

20 November 2018



WHAT

Each year IPART recommends a 'fair and reasonable' benchmark range for solar-feed-in tariffs.

In June 2018, we released our final report on the benchmark range for the 2018-19. We set an all-day benchmark range of **6.9 to 8.4 cents per kilowatt hour (c/kWh)**.

We plan to release our benchmark ranges for 2019-20 in **April 2019**.

We are releasing the benchmark earlier in 2019 in response to stakeholders who wanted more time to consider the benchmarks before choosing a new energy plan.



WHY

We update the benchmark range each year to take account of the latest wholesale market conditions. The value of exported solar electricity depends mainly on how much retailers save from buying wholesale electricity in the market. This means solar feed-in tariffs will go up and down with changes in the wholesale electricity price.



WHO

Our recommended benchmark range for solar feed-in tariffs is a guide for electricity retailers and residential and small business customers in NSW who have, or are planning to install, solar panels.



HOW

We are required to set a benchmark range for feed-in tariffs that will not lead to increased electricity prices or require any additional funding from the NSW State Budget. Therefore the solar feed-in benchmark tariff reflects what retailers would pay for customers' solar power if this electricity were sold into the wholesale market.

We will continue to use the same methodology as we used for the 2018-19 benchmarks. We will calculate the 40 day average of ASX baseload electricity forward contract prices as at 15 March 2019.



WHAT NEXT

Our benchmark solar feed-in tariffs will be published in April 2019.

Like last year, we will publish an all-day benchmark range and time-dependant benchmarks as an indication of the value of solar exports at different times of the day.

For more information on our methodology, see:

<https://www.ipart.nsw.gov.au/Home/Industries/Energy/Reviews/Electricity/Solar-feed-in-tariffs-201819>