AusNet Services provided us with an updated post-tax revenue model (PTRM) which reflected the revised proposal PTRM but with updated forecast opex inputs.[11] The smoothed revenue profile for this updated PTRM comprised a 4.0 per cent real revenue decrease in the first year and real decreases of 1.8 per cent for years 2 to 5. For this smoothed revenue profile, the final year difference between smoothed and unsmoothed revenues was 2.9 per cent which is within our preferred range of ± 3 per cent. We consider this range is consistent with the requirements of the National Electricity Rules (NER) to minimise the difference between expected smoothed and unsmoothed revenues at the end of a regulatory control period.

Red Energy and Lumo Energy submitted that the revenues should remain stable to the extent possible in order to provide customers with stable tariffs in the long run.[12] We have considered the submission and taken into account the building block costs determined in this final decision when smoothing the expected revenues for AusNet Services over the 2021–26 regulatory control period. In doing so, we have set the expected revenue for the first regulatory year at $690.8 million ($ nominal) which is $48.7 million lower than the ARR for that year. We then apply an expected inflation rate of 2.00 per cent per annum and an X factor of 1.73 per cent per annum to determine the expected revenue in subsequent years.[13] We consider that our profile of X factors results in an expected revenue in the last year of the regulatory control period

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9 AusNet Services, *EDPR 2022–26 Revised Regulatory Proposal*, December 2020, p. 41.

10 AusNet Services, *EDPR 2022–26 Revised Proposal – PTRM Model (2022–26)*, updated 24 March 2021.

11 AusNet Services*, EDPR 2022–26 Revised Proposal – PTRM Model (2022–26)*, updated 24 March 2021.

12 Red Energy and Lumo Energy, *Submission on the Victorian EDPR Revised Proposal and draft decision*, 17 January 2021, p. 1

13 NER, cl. 6.5.9(a).

that is as close as reasonably possible to the ARR for that year.[14] This approach is consistent with our draft decision.[15]

Our final decision results in an average increase of 0.6 per cent per annum ($ nominal) in the expected (smoothed) revenue from 2020–21 to the end of the 2021–26 regulatory control period.[16] This consists of an initial increase of 2.0 per cent from 2020–21 to 2021–22, followed by average annual increases of 0.2 per cent during the remainder of the 2021–26 regulatory control period.[17] Our final decision also results in an increase of 1.4 per cent in real terms ($2020–21) to AusNet Services' total ARR relative to that in the 2016–20 regulatory control period. This is largely due to a higher regulatory depreciation and revenue adjustments in this final decision for the 2021–26 regulatory control period than that approved in the 2016–20 determination.

Figure 1.3 compares our final decision building blocks for AusNet Services' 2021–26 regulatory control period with AusNet Services' revised proposed revenue requirement for the same period, and the approved revenue for the 2016–20 regulatory control period.

