

Victorian Default Offer 2025-26

Submission received via Engage Victoria on our Victorian Default Offer 2025-26 Draft Decision Paper

Submission prepared by:

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Organisation:

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Email

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I have read and agree to the above submissions and privacy collection statement.

Yes

Please confirm which one of the following applies to your submission:

I agree to my submission (other than the information I have identified as confidential or commercially sensitive (if relevant)) being published, but please do not publish my name.

Date submitted:

02 April 2025

Your views on our draft decision

I am writing to recommend that the Victorian Default Offer (VDO) be expanded to include a Default Feed-In Tariff (DFIT) for households and businesses that export solar energy to the grid.

Currently, while the VDO provides a standard reference price for electricity consumption, there is no widely recognised equivalent benchmark for feed-in tariffs. Although the Essential Services Commission (ESC) sets a minimum feed-in tariff, this is not well known to many consumers and is often difficult to locate or understand when comparing energy offers. Feed-in rates vary significantly across retailers, which makes it difficult for solar customers to assess which plans provide the best value for their circumstances. Introducing a DFIT as part of the VDO would

provide a clear and transparent reference point, helping consumers more easily compare plans and make informed decisions about their energy supply.

A Default Feed-In Tariff would also support fairness and equity in the energy market by ensuring that households and businesses with solar installations receive a consistent and reasonable level of compensation for the electricity they export. Many consumers have invested in solar systems with the expectation of reducing their energy costs and contributing to Victoria's clean energy transition. A clearly defined DFIT would strengthen this investment and build confidence in the energy market.

Importantly, establishing a DFIT may also increase competition between retailers. With a public benchmark in place, providers would have a strong incentive to offer feed-in tariffs above the default rate to attract and retain customers. This could lead to better outcomes for consumers and contribute to the continued growth of household solar, which is essential for achieving Victoria's renewable energy and emissions reduction targets.

For these reasons, I believe a Default Feed-In Tariff should be included in the Victorian Default Offer framework. It would improve transparency, promote fairness, and support greater consumer participation in the clean energy transition.