Energex Pricing Proposal

Distribution services for 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024

31 March 2023





Version	Date	Description
V1.0	31/03/2023	Pricing Proposal submitted to the AER for approval
V2.0	26/04/2023	Updated Pricing Proposal submitted to the AER for approval

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Overview

This pricing proposal is submitted to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) as required under the requirements of the National Electricity Rules (NER). It provides details of Energex's proposed 2023-24 network prices for Standard Control Services and Alternative Control Services.

Our pricing proposal is based on the AER approved 2020-25 Tariff Strategy Statement (TSS).

Energex's tariff offering and tariff assignment rules remain unchanged from the prior year.

Energex's network use of system (NUOS) charges represent the aggregation of distribution use of system (DUOS) charges, transmission cost recovery charges (also referred to as designated pricing proposal charges (DPPC)) and jurisdictional scheme (JS) charges.

Energex estimates that residential and small business customers are expected to experience an increase in their network charges of between 4.3% and 7.3% in 2023-24 compared with 2022-23 network charges. This is 0.5%-3.5% below the rate of CPI inflation¹.

For an average residential customer on a basic meter tariff consuming 5 MWh per annum this equates to a \$35 increase in annual NUOS bill. For a customer on a cost-reflective demand-based tariff this equates to a \$23 increase in annual NUOS bill compared with 2022-23.

These customer impacts reflect Energex's tariff strategy which provides gradual incentives to customers to transition to cost reflective tariffs.

Figure 1: Average residential customer Energex network charges²





¹ December 2022 quarter CPI for eight capital cities 7.8%, Source: ABS

² Network bill impacts are based on a typical residential customer consuming 5,025 kWh pa, with a monthly peak demand of 3.48 kW.

For an average small business customer on a basic meter tariff, consuming 19 MWh per annum this equates to a \$103 increase in annual NUOS bill.

Figure 2: Average small business customer Energex network charges³



Energex's large business customers (SAC Large) are expected to experience an increase in network charges of between 2.3%-6.9% in 2023-24, compared to 2022-23.

This change in network rates is driven by:

- the forecast increase in distribution revenue driven primarily by the change in CPI
- a small decrease in Powerlink's transmission charges and
- a decrease in the jurisdictional scheme amounts that we are required to recover from customers.

³ Network bill impacts are based on a typical small business customer consuming 19,240 kWh pa, with a monthly peak demand of 7.04 kW.

1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This document is Energex's annual Pricing Proposal for 2023-24 (Pricing Proposal), the fourth regulatory year of the 2020-25 regulatory control period. In accordance with clause 6.18.2(a)(2) of the National Electricity Rules (NER)⁴, it is submitted for approval to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) at least 3 months before the commencement of the relevant regulatory year.

This Pricing Proposal is based on the AER approved 2020-25 TSS and outcomes in the AER's Final Decision. Energex's approved 2020-25 TSS is available on our website⁵ and is also available on the AER's website⁶.

We have also provided the following attachments to the AER as part of this Pricing Proposal:

- Attachment 1 2023-24 Network Price List
- Attachment 2 2024-25 Indicative Pricing Schedule
- Attachment 3 2023-24 annual SCS pricing model
- Attachment 4 2023-24 annual ACS pricing model

1.2 Background

Energex is subject to economic regulation by the AER under the National Electricity Law and the NER. The AER determines how Energex's distribution services are classified and in turn the nature of economic regulation. This is important as it determines how prices will be set and how revenue is recovered from customers. The AER approves prices for services it classifies as Direct Control Services.

Direct Control Services are divided into two subclasses:

- Standard Control Services are core distribution services associated with the access and supply of electricity to customers. They include network services (e.g. construction, maintenance and repair of the network), some connection services (e.g. small customer connections) and Type 7 metering services. The AER applies a revenue cap form of control to Standard Control Services. Energex recovers the costs in providing these services through network tariffs billed to retailers.
- Alternative Control Services are akin to a 'user-pays' system whereby the whole cost of the service is paid by those customers who benefit from it, rather than recovered from all customers. Energex's Alternative Control Services are comprised of:
 - Connection services services relating to the electrical or physical connection of a customer to the network (including temporary connections, de-energisations, reenergisations and supply abolishment).
 - Metering services services include Type 6 default metering services and auxiliary metering services.

⁴ The National Electricity Rules, Version 195.

https://www.energex.com.au/home/our-services/pricing-And-tariffs/business-customers/pricing-publications

⁶ https://www.aer.gov.au/networks-pipelines/determinations-access-arrangements/energex-determination-2020-25/finaldecision

- Public Lighting services services relating to the provision, installation and maintenance of public lighting assets and emerging public lighting technology.
- Network ancillary services customer and third party-initiated services related to the common distribution services but for which a separate charge applies (includes network safety services, non-standard network data requests, security lighting services).

This Pricing Proposal (including the attachments) sets out proposed tariffs and services for all Energex's Direct Control Services for the 2023-24 regulatory year.

1.3 Regulatory framework

1.3.1 Compliance with the NER

Energex's network tariffs have been developed in compliance with the regulatory requirements in the NER. In accordance with the NER, our objective is to ensure that the tariffs charged for 2023-24 in the provision of Direct Control Services reflect Energex's cost of providing these services. This is achieved by setting the level (or price) of tariffs in a manner that is consistent with the pricing principles as outlined in the NER. More detailed information about our application of, and compliance with, the distribution pricing principles is set out Appendix A of this Pricing Proposal.

1.3.2 Consistency with the Distribution Determination

The 2020-25 Distribution Determination sets the revenue and pricing control regime that we must comply with for the regulated distribution services provided over the current regulatory control period. The revenue approved in the Distribution Determination forms the basis of Energex's prices provided in Attachment 1 – 2023-24 Network Price List and Attachment 2 – Indicative Pricing Schedule 2024-25. We confirm this Pricing Proposal complies with AER's Final Decision.

1.3.3 Consistency with the approved TSS

The TSS sets out our proposed tariff classes, tariffs and tariff structures that will apply over the regulatory control period. This Pricing Proposal is based on our approved 2020-25 TSS, and several sections of this Pricing Proposal therefore refer to the TSS for further information. There are no departures from the approved tariff classes, tariffs and charging parameters.

1.3.4 Queensland Government cap on fee-based services

The Queensland Government has historically set maximum price caps to apply to a subset of Energex's Alternative Control Services through Schedule 8 of the *Electricity Regulation 2006*. Since the Schedule 8 maximum prices are imposed through Queensland legislation, they take precedence over the Alternative Control Services prices approved by the AER.

It is important to note that the prices included in our Pricing Proposal have been derived under the AER's price-setting requirements. These prices, if subject to the Schedule 8 price caps, may be higher than those charged to customers.

2. Tariff classes and tariffs for Standard Control Services

This chapter sets out Energex's tariff classes, tariffs, charging parameters and tariff assignment policies for Standard Control Services in accordance with our approved TSS for the 2020-25 regulatory control period.

2.1 Tariff classes

We have categorised Standard Control Services customers into three tariff classes mainly based on the voltage level at which customers are connected to the network as this ensures customers who impose similar costs on the network are classified together with similar tariff structures. Our tariff classes are listed in the table below.

Table 1: Tariff classes

Tariff class	Eligible customers
Standard Asset	All customers connected at LV with installed capacity up to 1,000 kVA are classified as SACs. SAC tariffs are based on:
Customers (SAC)	 average charges for dedicated connection assets; plus average charges for use of the shared distribution network, including common and non-
Connection Asset Customers (CAC)	system assets. Customers with a network coupling point at 66 kV, 33 kV, 22 kV, 11 kV and installed capacity above 1,000 kVA who are not assigned to the ICC tariff class are allocated to the CAC tariff class. CAC tariffs are based on:
, ,	the actual dedicated connection assets utilised by the customer; plus
	 average charges for use of the shared distribution network, including common and non- system assets.
	Customers are assigned to the ICC tariff class if they are coupled to the network at 132 kV, 110 kV, 66 kV or 33 kV and with installed capacity above 10 MVA.
	Customers may also be assigned to the ICC tariff class if they are coupled to the network
	at 132 kV, 110 kV, 66 kV or 33 kV and with installed capacity below 10 MVA where ^a :
	A customer has a dedicated distribution system which is quite different and separate from the remainder of our distribution system
Individually Calculated	A customer is connected at or close to a Transmission Connection Point, or
Customers (ICC)	 At the determination of the DNSP, the nature of the customer's connection to the network, and/or usage of the network, make average prices inappropriate
	 Inequitable treatment of other customers would arise from the application of the 10MVA threshold
	ICC tariffs are based on:
	the actual dedicated connection assets utilised by the customer; plus
	 the customer's specifically identified portion of the shared distribution network utilised for the electricity supply, including common and non-system assets.

It should be noted that we do not make reference to customer's export load in assigning customers to tariff classes or network tariffs.

for legacy reasons

2.2 Tariffs and charging parameters

Each tariff class consists of a number of different network tariffs that are established on the same basis as the tariff class. The table below sets out the individual tariffs in each tariff class.