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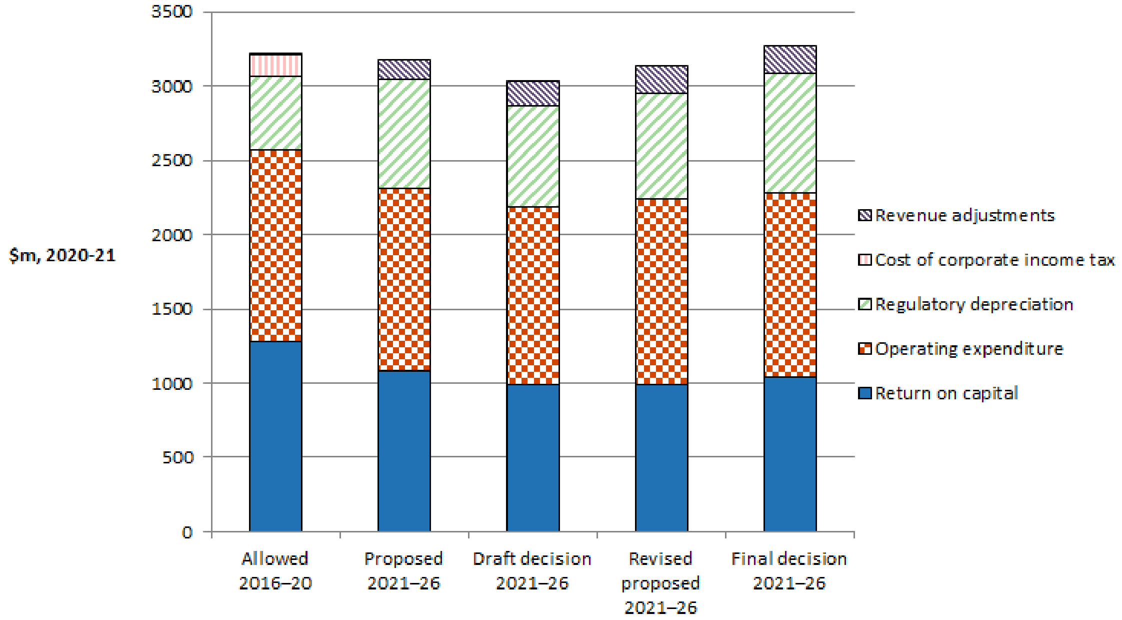
14 NER, cl. 6.5.9(b)(2). We consider a divergence of up to 3.0 per cent between the expected revenue and ARR for the last year of the regulatory control period is appropriate, if this can achieve smoother price changes for users over the regulatory control period. In the present circumstances, based on the X factors we have determined for AusNet Services, this divergence is around 3.0 per cent.

15 AER, *Draft decision: AusNet Services distribution determination 2021 to 2026, attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement*, September 2020, pp. 9–12.

16 In real 2020–21 dollar terms, our approved expected revenue for AusNet Services results in an average decrease of 1.4 per cent per annum over the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

17 In real 2020–21 dollar terms, this consists an initial decrease of 0.03 per cent from 2020–21 to 2021–22, followed by annual average decreases of 1.73 per cent during the remainder of the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

Figure 1.3 Total revenue by building block components ($ million, 2020–21)



Source: AusNet Services, *Distribution Proposal PTRM model (2022–26)*, 31 January 2020; AusNet Services, *EDPR 2022–26 Revised Proposal – PTRM Model (2022–26)*, updated 24 March 2021; AER analysis.

1.4.2 Shared assets

Our final decision is not to apply a shared asset revenue adjustment to AusNet Services' total expected revenue for the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

In our draft decision, we did not apply a shared asset revenue adjustment to AusNet Services' revenues because we estimated that the unregulated revenues were less than one per cent of its expected revenues in each year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period. Therefore, the materiality threshold was not met in any year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period.[18] Using the same assessment approach as the draft decision, we consider that this materiality threshold is also not met in any year of the 2021–26 regulatory control period for this final decision, and we do not apply a shared asset revenue adjustment.

1.4.3 Indicative average distribution price impact

Our final decision on AusNet Services' expected revenues ultimately affects the prices customers pay for electricity. There are several steps required in translating our revenue decision into indicative distribution price impact.

