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Submission: Monitoring the retail energy markets during 2017-18:

This submission is a notification of energy retailers practices of NOT PASSING on the full price reduction benefits in particular from Ausgrid TOU (Time of Use) metering to us the public users that have these smart net meters. This is not a complaint about Ausgrid But the retailers that have not changed their rate sheets to match the new TOU and the ones that have but simply increased the rates to eliminate any savings.

You may be aware that Ausgrid has changed the TOU times slots for Winter, Spring and Fall effective July 2 2018. See this link for the details; <https://ausgrid.com.au/Common/Customer-Services/Homes/Meters/How-meters-are-read/Time-of-use-pricing.aspx>

This has resulted in the peak Kwh rate they charge retailers to drop from 6 hours per weekday (2-8PM) to 4 hours per weekday (5-9PM). A saving of 2 hours per day at 59c on average per Kwh. So if you run heating, etc the savings would be in the dollars per day.

There is also substantial changes in the Spring and Autumn 3 month period of NO peak charges being levied, only Shoulder rates. I have been told by Ausgrid they have no authority to force retailers to pass this on in full.

My question is why are the retailers still charging us for the old TOU times (2-8PM) instead of the new times (as published by Ausgrid) of 5-9PM? If you model the changes (and I have) there is substantial consumer savings for these types of meters now and will be in Spring and Autumn. Why can they not be forced to pass on the savings that we desperately need.

I will note one retailer Energy Aust HAS changed their time frames to match, BUT they have simply upped their rates for all 3 TOU tiers so they get exactly the same money from us, all the while they are banking the savings from Ausgrid TOU to them. This is also key. Ausgrid has NOT increased their wholesale rates either with these changes! So there is genuine savings being gouged by the retailers.
Is this fair???