Table 2: 2023-24 Network tariffs by tariff class

Tariff class	Customer type	Primary Tariffs	Secondary tariffs
	Residential	 Residential Flat Residential Transitional Demand Residential Demand Residential Time of Use Energy Residential Time of Use^a 	Super EconomyEconomy
Standard Asset Customers (SAC)	Small business	 Business Flat Small Business Wide Inclining Fixed Tariff (WIFT) Small Business Transitional Demand Small Business Demand Small Business Time of Use Energy Small Business Primary Load Control Business Time of Use^a Business Demand^a 	Super EconomyEconomy
	Large customer	 Large Demand Small Demand LV Demand Time of Use Large Business Primary Load Control Large Residential Energy Large Business Energy 	Large Business Secondary Load Control
	Other	 Unmetered Supply Solar FiT^a 	
Connection Asset Customers (CAC)		 Embedded Generator 11kV^a 11kV Bus 11kV Line^a Demand Time of Use 11kV 	
Individually Calculated Customers (ICC)		ICC tariff	
Notes: a. Grandfather	ed tariff (closed to n	new customers)	

The types of charges applied to recover network costs are shown in Table 3.

Table 3: Types of charges for Standard Control Services

Charge	Charging parameter	Application to tariffs
Fixed charge	Represented as a rate (\$) per day or rate (\$) per day per device.	Applies to all primary tariffs.
Usage (volume) charge	Represented as a rate (\$) per kWh. Within a tariff structure, volume charge rates can be flat or be applied to different blocks (based on consumption) or times of the day (peak, off-peak, shoulder).	Applies to all primary and secondary tariffs.
Inclining fixed charge	Represented as a rate (\$) per day. Different charges apply to 20 MWh per year blocks. There are five blocks: 0<20 MWh per year, 20<40 MWh per year, 40<60 MWh per year, 60<80 per year, and >80 MWh per year.	Applies to the following tariffs:Small Business WIFTSmall Business ToU Energy
Demand charge	Represented as either a rate (\$) per kW or a rate (\$) per kVA. Within a tariff structure, demand charge rates can be: • Applied year round (with different peak window rates) • Calculated based on: • A single period in the month, or • The maximum demand within a peak demand window Some tariff structures include a threshold – in this case the demand charge is only calculated for demands recorded above a particular level.	Applies to the following tariffs: Residential Transitional Demand Residential Demand Small Business Transitional Demand Small Business Demand Business Demand Demand Small Demand Large all CAC tariffs and the ICC site-specific tariffs.
Excess demand charge	Represented as a rate (\$) per excess kVA. It is measured as a single maximum demand outside the peak charging window minus the maximum demand during the peak period in the billing period. Where the maximum demand outside the evening window is less than the highest maximum demand inside the evening window in the billing period, the excess demand charge for that billing period is set to zero.	Applies to the SAC Large LV Demand ToU tariff and CAC Demand ToU 11kV.
Capacity charge	Represented as a rate (\$) per kVA	Applies to the ICC site-specific tariffs.

2.3 Tariff assignment process

Procedures for the assignment of new customers and reassignment of existing customers to Standard Control Services tariff classes and tariffs are contained in our 2020-25 TSS. Additional information is provided in our Network Tariff Guide.

3. Standard Control Service charges

This chapter demonstrates how our network tariffs for 2023-24 comply with the regulatory requirements in the NER, the AER's revenue determination and our approved TSS.

The proposed network prices for 2023-24 for all Standard Control Services are included in Attachment 1 (2023-24 Network Price List) of this Pricing Proposal.

3.1 Forecast NUOS revenue requirement for 2023-24

Our final network charges (NUOS charges) include the following:

- Distribution Use of System (DUOS) charges, which reflect Energex's electricity distribution costs.
- Designated Pricing Proposal Charges (DPPC) (or Transmission Use of System (TUOS) charges) which reflect the costs associated with transmission of electricity, and
- Jurisdictional Scheme amounts which Energex must pay pursuant to State government requirements.

The total revenue we will need to recover in 2023-24 via our NUOS charges is provide in table below.

Table 4: Forecast NUOS revenue requirement for 2023-24 (\$)

Revenue component	Forecast revenue required for 2023-24
Distribution use of system (DUOS)	\$1,300,860,481
Transmission use of system (TUOS)	\$295,297,417
Jurisdictional schemes	\$61,351,345
Total Network use of system (NUOS)	\$1.657.509.242

3.2 Distribution charges

3.2.1 Calculation of annual revenue for DUOS

Energex's DUOS charges are regulated using a revenue cap. The revenue cap for any given regulatory year is the Total Allowable Revenue (TAR), calculated using the formula in Attachment 13 of the AER's final Distribution Determination.

Table 5 applies the revenue cap formula to calculate our TAR for 2023-24 and demonstrates our compliance with the control mechanism.

Table 5: DUOS Total Allowable Revenue for 2023-24

Component	Formula	2023-24 Value
Adjusted annual smoothed revenue requirement (t-1)	AAR_{t-1}	\$1,199,778,532
СРІ	ΔCPI_{t}	7.83%
X-factor	X_{t}	0.220%
Adjusted annual smoothed revenue requirement (t)	$AAR_t = AAR_{t-1} \times (1 + \Delta CPI_t) \times (1 - X_t)$	\$1,290,902,291
Sum of DMIS, DIMIA and STPIS amounts	I_t	\$4,022,457
Annual adjustment factors	$B_t^{'}$	\$5,935,733
Cost pass through amounts	C_{ι}	\$0
Total Allowable Revenue	$TAR_t \geq AAR_t + I_t + B_t + C_t$	\$1,300,860,481
Proposed revenue	Proposed revenue	\$1,300,860,481
Compliance with revenue cap	TAR>= Proposed revenue	YES

3.2.2 DUOS unders and overs account

Under a revenue cap, our revenues are adjusted annually to clear any under or over recovery of actual revenue recovered through DUOS charges. This 'unders and overs' rebalancing process is undertaken as part of the annual pricing cycle to ensure we recover no more and no less than the TAR approved by the AER for any given year. Under these arrangements there is a lag between the year in which the DUOS under or over recovery occurs and the year in which adjustments are made to prices to 'clear' the under or over recovery.

Consistent with the Distribution Determination we are required to maintain a DUOS unders and overs account in our annual pricing proposal and provide entries for the most recently completed regulatory year (t-2), the current regulatory year (t-1) and the next regulatory year (t).⁷

The AER also requires that Energex's amounts for the most recently completed regulatory year (t-2) be audited. We believe this requirement is met as the amounts provided for 2021-22 are based on audited information lodged in our Regulatory Information Notice (RIN). The DUOS unders and overs account is presented in Table 6.

Energex's Determination decision 2020 to 2025, Attachment 13 – Control Mechanisms, June 2020.

Table 6: DUOS unders and overs account (\$'000)

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Unders/overs account component	Year t-2	Year t-1	Year t
	(actual)	(estimate)	(forecast)
	\$	\$	\$
(A) Revenue from DUOS charges	\$1,228,114,511	\$1,166,929,526	\$1,300,860,481
(B) Less TAR for regulatory year =	\$1,200,692,436	\$1,216,359,289	\$1,294,924,748
+ Adjusted annual smoothed revenues (AARt)	\$1,202,758,800	\$1,199,778,532	\$1,290,902,291
+ Incentive scheme amounts (It)	-\$2,066,364	\$16,580,757	\$4,022,457
+ Annual adjustments (Bt)	\$0	\$0	\$0
+ Cost pass through amount (Ct)	\$0	\$0	\$0
(C) Revenue deliberately under-recovered in year	\$0	\$0	\$0
(A minus B plus C) Under/over recovery of revenue for regulatory year	\$27,422,075	-\$49,429,763	\$5,935,733
DUOS unders and overs account			
Nominal WACC (per cent)	3.123%	5.755%	10.266%
Opening balance	\$14,423,577	\$42,720,958	-\$5,652,670
Interest on opening balance	\$450,425	\$2,458,566	-\$580,300
Under/over recovery of revenue for regulatory year	\$27,422,075	-\$49,429,763	\$5,935,733
Interest on under/over recovery for regulatory year	\$424,882	-\$1,402,432	\$297,237
Closing balance	\$42,720,958	(\$5,652,670)	(\$0)

3.2.3 Forecast weighted average revenue by tariff class

The following table sets out the expected weighted average DUOS revenue for each tariff class and the per cent change from 2022/23 to 2023/24 for each tariff class.

Table 7: Expected weighted average DUOS revenue by tariff class

Tariff class	2022-23 Weighted average revenue	2023-24 Weighted average revenue	% Change
SAC	\$1,047,303,236	\$1,150,607,001	9.86%
CAC	\$100,995,228	\$112,500,054	11.39%
ICC	\$28,734,967	\$30,895,530	7.52%
Total	\$1,177,033,431	\$1,294,002,585	9.94%

Note: All amounts are GST exclusive

The 2022/23 and 2023/24 notional DUOS revenues in this table are both calculated using 2023/24 forecast quantities 2023-24 revenue excludes revenue from tariff trials

3.2.4 Tariff class side constraints

For each regulatory year after the first year of a regulatory control period, side constraints apply to the weighted average revenue raised from each tariff class (that is, the expected weighted average revenue from DUOS to be raised from each tariff class in year (t) must not exceed the corresponding expected weighted average revenue from the preceding year (t-1) by more than the permissible percentage determined as per the side constraint formula).⁸

The side constraints formula is set out in the AER's Determination Decision (Attachment 13). The table below sets out the maximum permissible percentage increase in the weighted average revenue raised from each tariff class, as determined by the side constraint formula.

