Maximum prices for embedded networks and other exempt sellers

Submission received via Engage Victoria on our draft decision on maximum prices for embedded networks and other exempt sellers

Date submitted: 8 May 2020

Submission prepared by: Anonymous

Do you have any comments on the commission’s draft decision?

In response to the review, I wish to make the following comments.

- It is a very poor response that only 34 submissions were received on such an important issue. I only knew of it because of a newspaper article. In particular it is a pity that you did not do a letter drop or email to Caravan Park and Retirement Village residents, whom I am sure would have provided much more input to the review.
- I applaud the move to regulate the supply and usage charges to the Victorian Default Offer, as it will save customers a small sum of money each year.
- The issue of Caravan Parks who have Annual tenants (those who are only allowed to use their sites for a maximum of 180 days per annum) was not addressed at all. Apartments and retirement villages have 365 days use.
- The potential for Caravan Park and Retirement Village operators, etc. to charge the MAXIMUM electricity fees and potentially “price gouge” customers has not been investigated. Several other submissions also raised this issue. There should be a mechanism in place to allow for this issue to be monitored.
- My investigations reveal few, if any, operators who charge customers LESS than the maximum price for electricity.

Please reconsider these issues, particularly the issue of potential price gouging.

Thank you