

# Expression of Interest – Dynamic Business Tariff Trial (Trial)

Ergon Energy Network is commencing the next phase of its innovative tariff reform program through the Dynamic Business Tariff Trial. This initiative builds on the success of the Dynamic Price Storage Tariff Trial conducted over FY25 and FY26, which used Critical Peak Pricing (CPP) signals to influence battery behaviour during periods of network stress. The earlier trial demonstrated how dynamic tariffs can support peak demand reduction and solar energy absorption.

In response to growing interest in flexible, future-ready energy solutions, the earlier trial is now being expanded to include hybrid customers—sites that combine battery storage with on-site generation (e.g., solar PV) or controllable load. This expansion aims to assess whether hybrid systems can deliver comparable network benefits to storage-only sites, while enabling broader participation and supporting innovative tariff design.

## Why expand to hybrid sites?

- The previous trial focused exclusively on storage-only sites.
- Hybrid customers are increasingly seeking access, reflecting broader trends in Distributed Energy Resource (**DER**) integration.
- The expansion allows assessment of whether hybrid systems can deliver network benefits like those of storage-only configurations.

# Benefits of including hybrid systems

- Broadens participation by trialling tariffs with a wider customer base than just storage-only sites.
- Ensures capable DER owners are not excluded from tariff innovation.
- Supports peak demand management and improves solar energy absorption.
- Enables more flexible and innovative tariff product offerings.

# **Purpose of the Trial**

The Dynamic Business Tariff Trial (**Trial**) aims to evaluate the feasibility and impact of extending dynamic network tariffs to hybrid sites. It will assess whether hybrid systems can deliver benefits such as:

- Peak demand reduction
- Enhanced solar absorption
- Greater DER flexibility

Insights from the Trial will inform future tariff design, ensuring equitable access for DER owners, maintaining network reliability, and supporting Queensland's transition to a smarter, more sustainable energy future.

# **Objectives of the Trial**

- Validate whether hybrid sites achieve comparable outcomes to storage-only sites in terms of peak demand reduction and solar absorption.
- Review eligibility criteria, metering configurations, and billing logic for hybrid participation.
- Monitor customer responses to dynamic price signals and compliance with Trial conditions.
- Develop safeguards to detect and prevent misuse (e.g., import/export imbalances).
- Quantify potential increases in customer adoption and retailer engagement.
- Generate insights to support full-scale rollout and integration of hybrid DER into dynamic tariff frameworks.

# Participant eligibility

To participate in the Trial, you must meet the following criteria:

- Be classified (or become classified) as a Standard Asset Customer (SAC) or Connection Asset Customer (CAC), with an export capacity greater than 30 kW.
- Your site must include:
  - battery storage and
  - o either:
    - on-site generation (e.g., solar PV) or
    - acontrollable load.
- Provide a letter of support from your current or proposed electricity retailer (Retailer), confirming its willingness to:
  - develop a suitable retail version of the Trial Tariff;
  - o participate in the Trial's data sharing requirements, and
  - o facilitate your overall involvement in the Trial.

Note: This retailer support requirement does not apply if you are the Financially Responsible Market Participant (FRMP) for the connection point at the site.

Ergon Energy Network reserves the right to include or exclude any customer in or from the Trial at its absolute discretion.

## Interested in joining the Trial?

Help unlock the full potential of hybrid energy systems by participating in the Dynamic Business Tariff Trial.

To express your interest:

- Complete and return the attached application form.
- If applicable, include a letter of support from your Retailer.

Once your application is received, Ergon Energy Network will review the information to assess your site's suitability for the Trial.

## What happens next?

If your site meets the initial criteria, Ergon Energy Network will:

- discuss how the Dynamic Business Tariff would apply to your site, including potential impacts on your network bill; and
- provide a formal offer to participate in the Trial.

# Network tariffs for the Dynamic Business Tariff Trial

Ergon Energy Network will be submitting notifications to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) to implement two new trial tariffs under the Dynamic Business Tariff Trial:

- Dynamic Business Low Voltage
- Dynamic Business High Voltage.