⁸ Revenue in year t-1 is based on the sum of the prices in year t-1 multiplied by the associated forecast quantities for year t.

Table 8: Calculation of side constraint limit

Component	Formula	Value
CPI	ΔCPI_{t}	7.83%
X-factor (if X-factor>0, X=0)	X_{t}	0.00%
DMIS, DIMIA & STPIS adjustments	I_{t}	-1.07%
Annual adjustment factors	$B_t^{'}$	2.65%
Cost pass through amounts	C_{t}	0.00%
Side constraint limit	$\leq (1 + \Delta CPI_t) \times (1 - X_t) \times (1 + 2\%) + I'_t + B'_t + C'_t$	111.57%

Note: If X>0, then X will be set equal to zero for the purposes of the side constraint formula.

Table 7 demonstrates the change in weighted average DUOS revenue for all tariff classes is less than the 11.57% side constraint limit (provided in Table 8 above), demonstrating that there is no economic cross-subsidy between tariff classes.

3.2.5 Revenue lies between avoidable and stand-alone costs

The pricing principles in the NER require us to ensure the DUOS revenue expected to be recovered from each tariff class lies on or between the bounds of stand-alone and avoidable costs. Table 9 below demonstrates our compliance with this requirement of the NER.

Table 9: Comparison of 2023-24 Expected DUOS revenue vs Avoidable and Standalone costs

Tariff class	Avoidable cost	2023-24 Forecast DUOS revenue	Stand Alone cost
SAC	\$752,539,722	\$1,150,598,837	\$1,189,001,579
CAC	\$105,639,573	\$112,508,516	\$769,546,611
ICC	\$29,352,271	\$30,897,127	\$759,444,626

3.2.6 Tariffs to be based on long run marginal cost

The pricing principles in the NER require each tariff to be based on the LRMC of providing the service to which it relates to the retail customers assigned to that tariff.

In our tariff-setting for 2023-24, we have applied the approach to LRMC detailed in our TSS:

- Incorporating the LRMC values in the demand charge parameter of the demand-based tariffs as it is considered the most suitable mechanism to signal the cost of future network augmentation. For the tariffs without a demand charge parameter, LRMC has been allocated to the 'peak' usage charge of time-of-use usage/volumetric tariffs.
- Gradually aligning the demand charge or 'peak' usage change with our LRMC estimates.
- Incorporating a muted LRMC signal in our Transitional Demand tariffs for SAC Small
 customers compared to the standard demand tariffs to allow customers to adjust to tariffs they
 may not be familiar with and to mitigate the potential for network charge impact.

Energex's LRMC estimates for each demand and 'peak' usage charge parameter (per tariff) are provide below.

Table 10: LRMC estimates and application in tariff setting

Tariff group	Tariff name	NTC	Charge	LRMC Voltage Level	Annual L 2023-		100% LRMC charge	Percentage of LRMC applied	2023-24 Charge
				Voltage	\$/kW	\$/kVA	\$/kW, kVA, kWh	%	\$
CAC	11kV Bus	4000	Demand kVA	High Voltage		93.429	7.786	79 .0%	6.148
CAC	11kV Line	4500	Demand kVA	High Voltage		100.295	8.358	100.0%	8.358
CAC	EG - 11kV	3000	Demand kVA	High Voltage		100.295	8.358	100.0%	8.358
CAC	HV ToU Demand	7400	Peak Demand kVA	High Voltage		100.295	8.358	98.4%	8.228
SACL	LV Demand Time-of-Use	7200	Actual Demand Peak kVA	Low Voltage		157.595	13.133	90.1%	11.830
SACL	Demand Large	8100	Actual Demand kVA	Low Voltage		157.595	13.133	94.7%	12.432
SACL	Demand Small	8300	Actual Demand kVA	Low Voltage		157.595	13.133	100.0%	13.133
SACS Bus	Small Business Demand	3600	Peak Demand kW	Low Voltage	175.105		14.592	56.5%	8.245
SACS Bus	Small Business Transitional Demand	3800	Peak Demand kW	Low Voltage	175.105		14.592	20.9%	3.046
SACS Bus	Small Business ToU Energy	6800	Volume Evening kWh	Low Voltage	175.105	'	0.41172	36.5%	0.15028
SACS Res	Residential Demand	3700	Peak Demand kW	Low Voltage	175.105		14.592	47.3%	6.905
SACS Res	Residential Transitional Demand	3900	Peak Demand kW	Low Voltage	175.105		14.592	21.8%	3.182
SACS Res	Residential ToU Energy	6900	Volume Evening kWh	Low Voltage	175.105	,	0.36729	37.1%	0.13627

Least distortionary recovery of residual costs

In establishing the 2023-24 network tariffs, we confirm that it has been necessary to allocate residual costs to recover the portion of the revenue cap that that could not be fully recovered through the LRMC-based charging parameters. This means that we have to recover the revenue shortfall through the fixed, off-peak volume and capacity charges. Residual recovery within each customer group has been based on selecting combinations that minimise distortion of the LRMC signal and take into account the prior year prices.

3.3 Designated pricing proposal charges

Designated pricing proposal charges (DPPC) recover the payments we make for:

- the use of Powerlink's transmission network to deliver high voltage electricity from generators to Energex's distribution network
- other DNSPs for the supply of distribution services, and
- avoided transmission charges paid to eligible embedded generators (EGs).

Further information about our transmission costs is provided below.

3.3.1 Transmission costs

DPPC to be paid to TNSP (Powerlink)

Powerlink charges Energex at the Transmission Connection Point level. Their charges comprise both fixed and variable components, namely:

- Entry/Exit Connection Charge (\$/month)
- Capped Customer: Usage Capacity Charge (\$/kW/month of nominated demand plus \$/kW/month average demand)
- Customer TUOS General Prices: General Energy Charge (c/kWh of historical energy)
- Transmission Customer Common Service Prices: Common Service Energy Charge (c/kWh).

Payment to other DNSPs

In contingency circumstances, Essential Energy (the DNSP in northern New South Wales) provides supply from its Terranora Substation to Energex's Kirra Zone Substation. Under this arrangement, Essential Energy requires Energex to pay for the use of its assets.

The charges established by Essential Energy are based on approved rates for each month in which the alternate supply is utilised. These costs have been incorporated into the costs for the Mudgeeraba Transmission Network Connection Point and are consequently passed through to users via our network tariffs.

Avoided TUOS/DPPC charges

Where we are liable to pay an Avoided TUOS payment to an EG, the payment amount is recovered as part of the DPPC charges passed through to all customers.

Avoided TUOS payments recognise that energy supplied to the electricity distribution network by the EG would have otherwise been supplied from the transmission network. In accordance with the NER, to calculate the avoided TUOS payments for eligible EGs, we:

- (a) Determine the charges for the locational component of prescribed DPPC services that would have been payable by Energex had the EG not injected any energy at its connection point during that financial year.
- (b) Determine the amount by which the charges calculated in (a) exceeds the amount for the locational component of prescribed DPPC services actually payable by Energex.
- (c) Credit the value from (b) to the EG account.

Avoided TUOS payments will generally be remitted in the form of a lump sum payment after 30 June each year. The estimated total amount in avoided TUOS liability to EGs is included in our DPPC unders and overs account.

Transmission system strength charges

As required by the recently implemented changes in the NER, Energex as a Distribution Network Service Provider will pass through system strength charges as determined by the system strength service provider (Powerlink) in Queensland, as required to relevant parties (being distribution customers and embedded generators) at system strength connection points on the distribution network. The amount, structure, and timing of the amount billed by Energex will replicate as far as is reasonably practicable the amount, structure, and timing of the corresponding system strength charge billed to Energex by Powerlink.

In 2023-24 there is no revenue expected from system strength charges.

3.3.2 DPPC unders and overs account

In accordance with the NER and the AER's requirements set out in the Distribution Determination, we are required to maintain a DPPC unders and overs account. Table 11 sets out Energex's DPPC unders and overs account. We have set the revenue from DPPC charges to achieve a closing balance (for 2023/24) as close as possible to zero.

The amounts for 2021-22 are based on audited information lodged in our RIN.

