

Time-of-day solar feed-in tariff benchmarks for 2025-26

26 May 2025

We have set time-of-day benchmarks for each distribution network in NSW

IPART publishes time-of-day feed-in tariff benchmarks to guide consumers about the value of their solar exports at different times of the day. We set a different time-of-day benchmark for each distribution network in NSW. Our benchmarks for 2025-26 are shown in the table below.

Your retailer may offer you a feed-in tariff within this range, however they are not required to. They may also offer you a feed-in tariff that covers different time periods. If a retailer offers a time-of-day feed-in tariff, this will typically have a lower value in daylight hours and a higher payment in the evening.

You can compare energy plans and solar feed-in tariffs on the Commonwealth Government's [Energy Made Easy](#) website. Some energy plans with higher solar feed-in tariffs may have conditions attached or be paired with higher prices. You should look at the entire plan, as well as your electricity consumption and solar exports, when considering which plan is best for you.

Time-of-day solar feed-in tariff benchmarks for 2025-26

Network time window	2025-26 benchmark range (c/kWh)
Ausgrid	
10 am to 3 pm	4.8 to 5.6
3 pm to 4 pm	9.2 to 12.6
4 pm to 9 pm	15.4 to 20.4
9 pm to 10 am	4.9 to 6.2
Endeavour Energy	
10 am to 2 pm	3.1 to 5.5
2 pm to 4 pm	9.2 to 12.6
4 pm to 8 pm	16.8 to 22
8 pm to 10 am	4.6 to 6.4
Essential Energy	
10 am to 3 pm	4.6 to 5.2
3 pm to 5 pm	10 to 11.9
5 pm to 8 pm	27.1 to 37.6
8 pm to 10 am	5.6 to 6.1

Note: the time windows for the time-of-day feed-in tariff benchmarks are aligned with network export tariff times. See page 2 for more information on network export tariffs.

We estimate that the value of solar exports can be more than 20c/kWh in the late afternoon and evening. To receive higher feed-in tariffs, you will need a battery that can store and discharge electricity and to be on an energy plan with a feed-in tariff that varies based on the time of day.

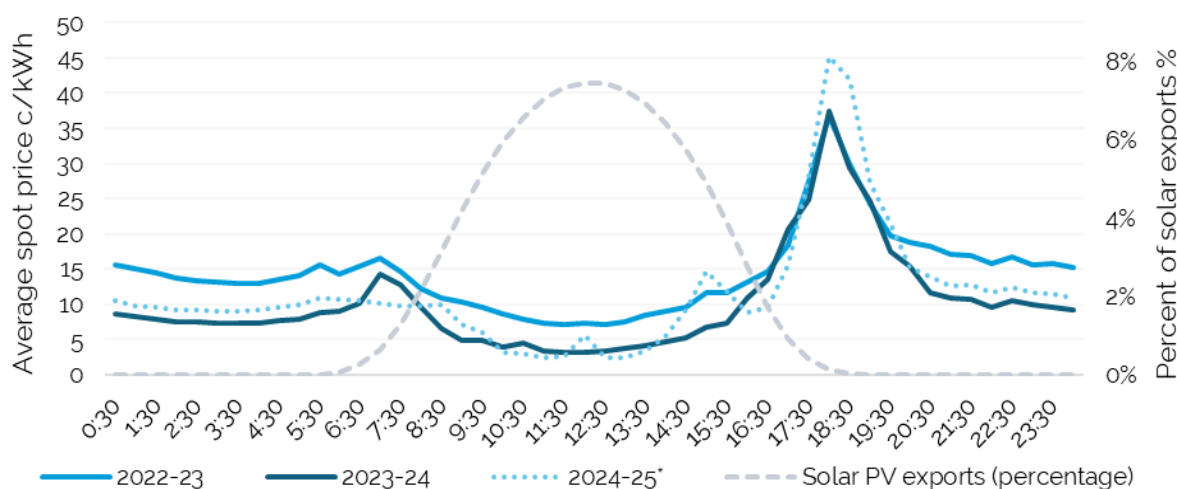
Currently, only one retailer has a feed-in tariff that varies by the time of the day; most retailers offer all-day (or flat-rate) feed-in tariffs. Some virtual power plant (VPP) programs include feed-in tariffs or other payments that vary by the time of the day. To be eligible to join a VPP, a consumer will typically need a specific type of home battery.

Our time-of-day benchmarks reflect the wholesale price at different times

We estimate the value of solar exports based on our forecast of the wholesale price of electricity at different times of the day. The chart below shows that the average wholesale price of electricity in NSW is:

- lower during the middle of the day, when solar exports meet a large share of demand
- higher in the late afternoon and at night, when the supply of solar exports is low and when the demand for electricity increases.

Average wholesale electricity price and solar exports by time of day, NSW



Notes: *Price data for 2024-25 is year-to-date from 1 July 2024 to 1 May 2025. The percent of solar exports is of all solar export by hour. Source: IPART analysis of NEM wholesale spot prices for NSW and sample Ausgrid solar exports for 2022-23 to 2023-24.

Our time-of-day benchmarks include network export charges and rebates

Our benchmarks for 2025-26 also incorporate network export tariffs. These network tariffs include:

- a charge for solar exports during certain daytime hours after a free threshold is reached
- a rebate for solar exports during peak evening times.

Each network provider has set different time periods for charges and rewards for their network export tariffs. You can find more information about each distribution network's export tariffs through the links below:

- [Ausgrid's Network Export Tariffs](#)
- [Endeavour Energy's Network Export Tariffs](#)
- [Essential Energy's Network Export Tariffs](#)