



We are independent. Our complaint resolution service is free, fair and easy to use. If we can't help you, we will tell you about someone who can.

Solar feed-In Tariffs

If you own a solar photovoltaic (PV) system that is connected to the electricity grid, you may be able to sell the extra electricity it generates to the grid.

The payment you get for your extra electricity when you sell it to the grid is called a solar feed-in tariff.

Types of solar feed-in tariff

There are two types of solar feed-in tariffs:

- the distributor feed-in tariff – available for eligible solar PV systems that were connected to the grid before 30 September 2011
- the retailer feed-in tariff – available to anyone with an eligible solar PV system.

Customers who receive – or who used to receive – the distributor feed-in tariff can also negotiate a retailer feed-in tariff directly with their provider.

Distributor feed-in tariff

The distributor feed-in tariff is also known as the solar feed-in scheme. It is a fixed tariff.

For customers who were approved for connection between 1 September 2008 and 31 August 2010 it is 44 cents per kWh.

For customers who were approved for connection between 1 September 2010 and 30 September 2011 it is still 44 cents per kWh but it is capped at the first 45kWh their system exports each day.

These payments are made by the electricity distributor and credited to the customer's electricity bills by their provider.

Eligibility

Customers who receive the distributor feed-in tariff will continue to receive it until 30 June 2028 – if their eligibility does not change.

Your eligibility will change if you change your system. For example, if you add battery storage or a renewable generator that is connected to the grid, you will not be eligible for this tariff.

This is because it's not possible to distinguish between the electricity fed into the grid from the solar PV system and a storage device or generator.

Your eligibility may also change if you:

- demolish the existing home and build a new home
- subdivide land
- change or replace any part of your system or meter
- alter your connection to the grid in any other way.

Before you make any changes, check with SA Power Networks. Call [1300 665 913](tel:1300665913) or email seg@sapowernetworks.com.au.

Retailer feed-in tariff

The retailer feed-in tariff is a variable amount paid by energy providers.

It changes depending on the provider and what is happening in the electricity market.

Payments are paid by the electricity provider – and are credited to the customer's electricity bills by their provider.

Getting a good deal

To get the best feed-in tariff rate for you:

- shop around
- negotiate with your energy provider.

A provider's offer is likely to include:

- a daily fixed charge for being connected to the network
- an electricity usage charge
- any discounts to the fixed or usage charges
- the feed-in tariff for electricity exported to the electricity grid.

Make sure you consider the whole offer. An offer with a good feed-in tariff may have higher fixed charges or less usage discounts.

The Essential Services Commission of South Australia (ESCOSA) monitors all offers. All providers must show how their offers benefit solar customers.

Eligibility

Your household, business, community building or church may be eligible for a retail feed-in tariff if:

- it has an eligible solar PV system
- it uses less than 160 megawatt hours (MWh) of electricity a year – the average household uses less than 10MWh a year.

The solar PV system must:

- meet relevant Australian safety standards – all accredited installers must meet this requirement
- be connected to the electricity grid through an import/export meter
- have a maximum output of 10kVA for homes with single phase or 30kVA for homes with three-phase electricity – you should check this with your installer.

Switching providers

Not all providers offer contracts for solar customers. Before switching providers, check:

- the new provider knows you have a solar PV system
- is willing to accept you as a customer.

For more information:

- read our fact sheet: *Energy contracts; how to choose*
- compare plans on the Australian Energy Regulator's Energy Made Easy website at www.energymadeeasy.gov.au.

Living at a rental property

All feed-in tariff payments are paid to the account holder:

- If the account is in your landlord's name, the payments will be credited to the landlord.
- If the account is in the tenant's name, the payments will be credited to the tenant.

Moving house

When you move house, you cannot take your tariff payments with you. They belong to the address of the solar PV system. They will be available to the new occupant if they meet the eligibility criteria.

If you move to an address with a solar PV system, ask your provider what distributor or retail feed-in tariffs apply.

Check when the system was installed by contacting SA Power Networks on 1300 665 913 or seq@sapowernetworks.com.au