Fact Sheet

Electrifying your home

We're helping Victorians to electrify their homes and enjoy the benefits of solar, batteries and electric vehicles.

Rooftop solar

If you're ready to join the thousands of Victorian households reducing their bills and environmental footprint with solar, we are here to support your journey.

The greatest benefits from rooftop solar can come from generating the electricity you need to power your home. If your solar system generates more than you can use, then the extra power can be exported into our network and shared with your community.

We have a role to play at various steps in your solar installation journey:

- **Check your export pre-approval:** Your installer will apply for an assessment of how much unused solar your home can export via our eConnect online service. This considers the capacity of our network in your area to accept extra power from your system. Your application will be answered the same day; usually within minutes.
- **Get an approved inverter:** The inverter converts your solar energy into power you can use in your home. It's important to select an inverter that is approved to connect to our networks.
- **We'll check commissioning:** Your solar installer will need to install the solar system in a way that complies with our technical standards and meets government requirements. You will need to provide an internet connection if you want to export your unused solar generation to the network.
- **We'll register your new connection:** Once we've confirmed the system has been installed correctly and received a Certificate of Electrical Safety from your installer, then we'll notify your energy retailer. Your energy retailer (the company that sends your electricity bill) will work with you directly to agree the feed-in tariff you are entitled to be paid for the kilowatts you export.

Why is an internet connection important?

Ensuring your smart inverter is internet connected enables:

- access to virtual power plants, community batteries and flexible export services
- changes to settings to the inverter to be made quickly and easily remotely
- action to be taken to temporarily stop exports from your system if there is excess energy already in our networks. This safety measure helps to keep power reliable for you and your neighbours.

Home batteries

Are you producing more solar than you can use during the day? Or keen to power your home with renewable energy day and night? A home battery can be a great option.

A home battery can be charged during the day when solar power is plentiful and then provide the power you need at night. It can also help reduce your electricity bills if you charge the battery when power is cheaper, like in the middle of the day.

Your battery installation will be registered with us by your installer. We are required to keep a record of all consumer energy resources like solar and batteries that are on our network. It helps us to plan for the generation and storage capacity on our network.

CitiPower

Electric vehicles (EVs)

Quiet, clean and capable – a new generation of electrifying cars are transforming the streets. But before you leave petrol in the rear-view mirror, there are a few things to consider.

There are three main ways to charge an EV at home:

- **Trickle charging:** A good option for drivers that don't need to cover a lot of kilometres. A typical 2.3kW trickle charger that connects to a common power point can provide up to 15kms of range for every hour of charging.
- **Home EV charger (7kW):** Typically installed on the wall of a garage or carport, these chargers commonly provide up to 40kms of range per hour. These chargers must be installed by a registered electrical contractor.
- **Home EV charger (22kW):** Like the 7kW home chargers, these points are usually installed in a garage or carport. They can provide up to 130kms of range per hour and must be installed by a registered electrical contractor. This type of fast charger may require an upgrade to your home's electrical connection.

Some homes may need upgrades to their power supply so they can manage the higher electrical load associated with EV charging.

Smart energy use

You don't need to install solar panels or a battery to benefit from abundant, low-cost renewable electricity or to reduce your home's environmental footprint.

Electrifying homes

All-electric homes are sustainable, efficient and cost-effective. To make sure electric heating, cooling, cooking and water heating runs smoothly, we recommend you check the capacity of your home's electricity supply.

Going all-electric will add extra load, so book an inspection with a registered electrical contractor (REC) before you invest in new electric appliances.

If upgrades are required, we can help – contact us to determine costs and discuss your plan for the improvements.

Reduce your bill with time-of-use tariffs

Renewable energy from large solar and wind farms or hydro generators is distributed to your home through our network.

Do your bit to use all the renewable energy when it's plentiful and affordable by thinking about when you use power. For example, solar power is abundant in the middle of the day. This offers opportunities to:

- Run washing machines, dishwashers and other appliances during the middle of the day
- Charge home batteries with abundant, affordable daytime energy, and discharge the battery in the evening peak hours when power prices are higher
- Shift hot water services to operate during the day, instead of the middle of the night.

You can also save money by switching to a time-of-use tariff through your electricity retailer.

Embrace energy efficiency

One of the simplest ways to help reduce carbon emissions from energy is to just use less energy. Small changes can make a difference and reduce your power bill.

For example, did you know that a one-degree temperature change on your heater or cooler can reduce energy use by 10 percent? Aim for around 25 degrees on your air conditioner during summer, or 20 degrees for heaters during winter. Then close blinds and shut doors to keep hot or cold air in.

Choose energy efficient light globes and when replacing appliances, have a look at the Energy Rating labels on major appliances like televisions, dishwashers and fridges. The 5-Star efficiency rating helps compare different models by how much energy the appliances will consume in a year.

Track your energy usage

Sign up to myEnergy on the CitiPower website to track your energy usage. It can help you learn which appliances are using the most energy.

While you're there, also choose your preferences for how you'd like to be notified for any correspondence from us.

myenergy.powercor.com.au

For more information:

citipower.com.au
1300 301 101
info@citipower.com.au

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