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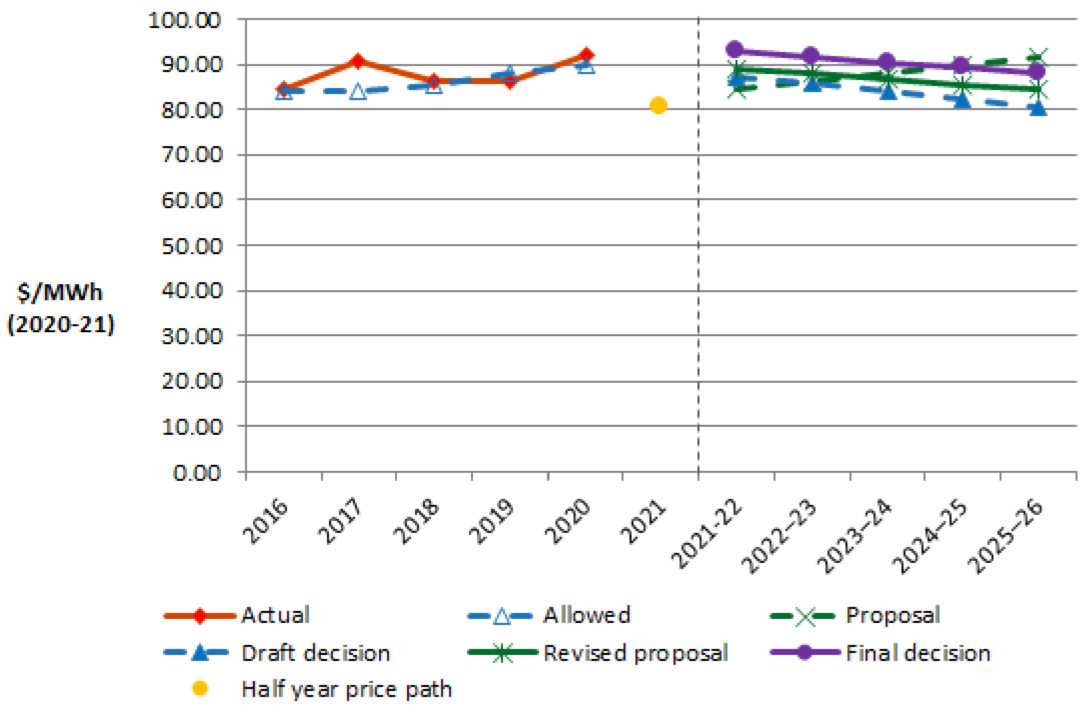
[18] AER, *Draft decision: AusNet Services distribution determination 2021 to 2026, attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement*, September 2020, p. 13.

We regulate AusNet Services' SCS under a revenue cap form of control. This means our final decision on AusNet Services' expected revenues does not directly translate to price impacts. This is because AusNet Services' revenue is fixed under the revenue cap form of control, so changes in the consumption of electricity will affect the prices ultimately charged to customers. We are not required to establish the distribution prices for AusNet Services as part of this determination. However, we will assess AusNet Services' annual pricing proposals before the commencement of each regulatory year within the 2021–26 regulatory control period. In each assessment we will administer the pricing requirements set in this distribution determination.

For this final decision, we have estimated some indicative average distribution price impacts flowing from our final determination on the expected revenues for AusNet Services over the 2021–26 regulatory control period. In this section, our estimates only relate to SCS (that is, the core electricity distribution charges), not alternative control services (such as metering charges). These indicative price impacts assume that actual energy consumption across the 2021–26 regulatory control period matches AusNet Services' forecast energy consumption, which we have adopted for this final decision. We also have not factored in any changes arising from incentive scheme amounts, cost pass throughs or unders/overs reconciliation that usually occur in the annual pricing process to come up with the total allowed revenue.

Figure 1.4 shows AusNet Services' indicative average price path over the period 2016 to 2025–26 in real 2020–21 dollar terms based on the expected revenues established in our final decision compared to AusNet Services' revised proposed revenue requirement.

Figure 1.4 Indicative price path for AusNet Services ($/MWh, 2020–21)



Source: AER analysis.

Note: The price for 2021 is based on the revenue and energy throughput estimates for the half year period between 1 January 2021 and 30 June 2021.

We estimate that our final decision on AusNet Services' annual expected revenue will result in a decrease to average distribution charges by about 0.9 per cent per annum over the 2021–26 regulatory control period in real 2020–21 dollar terms.[19] This compares to the real average decrease of approximately 1.8 per cent per annum in AusNet Services' revised proposal for the 2021–26 regulatory control period.[20] These high-level estimates reflect the aggregate change across the entire network and do not reflect the particular tariff components for specific end users.

Table 1.3 compares the revenue and price impacts of AusNet Services' revised proposal and our final decision.