Table 11: DPPC unders and overs account

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	
Unders/overs account component	Year t-2	Year t-1	Year t	
	(actual)	(estimate)	(forecast)	
	\$	\$	\$	
(A) Revenue from designated pricing proposal charges (DPPC)	\$352,662,772	\$293,659,454	\$295,297,417	
(B) Less DPPC related payments for regulatory year =	\$347,950,469	\$306,616,398	\$293,015,206	
+ DPPC to be paid to Transmission Network Service Provider	\$347,530,705	\$306,203,167	\$292,623,455	
+ Avoided TUoS/DPPC payments	\$317,192	\$315,794	\$291,746	
+ Inter-distributor payments	\$102,572	\$97,437	\$100,004	
(A minus B) Under/over recovery of revenue for regulatory year	\$4,712,303	-\$12,956,944	\$2,282,211	
DPPC unders and overs account				
Nominal WACC (per cent)	3.123%	5.755%	10.266%	
Opening balance	\$5,584,647	\$10,544,362	-\$2,173,377	
Interest on opening balance	\$174,400	\$606,822	-\$223,118	
Under/over recovery of revenue for regulatory year	\$4,712,303	-\$12,956,944	\$2,282,211	
Interest on under/over recovery for regulatory year	\$73,013	-\$367,617	\$114,284	
Closing balance	\$10,544,362	(\$2,173,377)	(\$0)	

3.3.3 Recovery of transmission costs

Where administratively efficient, the forecast DPPC will be passed on to customers in the same form of price structure as it is received.

ICC tariffs:

For ICCs, our network tariffs preserve the economic signals present in the structure of the DPPC as the charges are based on the relevant transmission connection point. This provides the greatest cost-reflectivity for these customers and is a feasible method for calculating charges since the number of such customers is relatively small.

SAC and CAC tariffs:

DPPC cost amounts are allocated to SAC and CAC tariffs proportionally based on a mixture of customer numbers, anytime maximum demands and volumes.

DPPC charges for CAC tariffs are based on average DPPC charges. This provides a significant degree of cost-reflectivity for this group of customers while recognising the practical difficulties of calculating individual charges for each customer connected at the 11 kV network.

DPPC charges for SAC tariffs are recovered from the same tariff structure as DUOS charges (fixed charge, demand charge and volume charges).

3.4 Jurisdictional scheme charges

Jurisdictional schemes are certain programs implemented by state governments that place legislative obligations on DNSPs. The jurisdictional schemes we are subject to comprise:

- the Solar Bonus Scheme which obliges Energex to make Feed-in Tariff payments to eligible customers for energy supplied into our distribution network from specific micro-embedded generators⁹
- the energy industry levy covering a proportion of the Queensland Government's funding commitments for the AEMC which we are obligated to pay under our Distribution Authority.

The jurisdictional schemes Energex is subject to have not been amended since the last jurisdictional scheme approval date.

Jurisdictional scheme amounts are recovered from customers through fixed and volume charges.

3.4.1 Jurisdictional scheme unders and overs account

Under the NER and the AER's Distribution Determination, we are required to provide amounts for the unders and overs relating to jurisdictional schemes. Table 12 sets out Energex's jurisdictional scheme overs and unders account. We have set the revenue from jurisdictional charges to achieve a closing balance (for 2023/24) as close as possible to zero.

The amounts for 2021-22 are based on audited information lodged in our RIN.

Table 12: Jurisdictional scheme amounts unders and overs account

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Unders/overs account element	Year t-2	Year t-1	Year t
	(actual)	(estimate)	(forecast)
	\$	\$	\$
(A) Revenue from jurisdictional schemes	\$138,427,364	\$104,202,867	\$61,351,345
(B) Less jurisdictional scheme payments for regulatory year =	\$116,978,721	\$106,773,601	\$101,006,430
+ SBS amount	\$116,751,820	\$106,209,253	\$100,206,627
+ AEMC amount	\$226,902	\$564,348	\$799,803
(A minus B) Under/over recovery of revenue for regulatory year	\$21,448,643	-\$2,570,733	-\$39,655,085
Jurisdictional scheme amount unders and overs account			
Nominal WACC (per cent)	3.123%	5.755%	10.266%
Opening balance	\$15,930,344	\$38,208,794	\$37,764,017
Interest on opening balance	\$497,479	\$2,198,894	\$3,876,833
Under/over recovery of revenue for regulatory year	\$21,448,643	-\$2,570,733	-\$39,655,085
Interest on under/over recovery for regulatory year	\$332,329	-\$72,937	-\$1,985,765
Closing balance	\$38,208,794	\$37,764,017	(\$0)

3.5 Forecast customer numbers, energy and demand

Calculating our network prices requires that we forecast customer numbers, energy consumption and network demand. Our network demand, energy and customer number forecasting methodologies are set out in our 2021 to 2026 Distribution Annual Planning Report¹⁰. Energy forecasts are prepared at the total network level, at customer category levels and for certain individually calculated network tariffs.

⁹ The scheme operates under clause 44A of the Electricity Act 1994 (Qld).

¹⁰ https://www.energex.com.au/about-us/company-information/company-policies-And-reports/distribution-annual-planning-report

Energy and maximum demand forecasts for major ICC and CAC customers are individually developed. The energy forecast is based on a review of each customer's recent actual consumption history plus any confirmed future operational changes. The forecast demand is either:

- negotiated with the network user and detailed in their connection contract ('contracted demand'), or
- based on a review of actual demand history, with adjustments reflecting up to date customer related information about additions or losses of load.

For new ICC and CAC customers, a flat usage or similar industry load profile is applied as appropriate until historical data for their connection is available.

For the SAC network user group, forecast energy consumption and customer numbers are based on a combination of econometric forecasts and trend extrapolation.

The forecast energy consumption and customer numbers used for the 2023-24 Pricing Proposal are included in Table 13.



Table 13: Actual, estimate and forecast energy consumption and customer numbers¹¹

To the extent that actual volumes deviate from forecast, the revenue cap form of control mechanism will result in future network prices needing to be adjusted to account for the under or over recovery of network revenue. We endeavour to make sure that any adjustments to prices as a consequence of the operation of the revenue cap does not result in unacceptable customer impacts or create unnecessary pricing uncertainty and volatility.

¹¹ Actual customer numbers include only Active NMIs, reported in RIN P1.3

3.6 Consideration of customer impacts

Our TSS describes the measures we have taken to manage the impact of annual change to DUOS rates on individual customers, whilst moving toward a greater cost reflectivity over the 2021 to 2025 period. These measures include:

- Progressively transitioning the LRMC components of charges towards full LRMC recovery and making small adjustments to the comparative attractiveness of the tariff options available to customers.
- Providing optional time-of-use energy tariffs to SAC Small customers who do not wish to be on a demand tariff.
- Granting a 12-month grace period for existing residential and small business customers that
 receive a smart meter due to end-of-life reasons before they are re-assigned to the cost
 reflective transitional demand tariffs.

In establishing the 2023-24 tariffs, we have continued to apply these measures.

Table 14 below presents our customer impact analysis for SAC customers for 2023-24. Customers are expected to experience an increase (between 2.1% and 6.8%), in NUOS charges in 2023-24 compared with their 2022-23 charges. This change is driven by an increase in our DUOS revenue requirement (mainly due to the change in CPI).

At the NUOS level, the impact from DUOS revenue changes is partially offset by a decrease in Powerlink's transmission charges and a decrease in jurisdictional scheme amounts that we are required to recover in 2023-24.

Table 14: Customer impact for average customers on SAC tariffs- Nominal (\$) - NUOS change

SAC Tariffs		Demand (kW or kVA/month)	Usage (kWh/year)	2022-23 NUOS Nom (\$)	2023-24 NUOS Nom (\$)	Annual NUOS change (\$)	Annual NUOS change (%)
Residential (:100MWh pa)						
3900	Residential Transitional Demand	3.48	5,024	512.40	535.46	23.05	4.5%
3700	Residential Demand	3.48	5,024	616.15	642.34	26.19	4.3%
6900	Residential ToU Energy	N/A	5,024	543.74	568.76	25.02	4.6%
8400	Residential Flat*	N/A	5,024	562.83	598.43	35.60	6.3%
8900	Residential ToU*	N/A	5,024	598.28	641.90	43.61	7.3%
*Grandfathered							
Small Busine	ss (<100MWh pa)						
3800	Small Business Transitional Demand	7.04	19,240	1,610.05	1,679.37	69.32	4.3%
3600	Small Business Demand	7.04	19,240	1,853.74	1,935.51	81.77	4.4%
6800	Small Business ToU Energy	N/A	19,240	1,597.51	1,671.47	73.96	4.6%
8500	Small Business Flat*	N/A	19,240	1,825.27	1,928.39	103.13	5.6%
6000	Small Business Wide IFT	N/A	19,240	1,929.94	2,042.16	112.22	5.8%
7100	Business Demand*	7.04	19,240	1,743.93	1,864.57	120.63	6.9%
8800	Business Time-of-Use*	N/A	19,240	1,873.61	1,992.60	118.98	6.4%
*Grandfathered							
Large Busine	ss (>100MWh pa)						
8300	Demand Small	92.43	379,513	21,890.25	22,383.03	492.79	2.3%
8100	Demand Large	398.00	1,741,242	92,603.99	95,944.77	3,340.78	3.6%
7200	LV Demand Time-of-Use	N/A	327,302	23,505.36	24,121.97	616.61	2.6%
6700	Large Business Energy	N/A	118,850	11,291.84	12,074.98	783.14	6.9%

As ICC and CAC tariffs are confidential, we are not able to include a customer specific impact analysis. However, general trends in ICC and CAC customer impacts between 2022-23 and 2023-24 are presented in Table 15 below.

