

Have your say on accident towing and storage fees

How much you pay in storage fees after an accident would increase but towing fees would stay the same under draft recommendations from the state's economic regulator of essential services.

Every few years the Essential Services Commission conducts a review of accident towing and storage fees, making recommendations to the Minister for Roads about whether the regulated fees* should change.

The commission's head of price monitoring and regulation Marcus Crudden says the draft report recommends increasing storage fees but leaving towing fees at current levels.

"Our analysis shows storage costs for vehicles damaged in an accident are much lower than similar fees for trade towing and impounding which is basically the same service so we're proposing they be brought into line," he said.

The commission is recommending no changes for regulated accident towing fees.

Mr Crudden says accident storage fees have increased in line with industry costs for the last 10 years.

"Over that time, the costs of providing storage services however appear to have increased at a faster rate than broader transport costs," he said.

Anyone who is interested can now have their say on the recommendations before a final report goes to the minister later in the year. You can go to:

- our website for further information www.esc.vic.gov.au
- or lodge a submission via Engage Victoria engage.vic.gov.au/accident-towing-review
- or email towtruckreview@esc.vic.gov.au

Submissions on this draft report close on 26 September 2018.

*Accident towing and storage charges are the only regulated towing fees in Victoria. Unregulated trade towing and storage services include clearway, impound and breakdown towing jobs.

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