Table 1.3 Comparison of revenue and price impacts of AusNet Services' revised proposal and the AER's final decision ($ nominal)

	2020[b]	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
AER final decision						
Revenue ($ million)	677.4	690.8	692.4	694.1	695.7	697.4
Price path ($/MWh)[a]	92.16	94.63	95.40	96.01	96.58	97.09
Revenue (change)		2.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Price path (change)		2.7%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%	0.5%
AusNet Services revised proposal						
Revenue ($ million)	677.4	665.6	669.5	673.4	677.3	681.3
Price path ($/MWh)[a]	92.16	91.18	92.23	93.15	94.02	94.84
Revenue (change)		–1.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%
Price path (change)		–1.1%	1.2%	1.0%	0.9%	0.9%

Source: AusNet Services, *EDPR 2022–26 Revised Proposal – PTRM Model (2022–26)*, updated 24 March 2021; AER analysis.

(a) The price path is in nominal terms and is constructed by dividing nominal expected revenue for SCS by forecast energy consumption for each year of the regulatory control period.

(b) This is based on AusNet Services' 2020 approved pricing proposal, and has been indexed by the CPI for the half year period from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021 to allow comparison of the price path from 1 July 2021 onwards.

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19 In nominal terms we estimate average distribution charges to increase by 1.0 per cent per annum. This amount reflects an expected inflation rate of 2.00 per cent per annum as determined in this final decision.

20 In nominal terms AusNet Services' revised proposal would increase distribution charges by 0.6 per cent per annum. This amount reflects an expected inflation rate of 2.37 per cent per annum as proposed by AusNet Services in its revised proposal.

1.4.4 Expected impact of decision on electricity bills

The annual electricity bill for customers in AusNet Services' network reflects the combined costs of all the electricity supply chain components—wholesale energy generation, transmission, distribution, metering, and retail costs. This final decision primarily relates to the distribution charges for SCS, which represent approximately 34.0 per cent on average for residential customers' and 39.0 per cent on average for small business customers' annual electricity bills in AusNet Services' network area.[21]

We estimate the expected bill impact by varying the distribution charges in accordance with our final decision, while holding all other components—including the metering component—constant.[22] This approach isolates the effect of our final decision on the core distribution charges only. However, this does not imply that other components will remain unchanged across the regulatory control period.[23]

In its revised proposal, AusNet Services presented the price impacts using a revenue per customer measure consistent with its initial proposal. In our draft decision, we applied our standard approach which uses revenue per unit of energy.

We consider that our standard revenue per unit of energy approach is appropriate for businesses operating under a revenue cap. As noted in our draft decision, we have conducted our bill impact assessments in a consistent manner across regulatory decisions. We note our assessment (like AusNet Services') will ultimately differ from the actual impacts customer face for a number of reasons, not least because we only assess a proportion of the overall cost of electricity for a typical customer. In our draft decision, we noted that a measure of demand is needed to convert revenue to prices.[24] The derived unit of our revenue per unit of energy approach is in the form $/MWh or c/kWh which is consistent with electricity usage tariffs that appear on bills and so is relatable for customers. Conversely, AusNet Services' suggested revenue per customer approach is more reflective of the fixed charges component of network tariffs which are driven by customer numbers rather than consumption levels.[25]

As noted in our draft decision, several stakeholders raised concerns with AusNet Services' revenue per customer measure for bill impact purposes.[26] These

21 AusNet Services, *Workbook 7 – Bill Impacts 2022–26*, January 2020.

22 We also have not factored in any changes arising from incentive scheme amounts, cost pass throughs or unders/overs reconciliation that usually occur in the annual pricing process to come up with the total allowed revenue.

23 It also assumes that actual energy consumption will equal the forecast adopted in our final decision. Since AusNet Services operates under a revenue cap, changes in energy consumption will also affect annual electricity bills across the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

24 AER, *Draft decision: AusNet Services distribution determination 2021 to 2026, attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement*, September 2020, pp. 16–17.

25 AER, *Draft decision: AusNet Services distribution determination 2021 to 2026, attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement*, September 2020, p. 16.