Table 15: Average customer impacts for the ICC and CAC tariff classes

Tariff Class	Impact	DUOS annual impact (%)	NUOS annual impact (%)
CAC	Average Impact	11.55%	2.93%
ICC	Average Impact	9.75%	3.36%

Notes: Customer impacts based on forecast quantities for year t applied to prices t-1 and t.

The prices used for the customer impact analysis are the AER approved prices for 2022-23 and the proposed 2023-24 prices. To eliminate the impact of fluctuation in demand and energy between years, the same usage and demand profiles were used to calculate customers' bills for both 2022-23 and 2023-24.

3.7 Trial tariffs

Energex intends to undertake a trial of Time of Use export tariffs for High Voltage and Sub-Transmission Voltage customers in 2023-24.

The primary objective of this trial is to assess the ability of energy storage customers to respond to cost reflective price signals to support the electricity network in periods of low system demand and peak periods when the electricity network is more likely to be constrained. Insights and learnings from this tariff trial will help inform the design of Time of Use signals for high voltage customers which we intend to offer in the next regulatory control period.

Retailers can opt a high voltage customer in and out of the trial tariff at any time during 2023-24.

4. Alternative Control Services

Energex's Alternative Control Services are regulated under a price cap control mechanism. This means that the AER determines our efficient costs and approves a maximum price that we can charge for the service. Our TSS sets out the methodology we follow to establish prices for Alternative Control Services including how we apply the control mechanism formulae set out in the Distribution Determination - Attachment 13.

The proposed 2023-24 prices for Alternative Control Services tariffs are provided in Attachment 1 to our Pricing Proposal.

4.1 Tariff classes

Our tariff classes for Alternative Control Services are differentiated at the highest level according to the classification of services approved in the AER's Distribution Determination. Our Alternative Control Services tariff classes are set out below.

Table 16: Alternative Control Services tariff classes

Tariff class	Services
Connection services	Services relating to the electrical or physical connection of a customer to the network including: Major customer premises connections Major customer network extensions Connection application and management services: Connection application related services De-energisation and re-energisation services Temporary connections Temporary disconnection and re-connections Supply abolishment Remove or reposition connections Overhead service line replacements Protection and power quality assessments Customer requested change requiring secondary and primary plant studies for safe operation of the network Upgrade from overhead to underground services Rectification of illegal connection or damage to service cables Supply enhancements Power factor corrections
Metering services	 Type 6 default metering services Auxiliary metering services including: Meter inspection and investigation Meter reconfiguration Meter alteration Reseal Meter test Meter reading Removal of meter (Type 6) Type 6 non-standard metering data services
Public lighting services	 Public lighting services Auxiliary public lighting services including: Construction of new public light services Provision of unique luminaire glare screening Relocation, rearrangement or removal of existing public light assets Exit fee for the residual asset value of non-contributed public lights when the entire assets are replaced before the end of their expected life Emerging public lighting services

Tariff class	Services
Network ancillary	Customer and third party-initiated services related to the common distribution including:
services	 Network safety services - Provision of traffic control and safety observer services, Fitting of tiger tails and aerial markers, De-energising for safety, High load escorts
	Customer requested planned interruptions
	Attendance at customers' premises to perform a statutory right
	Customer, retailer or third party requested appointments
	Removal/re-arrangement of network assets
	Network related property services
	Authorisation and approval of third-party service providers design and works
	Inspection and auditing services
	Sale of approved materials or equipment
	Provision of training to third parties for network related access
	Security (watchmen) lights
	Non-standard network data requests
	Customer requested provision of electricity network data
	Third party funded network alternations

4.2 Tariffs and charging parameters

Attachment 1 sets out the proposed tariffs for Alternative Control Services which have been specified in our TSS. The pricing arrangements utilised to calculate the charges for Alternative Control Services are presented in Table 17.

Table 17: Pricing arrangements for Alternative Control Services

Tariff classes and Services	Pricing arrangements	Charging parameter
Connection services - Services rel	ating to the electrical or phy	ysical connection of a customer to the network
Major customer - Premises connections	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Major customer - Network extensions	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Connection application and management services	Fixed charge and in some cases Quoted price	Fixed rate (\$) per service. The rate varies depending on the service requested. Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Enhanced connection services	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Network ancillary services – Custo service	mer and third party-initiated	services related to the common distribution
Network safety services	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Customer requested planned interruptions	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Attendance at customers' premises to perform a statutory right	Fixed charge	Fixed rate (\$) per service. The rate varies depending on the service requested.

Tariff classes and Services	Pricing arrangements	Charging parameter
Customer, retailer or third party requested appointments	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Removal/rearrangement of network assets	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Network related property services	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Authorisation and approval of third- party service providers design/ works	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Inspection and auditing services	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Sale of approved materials or equipment	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Provision of training to third parties for network related access	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Security (watchman) lights	Quoted price - for installation service costs Fixed charge - for the maintenance, operation	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service. Fixed rate (\$) per day per light - Within the tariff
	and replacement of the assets	structure, daily charges differ by:
	433613	light type (conventional or LED) andthe size of the lamp/luminaire.
Non-standard network data requests	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Customer requested provision of electricity network data	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Third party funded network alternations	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Metering services		
Type 6 default metering services	Fixed price	Metering services charge: fixed (\$) per day per tariff.
		Metering service charges differ by:
		 The type of metering service (primary, controlled load, solar PV), and
		The type of cost recovery (capital, non-capital).
Auxiliary metering services	Fixed price, and in some cases Quoted price	Fixed rate (\$) per service. The rate varies depending on the service requested.
	cases Queioa pines	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.
Public Lighting Services		
Public lighting services	Fixed price	Public lighting charge: Fixed rate (\$) per day per light.
		Daily public lighting charges differ by:
		 the ownership status (owned and operated, or Gifted and operated),

Tariff classes and Services	Pricing arrangements	Charging parameter	
		the size of the lamp (major or minor), andtechnology (conventional vs LED).	
Auxiliary public lighting services	Quoted price	Quoted rate (\$) per service. The quoted price varies according to the requested service and actual resources required to deliver the service.	

4.3 Tariff assignment process

For ACS, customers or customers' retailers self-assign to a tariff class when requesting the service they require. In accordance with our TSS, we generally do not initiate tariff class re-assignments for ACS. However, there are some circumstances where a field crew attends a site, and the scope of work does not match the service order or work request. This may mean a different service type and/or tariff class may be more appropriate. In these instances, the job is generally returned as not completed and a new service order or work request would need to be submitted. Consequently, a new tariff class assignment, rather than reassignment, would occur.

4.4 Pricing methodology

4.4.1 Type 6 default metering services

For our Type 6 Default Metering Services we have applied a limited building block approach to determine the revenue required over 2020-25 regulatory control period. This allowable revenue is then converted into metering service charges that are each subject to a price cap for the regulatory control period.

In years 2 to 5 of the regulatory control period (2021-2025), the prices are adjusted for inflation and the X factor.

In accordance with our TSS for the 2020-25 regulatory control period type 6 default metering services include maintenance, reading, data services, and the recovery of capital costs related to Type 6 meters. Type 6 default metering service charges are applied through a daily metering services charge. These charges are split into two components:

- a non-capital (operating expenditure) component that is applied to customers with legacy Type 6 meters and continues to apply until a customer's meter is replaced with an unregulated Type 1-4 meter.
- a capital component that is applied to customers connected prior to 1 July 2015, to recover
 the remaining capital cost related to legacy Type 6 meters. This charge will continue to apply
 until the depletion of Energex's remaining metering asset base.

Consistent with our TSS, we apply the following types of Type 6 default metering charges to recover the annual revenue requirement from customers:

- A metering service charge for the primary metering service
- A supplementary charge for each secondary controlled load, and
- A supplementary charge for solar PV.

Table 18: Type 6 Default Metering Service tariffs

Tariff group	Tariffs	Charging parameters		
Primary tariff	Non-capital	Fixed rate (\$) per day		
	Capital	•		
Load control	Non-capital			
	Capital	•		
Solar PV	Non-capital			
	Capital			

4.4.2 Public lighting services

For public lighting services, the limited building block approach is used to determine our revenue requirements during 2020-25. This allowable revenue is then converted into public lighting service charges that are each subject to a price cap for the regulatory control period.

In years 2 to 5 of the regulatory control period (2021-2025), the prices are adjusted for inflation and the X factor.

In accordance with our TSS for the 2020-25 regulatory control period, public lighting charges reflect whether:

- The public lighting services are located on minor or major roads
- The assets have been funded by us or by the customer i.e. NPL1 "Energex owned and operated" versus NPL2 "customer gifted and operated by Energex", NPL4 for assets where customers fund the replacement of the NPL1 luminaire and lamp to LED, but where the associated pole and cabling are legacy and non-contributed assets, and
- The type of public lighting technology (i.e. conventional or LED).

The public lighting tariffs offered are set out in the table below.