Customers can view the submitted notifications at <u>Tariff trials | Australian Energy</u> Regulator (AER) post February 2026.

# **Key features of the Dynamic Business Trial Tariffs**

Both the Low and High Voltage Dynamic Business Trial Tariffs include the following components:

- Fixed Daily Fee (\$/day).
- Volume Peak Energy Charge (\$/kWh)
  - Applies to all energy consumed on weekdays between the hours of 5pm to 8pm.
  - No peak charge applies on weekends.
- CPP Import Charge (\$/kWh)
  - Applies to imports during notified Critical Peak Import periods.
- CPP Export Charge (\$/kWh)
  - Applies to exports above 1.5kW during notified Critical Peak Export periods.
- CPP Export Reward (\$/kWh)
  - Applies to exports during notified Critical Peak Reward periods.
- Note: CPPs are calculated for each individual 30-minute interval.
- Off-Peak Demand Charge (\$/kVA/month)
  - Based on the highest 30-minute kVA demand during the month.
  - Applies between 11am and 1pm on both weekdays and weekends.
- Shoulder Demand Charge (\$/kVA/month)
  - Based on the highest 30-minute kVA demand during the month.
  - Applies during the following periods:
    - Weekdays: Midnight to 11am, 1pm to 5pm and 8pm to midnight.
    - Weekends: Midnight to 11am, 1pm to midnight.

# Additional element for High Voltage Tariff

The Dynamic Business (High Voltage) tariff also includes:

Fixed Connection Unit Charge (\$/unit/day).

Tariff structure Ergon Network Dynamic Business trial tariff (LV&HV)

NUOS		Network Access		Network Energy				Network Demand	
Tariff	NTC	Fixed Charge	Connection Unit Charge	Volume Peak Charge	Critical Peak Period Import Charge	Critical Peak Period Export Charge	Critical Peak Period Export Reward	Off-Peak Demand Charge kVA	Shoulder Demand Charge kVA
		\$/day	\$/unit/day	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kWh	\$/kVA/ month	\$/kVA/ month
Dynamic Business LV	TBA	<b>√</b>		✓	✓	✓	✓	<b>√</b>	✓
Dynamic Business HV	TBA	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>

## **During the Trial**

- The trial will be delivered in collaboration by Ergon Energy Network, in collaboration with participating customers (**Participants**), and their electricity Retailers (where relevant).
- The trial is scheduled to commence on 1 July 2026 and conclude by 30 June 2027. However, Ergon Energy Network may choose to extend or conclude the Trial earlier, by giving reasonable notice to Participants.
- If the Trial is extended, the Dynamic Business Tariff (or specific components of it) may be amended. Any changes will be communicated to Participants by giving reasonable notice.
- Participants and their Retailers will be required to:
  - o share relevant metering data, and
  - o participate in surveys or other forms of data collection.

This information will be used to evaluate the performance of the Trial Tariffs and generate insights to support the development of a final tariff design, which may be submitted to the AER for potential implementation from mid-2030.

 Any confidential information provided for the purposes of the trial will be handled securely and will not be used or disclosed for any other purpose.

### At the end of the Trial

Once the Trial concludes, the Dynamic Business Trial Tariff will no longer be available. At that point, your Retailer will be responsible for advising which eligible standard network tariff will apply to your site moving forward.

For more information or assistance, please contact: tarifftrials@energyq.com.au.

# **Dynamic Business Tariff Trial – Terms and Conditions**

# 1 Commencement of participation

Your participation in the Trial will begin once your application has been accepted by Ergon Energy Network.

## 2 Automatic termination

Ergon Energy Network may immediately cancel your participation in the Trial by notice in writing to you and your Retailer if:

- a) your connection changes and you no longer qualify as a hybrid customer;
  or
- b) you no longer meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the Expression of Interest (EOI), and, where this occurs, your Retailer must nominate an eligible standard network tariff to apply from the date of termination.

# 3 Changes to the Trial

Ergon Energy Network may, at their sole discretion by giving reasonable notice in writing to you and your Retailer:

- end the Trial early;
- extend the Trial Term; or
- cancel your participation in the Trial.

