

Essential News

Latest news from the Essential Services Commission
January 2025

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Welcome to Essential News, your regular update on key decisions, releases and events from the Essential Services Commission.



Origin pays \$1.597M in penalties for failing to comply with family violence provisions

Origin Energy companies have paid penalty notices totalling \$1,597,668 for alleged breaches of family violence provisions in Victoria's energy rules.

Victoria has some of the nation's strongest protections for utility customers affected by family violence. They prohibit retailers from disclosing the customer's information to third parties without consent and require them to consider the potential impact of debt recovery on those customers.

[Learn more →](#)



Accident towing fees review 2025

We released our draft report on accident towing fees, proposing no change to the current fee structures for towing and storing vehicles damaged in road accidents.

The draft report finds regulated accident towing and storage fees for the Melbourne controlled area are appropriate and broadly in line with regulated fees in Sydney, Adelaide and Queensland, and should only be increased in line with the current indexation arrangements.

We invite any party with an interest in accident towing and storage fees to make a submission about the draft report on [Engage Victoria](#) before 5 March 2025.

[Make a submission](#) →



Minimum feed-in tariff review 2025-26

We released our draft decision on the minimum feed-in tariffs to apply from 1 July 2025 until 30 June 2026.

The proposed minimum flat feed-in tariff is 0.04 cents per kWh while two time-varying feed-in tariffs range from 0.0 to 7.5 cents per kWh.

The draft decision is open for consultation on [Engage Victoria](#) until 31 January 2025.

[Find out more](#) →

Your consumer rights and the support available to you



Learn about your rights as a consumer in the sectors we regulate, including electricity and gas, local government, water, transport and the Victorian Energy Upgrades program.

[Find out more →](#)

Consultation

We're currently seeking feedback on the following:

- [Minimum feed-in tariff review 2025-26](#) - consultation closes 31 January 2025
- [Equis Energy_\(Australia\)_Projects_\(MREH A1 AssetCo\) Pty Ltd](#) - application for electricity generation licence - consultation closes 13 February 2025
- [Perpetual Energy Pty Ltd - application for gas retail licence](#) - consultation closes 20 February 2025
- [Accident towing fees review 2025](#) - consultation closes 5 March 2025

[View all current consultations →](#)

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