Table 19: Public lighting tariffs

Tariff group	Conventional Lights tariffs	LED specific tariffs	Charging parameters
NPL1 - Minor	NPL1C Minor – funded by Energex	NPL1L Minor – Funded by Energex	Fixed rate (\$) per day
NPL1 - Major	NPL1C Major – funded by Energex	NPL1L Major – Funded by Energex	per light
NPL2 - Minor	NPL2C Minor – Funded by Council	NPL2L Minor – Funded by Councils	
NPL2 - Major	NPL2C Major – Funded by Council and DTMR	NPL2L Major – Funded by Councils and DTMR	
NPL4 - Minor	N/A	NPL4 Minor – Funded by Councils	
NPL4 - Major	N/A	NPL4 Major – Funded by Councils	

4.4.3 Other Alternative Control Services

In accordance with the AER's Determination Decision, a cost build up approach was used to determine the prices for all other services classified as ACS. Pricing arrangements for these services are either fee-based or quoted depending on the type of service.

Fee-based services

The prices for fee-based services are set in accordance with specified service assumptions due to the standardised nature of the services. Fee-based services are determined via a cost build up approach at the individual service level and relate to activities undertaken by us at the request of customers or their agents. The costs for these activities can be directly attributed to customers and service-specific prices can be charged.

During the first year of the regulatory control period (i.e. 2020-21), the prices for fee-based services are determined using the AER's approved cost build-up formula. In years 2 to 5 of the regulatory control period (2021-2025), the prices are adjusted annually for inflation and the X factor.

Quoted services

Prices for quoted services are determined at the time the customer makes an enquiry and therefore reflect the individual nature and scope of the requested service which cannot be known in advance. The indicative prices for quoted services are determined using the AER's approved price cap formula below.

Equation 1: Price cap formula for quoted services

Price = Labour + Contractor Services + Materials

Where:

- Labour (including on costs and overheads) consists of all labour costs directly incurred in the
 provision of the service which may include, but is not limited to, labour on costs and
 overheads. The labour cost for each service is dependent on the skill level and experience of
 the employee/s, time of day/week in which the service is undertaken, travel time, number of
 hours, number of site visits and crew size required to perform the service.
- Contractor services (including overheads) reflects all costs associated with the use of
 external labour in the provision of the service, including overheads and any direct costs
 incurred as part of performing the service.
- Materials (including on costs and overheads) reflects the cost of materials directly incurred in the provision of the service, material storage and logistics on costs and overheads.

4.5 Annual cost input changes

The annual changes to cost inputs used in calculating prices for our Alternative Control Services are required to be submitted to the AER for approval in our Pricing Proposal. The CPI and X factors used for setting 2023-24 prices are provided in Attachment 4 (2023-24 annual ACS Pricing Model).

5. Comparison of 2023-24 proposed and indicative prices

The NER requires us to demonstrate how each proposed tariff is consistent with the indicative pricing levels (as set out in the indicative pricing schedule) and explain material differences. A comparison between the proposed prices for 2023-24 and the indicative prices submitted with our 2022-23 Pricing Proposal submission is provided in annual SCS and ACS pricing models (Attachments 3 and 4). Further explanations are provided below.

5.1 Differences in Standard Control Services pricing levels

Deviations from the indicative prices for 2023-24 are due to:

- updates to allowed revenue to reflect actual 2021-22 revenue and estimated revenue for 2022-23
- updates to approved jurisdictional scheme amounts (Solar Bonus Scheme and AEMC levy) and DPPC amounts based on the latest forecasts
- updates of forecast customer numbers, energy consumption and demand.

Any variations from indicative prices which are above five percent are highlighted and explained in the annual SAC pricing model (Attachment 3).

5.2 Differences in Alternative Control Services pricing levels

Any differences between the indicative 2023-24 prices for Alternative Control Services (included in the 2022-23 Pricing Proposal submission) and the 2023-24 prices included in this Pricing Proposal are reflective of the difference between the forecast CPI and actual CPI.

5.3 Updated indicative prices for the remainder of the regulatory period

The indicative prices for the remainder of the regulatory control period (2024-25) are provided in Attachment 2 of our Pricing Proposal, as well as Attachments 3 and 4 (annual SCS and ACS pricing models).

6. Changes from the previous regulatory year

The NER requires us to describe the nature and extent of change from the previous regulatory year and demonstrate that the changes comply with the NER and any applicable distribution determination.

We do not propose to make any variations to the structure of network tariffs or tariff assignment rules during 2023-24. Further, there are no changes from the previous regulatory year in any aspects of our 2023-24 proposal for Alternative Control Services.

7. Variations to tariffs within the regulatory year

The NER requires that a pricing proposal sets out the nature of any variations or adjustments to the tariff that could occur during the course of the regulatory year and the basis on which it could occur.

7.1 Standard Control Services tariff adjustments

We propose to adjust our ICC or CAC network tariffs in circumstances where an ICC or CAC customer advises us that they intend to alter their demand or connection characteristics during the course of the year. In these circumstances, we will recalculate the customer's site-specific charge with the adjustment applied to the:

- daily fixed charging parameter for CAC customers; and
- fixed, capacity and demand charging parameters for ICC customers.

In accordance with our TSS, these adjustments are required to ensure these tariffs remain cost reflective. Any changes in site-specific charges for CAC or ICC customers will occur at the next network bill (noting that the published non-site specific demand and volume prices will continue to apply to CAC customers in accordance with this Pricing Proposal).

When new tariffs are created for new ICC or CAC connections during 2023-24, the price setting mechanism will be in line with the methodology set out in our TSS and this Pricing Proposal with the rates reflecting the customer's connection characteristics and the specifically identified portion of the shared distribution network utilised for the electricity supply.

There are no other variations or adjustments proposed to be made to Standard Control Services tariffs during the 2023-24 regulatory year.

7.2 Alternative Control Services tariff adjustments

With the exception of the application of Schedule 8 of the *Electricity Regulation 2006* to a number of our fee-based Alternative Control Services, there are no other variations or adjustments proposed to be made to Alternative Control Services tariffs during the 2023-24 regulatory year.

8. Consistency with the TSS

This section provides our responses to the additional requirements set out in the AER's final determination on our 2020-25 TSS.

8.1 Consistency with price constraints

Our TSS includes price control constraints for our SAC tariffs designed to limit customer impact while progressing tariff reform. In establishing the 2023-24 tariffs, we have utilised these constraints to achieve sustainable stable pricing outcomes. Specifically, we are targeting a larger increase in revenue from legacy tariffs, while minimising changes in rates for our cost reflective tariffs, in order to maintain the tariff relativities outlined in our TSS.

8.2 ICC price setting methodology

The AER's final determination on the 2020-25 TSS requires Energex to include a detailed description of the approach to setting the ICC tariffs in our annual pricing proposals.

Energex's methodology for setting the price level of the ICC tariffs is designed to price the provision of electricity services in the most equitable and efficient manner possible. The equity outcomes under this methodology are achieved by allocating residual costs to site-specific connections in a manner that reflects their utilisation of the assets involved in the provision of network services. Favourable customer outcomes are also realised by transitioning the level of ICC tariffs where it is necessary to do so for customer impact considerations. The superior economic efficiency outcomes associated with the ICC tariffs are achieved mainly by these customers receiving the pass through of Powerlink's transmission charges. This creates an important economic incentive for new ICC customers to locate in areas of the network that have a low cost to serve from a transmission perspective.

In contrast to the published tariffs, the ICC tariffs are also capable of signalling economic costs in a manner that more accurately reflect localised economic conditions. The extent to which it is appropriate to signal economic costs to this degree is dependent upon a range of considerations, such as the nature of these economic conditions, the responsiveness of customers to price signals, the impact on customers as well as the transaction costs associated with developing more refined price signals.

A detailed description of each component of the ICC price-setting methodology is provided below.

DUOS price setting methodology

Energex's methodology for setting the DUOS prices for ICC customers is comprised of the following steps.

- 1. The distribution cost to serve for each ICC customer is calculated by allocating the TAR for standard control distribution services into system and non-system components.¹⁴
- 2. These costs are then allocated into site-specific cost elements (i.e. connection and shared) and non-site specific cost elements (i.e. common and non-system).

¹² Refer to Clause 6.18.5(h) of the NER.

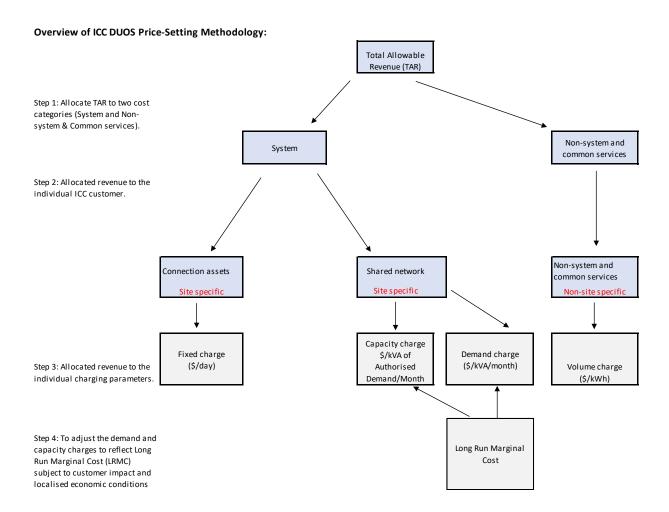
¹³ Refer to Clause 6.18.5(f) of the NER.

