

# BRIEFING TO INDUSTRY BODIES.

For distribution to members:

1. MBA: Michael Hopkins
2. HIA: Greg Weller
3. NECA: Robert Donnelly
4. Energy Consumer Reference Council
5. Property Council of Australia

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# General Communication

## Power of Choice Implementation

The Power of Choice (PoC) reforms introduced by the Australian Energy Regulator from 1 December 2017 are now in full swing with the installation of all meters applied for through Evoenergy prior to 30 November 2017 to be completed by the end of March 2018.

All new metering and meter alteration requests are now made direct to retailers. A request for service (RFS) is still needed for all works that will be completed by Evoenergy for example running a service cable, or where a Greenfield site is being established. This allows Evoenergy to register the new site so your client's retailer can complete metering installation requirements.

## Solar Installations

Aligned with PoC there are some changes to solar installs. If you're installing a solar system for a client, the special connection request (SCR) application is still submitted to Evoenergy for approval to connect to the electricity network. A reminder that solar systems with a nominal output of 5kw or greater will require 3 phase metering. Please note Evoenergy no longer reprograms meters for solar installs, your client's retailer should be contacted to coordinate the installation of a new meter where one is required.

## Temporary Isolations of Service

From 1 July 2018 Evoenergy will charge for temporary isolation of standard residential service (or similar installations) requested by customers. This will impact jobs where Evoenergy attend in the morning to isolate (de-energise) and then re-attend in the afternoon to re-energise the service. These charges are included in our Schedule of Electricity Network Charges available on our website under Evoenergy Electricity Network Prices 2017-18 (charge codes 501 and 503)

If you have any questions about these changes please email [networkservicing@evoenergy.com.au](mailto:networkservicing@evoenergy.com.au) or call us on 132 386.

## Charges and Payments Updates

**BPAY:** Evoenergy is working to make payments simpler with BPay allowing you to make payments online. You will start receiving an invoice for charges associated with basic connection work you request including a BPay option.

**A Cashless Depot:** BPay will help us move towards being cashless with payments of cash and cheques being phased out at Greenway over the coming six months.

## **Media Release - Evoenergy successfully trials multiple demand management initiatives**

The ACT electricity network owner, Evoenergy, has conducted the largest and most comprehensive demand management (DM) trials in Australia.

DM will play a key role in the future of modern electricity networks by helping to maintain grid security and optimise network investment.

Branch Manager Asset and Network Performance Leylann Hinch said seven trials have been conducted during the past six months, producing some strong results and valuable learnings.

“Our more comprehensive trial tested all three DM techniques simultaneously.

“This involved three different community groupings: Local residents moderating their electricity use in response to SMS text requests; contracted commercial customers curtailing load or switching to alternative power; and people with PV solar battery systems being part of a virtual power plant (VPP) dispatching renewable electricity into the grid.

“We have customers who own PV solar/battery systems connected to the ACT electricity network. We grouped more than 400 of those batteries into a virtual power plant, (VPP) and remotely controlled the VPP to dispatch stored electricity back into the network.

“This was Australia’s largest VPP of residential solar battery systems. It was also unique to involve simultaneously engaging with three different technology providers – Reposit Power, Evergen and ActewAGL.

“We have large customers who have embedded generation or have the option to cut their load through different pre-arranged strategies, who took a significant load off the network. For example, one large customer has gas generators, which supplied their sites rather than taking electricity from the network.

“And at the residential level we have individuals signed up to our SMS Program. They were sent a text asking them to reduce their demand.

“The combined actions of residents successfully registered on our network control system. While it was a small impact, it demonstrated the potential for individual residents to make a significant contribution.

“We are now very confident that when scaled up, Evoenergy will be able to operate a modern network that is safe, reliable and efficient, while accommodating short term peaks as well as increasing embedded generation, two-way energy flows and urban growth,” said Leylann.

By 2020 the ACT will have solar energy storage systems in more than 5,000 dwellings, capable of generating up to 36MW or 5% of the ACT’s peak load.

“This would be double the amount of load we curtailed with the support of the community which prevented load shedding during the heatwave crisis in summer 2017.

“On the afternoon of 10 February, when the heatwave rolled through, our peak demand was about 637MW. We were able to curtail about 18MW which ensured we didn’t hit the 650MW mark, which would have been very high demand on that day.

“We avoided load shedding then by going out to our major customers and the public requesting them to reduce consumption, but we don’t believe it’s best practice to do this reactively during an emergency as the result is uncertain.

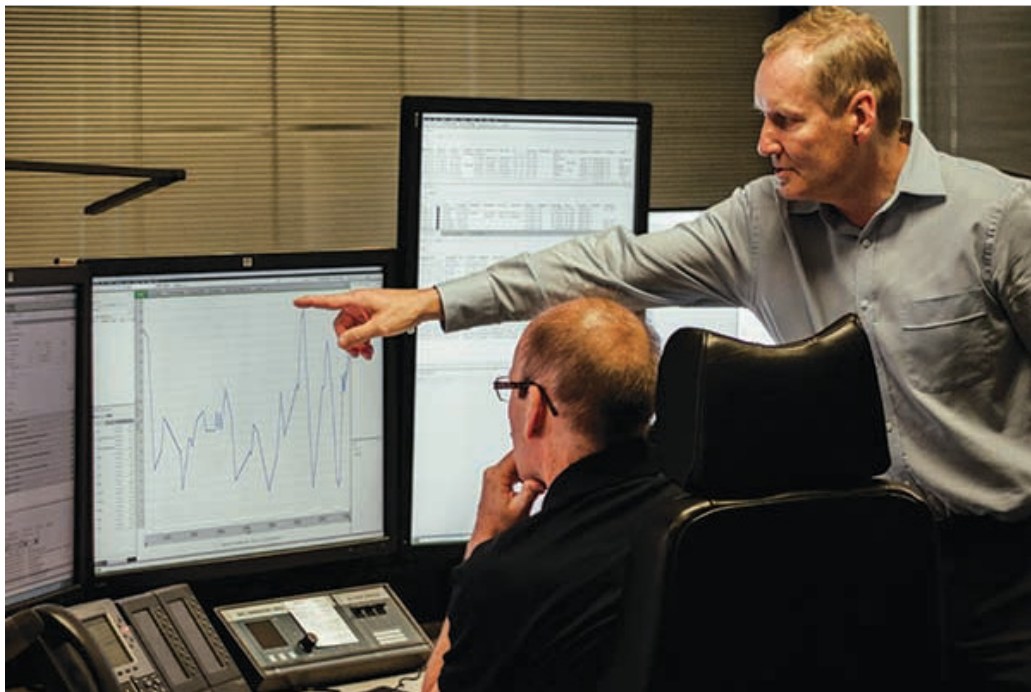
“Our DM trials have proven the concept that when our Demand Management Program is scaled up we will be able to avoid load shedding in almost all circumstances.

“Through our DM Program we are future-proofing the network by having programs and strategies already in place with large and small customers to respond at a moment’s notice and reduce the impact on the wider community.

“Evoenergy has one of the most reliable electricity networks in the country and DM is a really important tool to help maintain our quality of service,” said Leylann.

**Photo captions:**

1. Leylann Hinch, Branch Manager Asset and Network Performance, monitors the ACT network’s load with Controller Dave Ballard during the Demand Management trial at Evoenergy on 7 February 2018. Photo credit: Sophie Burmester.



2. A Canberra resident receives Evoenergy's SMS text to participate in the Demand Management trial.



## Evoenergy Key Contacts

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