26 AER, *Draft decision: AusNet Services distribution determination 2021 to 2026, attachment 1 – Annual revenue requirement*, September 2020, p. 17.

submissions supported a consistent and comparable approach across the networks. For this final decision, we consider AusNet Services has not provided sufficient new information in its revised proposal to support its revenue per customer approach. We are therefore satisfied that our revenue per unit of energy approach is appropriate for estimating bill impacts. Accordingly, we have maintained our revenue per unit of energy approach for AusNet Services' final decision and have applied this approach consistently across the Victorian distributors to provide reasonable comparisons.

Based on this approach, we expect that our final decision on the distribution component will increase the average annual residential electricity bill in 2025–26 by about $30 ($ nominal) or 1.8 per cent from the 2020 total bill level. Similarly, for an average small business customer, we expect that our final decision on the distribution component will increase the average annual residential electricity bill in 2025–26 by about $166 ($ nominal) or 2.1 per cent from the 2020 total bill level.

Our estimated impact is based on an average annual electricity usage of around 4,000 kWh per annum for residential households and 20,000 kWh for small businesses.[27] Therefore, customers with different usage will experience different changes in their bills. We also note that there are other factors, such as metering, wholesale and retail costs, which affect electricity bills.

Table 1.4 shows our estimated impact of our final decision and AusNet Services' revised proposal on the average annual electricity bills for residential and small business customers in its network over the 2021–26 regulatory control period.

Table 1.4 Estimated impact of AusNet Services' revised proposal and AER's final decision on annual electricity bills for the 2021–26 regulatory control period ($ nominal)

	2020	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
AER final decision						
Residential annual bill	1666[a]	1681	1686	1690	1693	1696
Annual change[c]		15 (0.9%)	5 (0.3%)	4 (0.2%)	3 (0.2%)	3 (0.2%)
Small business annual bill	7945[b]	8028	8053	8074	8093	8110
Annual change[c]		83 (1.0%)	26 (0.3%)	21 (0.3%)	19 (0.2%)	17 (0.2%)
AusNet Services revised proposal						
Residential annual bill	1666[a]	1660	1667	1672	1677	1683
Annual change[c]		–6 (–0.4%)	6 (0.4%)	6 (0.3%)	5 (0.3%)	5 (0.3%)
Small business annual bill	7945[b]	7912	7947	7978	8007	8035

[27] Essential Services Commission, *Victorian Default Offer to apply from 1 January 2020 – Final decision*, 18 November 2019, pp. 72−73.

	2020	2021–22	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25	2025–26
Annual change[c]		–33 (–0.4%)	35 (0.4%)	31 (0.4%)	29 (0.4%)	28 (0.3%)

Source: AER analysis; Essential Services Commission, *Victorian Default Offer to apply from 1 January 2020 – Final decision*, 18 November 2019, p. 76.

(a) Annual bill for 2020 is sourced from Essential Services Commission, *Victorian Default Offer to apply from 1 January 2020 – Final decision* and reflects the average consumption of 4,000 kWh for residential customers in Victoria. This is then indexed by the CPI for the half year period from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021 to allow comparison of the bill impact from 1 July 2021 onwards.

(b) Annual bill for 2020 is sourced from Essential Services Commission, *Victorian Default Offer to apply from 1 January 2020 – Final decision* and reflects the average consumption of 20,000 kWh for small business customers in Victoria. This is then indexed by the CPI for the half year period from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2021 to allow comparison of the bill impact from 1 July 2021 onwards.

(c) Annual change amounts and percentages are indicative. They are derived by varying the distribution component of the 2020 bill amounts in proportion to yearly expected revenue divided by forecast energy as provided by AusNet Services. Actual bill impacts will vary depending on electricity consumption and tariff class.

Shortened forms

Shortened form	Extended form
$/MWh	dollars per megawatt hour
AER	Australian Energy Regulator
ARR	annual revenue requirement
CESS	capital expenditure sharing scheme
c/kWH	cents per kilowatt hour
CPI	consumer price index
DMIAM	demand management innovation allowance mechanism
EBSS	efficiency benefit sharing scheme
kWH	kilowatt hour
NER	National Electricity Rules
NPV	net present value
opex	operating expenditure
PTRM	post-tax revenue model
RAB	regulatory asset base
SCADA	supervisory control and data acquisition systems
SCS	standard control services