¹⁴ System costs are the directly attributable costs associated with the provision of network connection and distribution services. Non-system costs include items such as corporate support that are not directly attributable to the operation and maintenance of the network, but which are associated with network service delivery.

- 3. The distribution cost to serve for an ICC customer is then allocated into each of the individual charging parameters.
- 4. The tariff calculated In Step 3 is adjusted to determine the extent that is appropriate to signal LRMC cost through the demand charge which is evaluated on the basis of customer impact the extent that customers are expected to respond to marginal price signals given the nature of their usage and the expected benefits from doing so given the nature of localised network conditions.

An overview of this methodology is provided in Figure 3: DUOS cost allocation for ICCs.

Figure 3: DUOS cost allocation for ICCs



DPPC price setting methodology

DPPC charges for ICC customers are site specific and based on the charges which Powerlink charges Energex at the Bulk Supply Point at which the customer is connected. The methodology to convert Powerlink's charges to DPPC charges is summarised in the table below.

Table 20: DPPC charging parameters

Powerlink charges	Methodology to convert Powerlink's charge to DPPC charge	Corresponding DPPC charging parameter	Application
Entry/Exit connection charge (\$'000/month)	Entry/Exit connection charge is apportioned to ICC customers using customers individual monthly peak demand (kW) and the total demand supplied through that Bulk Supply Point	Fixed charge (\$/day)	Site and customer specific price
Locational charge (\$/kW/month)	This charge is a direct pass-through	Locational charge (\$/kW/month)	DPPC charge applied to individual ICC forecast monthly peak demand kW
General energy charge (c/kWh)	This charge is a direct pass-through	General services charge (\$/kWh)	DPPC charge applied to individual ICC forecast annual energy (kWh)
Common service energy charge (c/kWh)	This charge is a direct pass-through	Common services charge (\$/kWh)	DPPC charge applied to individual ICC forecast annual energy(kWh)

Jurisdictional Scheme price setting methodology

Jurisdictional Scheme (JS) charges for ICC customers are not site specific i.e. the same Fixed (\$/day) and Volume (\$/kWh) charge applies to all ICC customers.

Step 1: JS revenue allocation

To allocate an ICC JS revenue the default is the same for all network tariff classes being a proportion of the total JS revenue using customer numbers and energy.

Step 2: The JS allocation is then converted to rates.

These rates are not site specific so the same JS Fixed and Volume charge applies to all ICCs. The rates are set using the sum of individual ICC numbers and forecast annual energy. The split of allocation between Fixed and Volume charges is done by tariff group.

8.3 Outcomes from the Legacy Tariff Review

The AER's final determination on our 2020-2025 TSS required Energex to undertake a review of network pricing and billing arrangements to identify any legacy system and tariff arrangement which pre-dates the TSS requirement in the NER. The review was concluded in February 2021 and a report outlining the findings and proposed actions resulting from this review was submitted to the AER in February 2021. The reassignment actions proposed in this report have been fully implemented and all customers transitioned to an AER approved network tariff.

Appendix A: Compliance checklist

Table 21: AER's annual pricing proposal statement of compliance

Rule reference	Rule requirement and assessment statement	T/F or n/a	Page / section	Additional comments
6.18.1C and 11.141.8	Sub-threshold tariffs No later than four months before the start of a regulatory year (other than the first regulatory year of a regulatory control period), a Distribution Network Service Provider may notify the AER, affected retailers and Market Small Generation Aggregators and affected retail customers of a new proposed tariff (a relevant tariff) that is determined otherwise than in accordance with the Distribution Network Service Provider's current tariff structure statement, if both of the following are satisfied:			
	(1) the Distribution Network Service Provider's forecast revenue from the relevant tariff during each regulatory year in which the tariff is to apply is no greater than 1 per cent of the Distribution Network Service Provider's annual revenue requirement for that regulatory year (the individual threshold); and			
	(2) the Distribution Network Service Provider's forecast revenue from the relevant tariff, as well as from all other relevant tariffs, during each regulatory year in which those tariffs are to apply is no greater than 5 per cent of the Distribution Network Service Provider's annual revenue requirement for that regulatory year (the cumulative threshold).			
	Each sub-threshold tariff has a forecast revenue that is less than 1 per cent of the TAR, and all sub-threshold tariffs have a combined forecast revenue less than 5 per cent of TAR.		Refer to the standardised compliance model	
6.18.2(b)	Pricing proposals A Pricing Proposal must:			
6.18.2(b)(2)	Set out the proposed tariffs for each tariff class that is specified in the Distribution Network Service Provider's tariff structure statement for the relevant regulatory control period;			Refer to Sections 2.1 and 2.2
	All tariffs remain in the same tariff class as the approved tariff structure statement (TSS).	True		
6.18.2(b)(3)	Set out, for each proposed tariff, the charging parameters and the elements of service to which each charging parameter relates;			Refer to Section 2.2
	All tariffs retain the same charging parameters as the approved TSS.	True		
6.18.2(b)(4)	Set out, for each tariff class related to standard control services, the expected weighted average revenue for the relevant regulatory year and also for the current regulatory year;			Refer to Section 3.2.3
	The expected weighted average revenue for each tariff class is provided for the current and forecast years.	True		
6.18.2(b)(5)	Set out the nature of any variation or adjustment to the tariff that could occur during the course of the regulatory year and the basis on which it could occur;		Refer to Section 7	
	The information provided for this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS (for the first	True		

Rule reference	Rule requirement and assessment statement	T/F or n/a	Page / section	Additional comments	
	pricing proposal of the regulatory period), or the previous pricing proposal (for subsequent pricing proposals).				
6.18.2(b)(6)	Set out how designated pricing proposal charges are to be passed on to customers and any adjustments to tariffs resulting from over or under recovery of those charges in the previous regulatory year;			Refer to Section 3.3	
	The information provided for this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS and/or the previous pricing proposal.	True			
6.18.2(b)(6A)	Set out how jurisdictional scheme amounts for each approved jurisdictional scheme are to be passed on to customers and any adjustments to tariffs resulting from over or under recovery of those amounts;		Refer to Section 3.4		
	The information provided against this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS and/or the previous pricing proposal.	True			
6.18.2(b)(6B)	Describe how each approved jurisdictional scheme that has been amended since the last jurisdictional scheme approval date meets the jurisdictional scheme eligibility criteria;			We confirm there have been no changes to the jurisdictional schemes since the previous pricing proposal	
	Jurisdictional schemes are unchanged since the previous pricing proposal.	True			
6.18.2(b)(6C)	Set out how system strength charges for system strength connection points on its network are to be passed through as described in clause 6.20.3A;			Powerlink's prices do not include system strength charges for 2023- 24, therefore Energex is not proposing to pass through any system strength charges	
	The information provided for this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS and/or the previous pricing proposal.	True			
6.18.2(b)(7)	Demonstrate compliance with the Rules and any applicable distribution determination, including the Distribution Network Service Provider's tariff structure statement for the relevant regulatory control period;			This table and this Pricing Proposal (including attachments to this	
	The information provided for this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS and/or the previous pricing proposal.	True		Pricing Proposal) demonstrates how Energex complies with the NER, the Distribution Determination and its TSS.	
6.18.2(b)(7A)	Demonstrate how each proposed tariff is consistent with the corresponding indicative pricing levels for the relevant regulatory year as set out in the relevant indicative pricing schedule, or explain any material differences between them;			All variations are explained in the standardised compliance model	
	Fariff prices are not materially different to the corresponding indicative prices.				
	If response to the previous question is false, the standardised compliance model/annual pricing proposal explains the source(s) for material changes in prices.	True			
6.18.2(b)(8)	Describe the nature and extent of change from the previous regulatory year and demonstrate that the changes comply with the Rules and any applicable distribution determination.		Refer to Section 6		
	There are no other material changes from the approved	True			

Rule reference	Rule requirement and assessment statement	T/F or n/a	Page / section	Additional comments
	TSS (for the first pricing proposal of the regulatory period), or the previous pricing proposal (for subsequent pricing proposals) that should be brought to the attention of the AER.			
6.18.2(d)	Indicative prices At the same time as a Distribution Network Service Provider submits a pricing proposal under paragraph (a), the Distribution Network Service Provider must submit to			Attachment 2 to this pricing proposal also provides the revised indicative.
	the AER a revised indicative pricing schedule which sets out, for each tariff and for each of the remaining regulatory years of the regulatory control period, the indicative price levels determined in accordance with the Distribution Network Service Provider's tariff structure statement for that regulatory control period and updated so as to take into account that pricing proposal.			revised indicative prices for the remaining regulatory years of the 2020-25 regulatory control period
	Revised indicative prices for tariffs are included in the standardised compliance model.	True		
6.18.2(e)	Indicative prices for sub-threshold tariffs Where the Distribution Network Service Provider submits an annual pricing proposal, the revised indicative pricing schedule referred to in paragraph (d) must also set out, for each relevant tariff under clause 6.18.1C, the indicative price levels for that relevant tariff for each of the remaining regulatory years of the regulatory control period, updated so as to take into account that pricing proposal.			The sub-threshold tariff trial proposed in this pricing proposal is for 2023-24 regulatory year and therefore not included in the indicative price schedule for the remaining regulatory years of the regulatory control period
	Revised indicative prices for sub-threshold tariffs are included in the standardised compliance model where applicable.			
6.18.5	Pricing principles			
6.18.5(e)	For each tariff class, the revenue expected to be recovered must lie on or between: (1) an upper bound representing the stand alone cost of serving the retail customers who belong to that class; and (2) a lower bound representing the avoidable cost of not serving those retail customers.			Refer to Section 3.2.5
	The information provided for this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS and is demonstrated in the standardised compliance model.	True		
6.18.5(g)(2)	The revenue expected to be recovered from each tariff must: when summed with the revenue expected to be received from all other tariffs, permit the Distribution Network Service Provider to recover the expected revenue for the relevant services in accordance with the applicable distribution determination for the Distribution Network Service Provider			Refer to the standardised compliance model
	The information provided for this rule requirement has not materially changed from the approved TSS and is demonstrated in the standardised compliance model.	True		