## 4 Voluntary withdrawal

You may withdraw from the Trial at any time by providing written notice, including your reason for withdrawal. Your Retailer must advise which standard network tariff will apply to your site following withdrawal. Ergon Energy Network will confirm in writing the effective date of the tariff change.

## 5 Participant engagement

You agree to participate in surveys and may be contacted by a representative of Ergon Energy Network for feedback, research, or communication purposes.

## 6 Data sharing and evaluation

You agree, and will ensure your Retailer agrees, to:

- share relevant metering data; and
- participate in surveys or other data collection activities.

This information will be used to evaluate the Trial Tariff and inform the development of a final tariff design, which may be submitted to the AER for potential implementation from mid-2030.

## 7 Access to account information

You authorise your Retailer to allow Ergon Energy Network to access your account information, including historical and future consumption data, and personal details provided in application forms and surveys. This information will be used solely for assessing Trial outcomes and supporting tariff development.

# 8 No change to connection contract

Participation in the Trial does not alter your standard connection contract with Ergon Energy Network.

# 9 Amendments to Trial processes

If necessary to support the effective operation of the Trial, Ergon Energy Network may amend Trial processes by providing written notice to you.

### 10 In-market Trial conditions

The Trial is an in-market trial, meaning the relevant Trial Tariff will be the only network tariff applied to your site while you are participating in the Trial. No compensation or adjustments will be made during or after the Trial in relation to any previous or standard network tariffs.

# 11 Participant costs

You are responsible for any costs associated with applying for or participating in the Trial.

### 12 Communications

As part of the trial, Ergon Energy Network may contact you via email, SMS, or post. You must:

- ensure all information you provide is accurate, current, and complete, and
- keep your personal details up to date.

# 13 Privacy and data use

You consent to Ergon Energy Network collecting, using, and disclosing your personal information (including to Affiliated Organisations, research partners, and external market research providers) for the purposes of conducting the trial, analysis, reporting, marketing, and related communications.

De-identified results may be shared with energy regulators, government bodies, Trial participants, and in research publications, as permitted or required by law.

For more information, refer to the Ergon Energy Network Privacy Statement.

### **Definitions**

Unless otherwise specified, the following terms have the meanings set out below:

# **Affiliated Organisations**

Includes Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (as applicable), Energy Queensland Limited (Ergon Energy Network parent company), and service providers supporting the Trial – such as marketing and advertising agencies, IT providers, metering and data service providers, and economic analysis consultants.

# **Critical Peak Period (CPP) event**

- A CPP event may apply to an import charge, export charge, or export reward.
- These events may occur individually or concurrently.
- Each type of CPP event is capped at 40 hours over the Trial term (equivalent to 80 half-hour billing periods).

- Charges are calculated by multiplying the relevant quantity (e.g. kWh) for each 30-minute interval by the applicable CPP rate.
- Participants will be notified of CPP events via email, including the time, date, duration, and location of the event.
- CPP events may be called to test Participant notification and response processes. Best efforts will be made to provide day-ahead notice, though some events may be non-priced for testing purposes.
- The CPP notification process will be refined in collaboration with Trial participants throughout the Trial.

**Customer** means the electricity account holder for the supply of electricity to a Site.

# **Ergon Energy Network**

Refers to Ergon Energy Corporation Limited (ABN 50 087 646 062), including its employees, contractors, and agents.

### **EOI**

Refers to this Expression of Interest document.

# **Financially Responsible Market Participant (FRMP)**

Has the meaning given in the National Electricity Rules.

## Participant, you or your

Refers to the Customer at the Site who agrees to participate in the Trial.

#### Retailer

Refers to the retailer (as defined in the *Electricity Act 1994* (Qld)) that has agreed to permit the Participant to participate in the Trial.

### Site

The physical location of the property nominated by the Participant to participate in the Trial.

## Trial

Refers to the Dynamic Business Tariff Trial conducted by Ergon Energy Network.

### **Trial Tariff**

The Dynamic Business Trial Tariff described in this EOI.

## **Trial Term**

The period from 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2027, as may be varied in accordance with clause 3 of these Terms and Conditions.