Appendix B: Glossary

Table 22: Acronyms, abbreviations and definitions

Term	Acrony m	Definition
Alternative Control Service	ACS	Customer specific or customer requested services. These services may also have potential for provision on a competitive basis rather than by the local DNSP.
Anytime Maximum Demand	AMD	The demand for some network tariffs is calculated using 'any-time' demand. For these tariffs, the customers chargeable maximum demand is the highest 30 minute demand period, regardless of when that occurs during the month.
Authorised demand		The maximum demand permitted to be imported or exported to the network by a network user, based on the nature of their connection.
Business hours	вн	8 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday.
Basic meter		Basic accumulation meters are defined as a meter that is only capable to recording the customers' energy consumption during the billing period.
Capacity charge		A type of charge (charging parameter) included in network tariff structures. The capacity charge seeks to reflect the costs associated with providing network capacity required by a customer on a long term basis. It is levied on the basis of either contracted demand or forecasted capacity using prior year information.
Charging parameter		The charges comprising a tariff. Parameters include demand, capacity, fixed and volume (flat or time-of-use) charges.
Common service		A service that ensures the integrity of a distribution system, benefits all distribution customers and cannot reasonably be allocated on a locational basis.
Connection asset (Contributed or non-contributed)		Related to building connection assets at a customer's premises as well as the connection of these assets to the distribution network. Connection assets can be contributed (customer funded, then gifted to Energex) or non-contributed (Energex funded).
Connection point		The agreed point of supply established between a Network Service Provider and another Registered Participant, Non-Registered Customer or franchise customer. The meter is installed as close as possible to this location.
Customer		Refer to chapter 10 of the NER.
Demand		The amount of electricity energy being consumed at a given time measured in either kilowatts (kW) or kilovolt amperes (kVA). The ratio between the two is the power factor.
Demand charge		A type of charge (charging parameter) included in network tariff structures. This charge accounts for the actual demand a customer places on the electricity network. Different parameters apply to this charged depending on the different tariffs.
Demand tariff		The tariff has been structured to include a demand component so the customer's actual demand is reflected in the price they pay for their electricity.
Designated Pricing Proposal Charge	DPPC	Refers to the charges incurred for use of the transmission network; previously referred to as Transmission Use of System (TUOS).
Distribution Use of System	DUOS	This refers to the network charges which recover the costs of providing Standard Control Services.
Energy (or usage)		The amount of electricity consumed by a customer (or all customers) over a period of time. Energy is measured in terms of watt hours (Wh), kilowatt hours (kWh), megawatt hours (MWh) or gigawatt hours (GWh).
Feed-in Tariff	FiT	The rate that is to be paid for the excess energy generated by customers and fed back into the electricity grid under the Queensland Solar Bonus Scheme. The FiT rate is

Term	Acrony m	Definition
		determined by the Queensland Government and is paid by the purchaser of the excess energy.
Fixed (or access) charge		A type of charge (charging parameter) included in network tariff structures which is levied on a fixed dollar amount per day.
High Voltage	HV	Refers to the network at 11 kV or above.
Large customer classification		As per tariff class assignment process for customers with consumption greater than 100 MWh per year.
Long Run Marginal Cost	LRMC	An estimate of the cost (long term variable investment) of augmenting the existing network to provide sufficient capacity for one additional customer to connect to the network or an additional MW of demand.
Low Voltage	LV	Refers to the sub-11 kV network
Maximum demand		The maximum demand recorded at a customer's individual meter or the maximum demand placed on the electrical distribution network system at any time or at a specific time or within a specific time period, such as a month. Maximum demand is an indication of the capacity required for a customer's connection or the electrical distribution network.
National Metering Identifier	NMI	A unique number assigned to each metering installation.
Network capacity		The maximum demand (kW) that the distribution network can provide for at any one time.
Network Coupling Point	NCP	The point at which connection assets join a distribution network, used to identify the distribution service price payable by a customer.
Network Tariff Code	NTC	Energex's nominated code that represents the network tariff being charged to customers for network services.
Network Use of System	NUOS	The tariff for use of the distribution and transmission networks. It is the sum of both Distribution Use of System (DUOS) and DPPC.
Non-demand tariff		The tariff is based around a fixed daily component and the actual usage (or energy), expressed in kWh, used by the customer.
Power factor		Power factor is the ratio of kW to kVA, and is a useful measure of the efficiency in the use of the network infrastructure. The closer the power factor is to one (1), the more efficiently the network assets are utilised. Power factor = kW / kVA
Public lights - Major		Lamps in common use for major road lighting including: High Pressure Sodium 100 watt and above Metal Halide 100 watt and above Mercury Vapour 250 watt and above, and Light Emitting Diode 36 watt and above.
Public lights - Minor		All lamps in common use for minor road lighting, including: High Pressure Sodium below 100 watt Metal Halide below 100 watt Mercury Vapour below 250 watt, and Light Emitting Diode below 36 watt.
Queensland Government Solar Bonus Scheme	SBS FiT	A program that pays residential and other small energy customers for the surplus electricity generated from roof-top solar photovoltaic (PV) systems that is exported to the Queensland electricity grid.

Term	Acrony m	Definition
Regulatory depreciation		Also referred to as the return of capital – the sum of the (negative) straight–line depreciation and the (positive) annual inflation effect on the opening regulatory asset base (RAB).
Service Target Performance Incentive Scheme	STPIS	A scheme developed and published by the AER in accordance with clause 6.6.2 of the NER, that provides incentives (that may include targets) for DNSPs (including Energex) to maintain and improve network performance.
Side constraint		A side constraint is an upper limit on price increases applied at the tariff class level for SCS and is calculated in accordance with clause 6.18.6 of the NER and the AER Determination Decision. The purpose of a side constraint is to mitigate the impact of prices on customers from one year to the next within a regulatory control period.
Site-specific charge		This charge is calculated for a site and is specific to the individual connection point.
Small customer classification		As per tariff class assignment process for customers with consumption less than 100 MWh per year.
Smart meter		Digital, interval and advanced Type 1-4 meters. Meters capable of measuring electricity usage in specific time intervals and enabling tariffs that can vary by time of day.
Solar Photovoltaic	Solar PV	A system that uses sunlight to generate electricity for residential use. The system provides power for the premises with any excess production feeding into the electricity grid.
Standard Control Service	SCS	Distribution services that are central to electricity supply and therefore relied on by most (if not all) customers. This service classification includes network services (e.g. construction, maintenance and repair of the network), basic connection services and Type 7 metering services (i.e. unmetered connections such as traffic lights).
Tariff		The set of charges applied to a customer in the respective billing period. A tariff consists of one or more charging parameters that comprise the total tariff rate.
Time-of-use	ToU	A type of network tariff where the price per kWh varies according to when the consumption occurs. The TOU tariff may apply a different price during peak, shoulder and off-peak periods.
Total annual revenue	TAR	Refer to AER, Final Decision Energex determination 2020 to 2025, Attachment 13 – Control Mechanism, June 2020.
Transmission Use of System charge	TUOS	Superseded terminology for DPPC which are charges incurred for use of the transmission network.
Unmetered supply		A customer who takes supply where no meter is installed at the connection point.
Usage or Volume charge		A type of charge (charging parameter) included in network tariff structures which is calculated using the customer's metered energy (kWh) consumption. It may be based on a flat rate, an inclining block or TOU charging structure (depending on the customer's applicable network tariff). This part of the tariff seeks to reflect costs not directly allocated to network drivers and costs that are proportional to the size of the customer.
X Factor		Under the CPI – X form, prices or allowed revenues are adjusted annually for inflation (CPI) less an adjustment factor 'X'. The X Factor represents the change in real prices or revenues each year, so the DNSP can recover the costs that it expects to incur over the regulatory control period.

Attachment 1 - 2023-24 Network Price List

Refer to attached network prices list for 2023-24.

Attachment 2 - 2024-25 Indicative Pricing Schedule

Refer to attached Indicative pricing schedule for 2024-25.

Attachment 3 - 2023-24 annual SCS pricing model

Refer to attached compliance model.

Attachment 4 - 2023-24 annual ACS pricing model

Refer to attached compliance model.