



Key information for participants

Ausgrid Community Battery trial



We are excited to be offering you the opportunity to be part of the first community battery trial in NSW.

The two year trial includes three community batteries in areas with high solar use.

How the trial works

As a participant, you can virtually store up to 10 kilowatt hours (kWh) per day in the community battery. Each day you will receive a credit for any virtually stored energy. This credit will be offset against the electricity you use from the grid that day (up to the 10kWh limit). You will still receive your existing solar feed in tariff. Each quarter customers will receive a payment for these credits directly from Ausgrid.

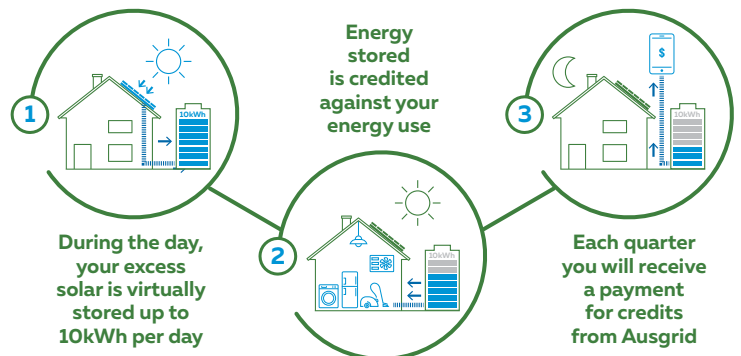
Who is Ausgrid?

Ausgrid is the largest distributor of electricity on Australia's east coast, providing power to 1.8 million customers. We are responsible for the substations, powerlines, underground cables and power poles (the grid) that spans 22,275 square kilometres throughout Sydney, Central Coast and the Hunter Valley.

Long-term, our job also includes preparing for a future where renewables play a major role in the power mix, with more and more households, businesses and communities locally generating, using and selling electricity.

What is the difference between Ausgrid and my electricity retailer?

Ausgrid is your electricity network provider, responsible for delivering electricity to your home. Retailers are responsible for billing customers, by bundling up our network charge along with the costs of electricity generation, metering and other costs. There are many electricity retailers such as AGL Energy, EnergyAustralia, Origin Energy and Red Energy to name a few. Customers can choose their electricity retailer and pricing plan and there are websites that can assist such as Energy Made Easy, www.energymadeeasy.gov.au.



Benefits of taking part in the trial

- You can receive more benefits from the clean energy you generate without needing to own and maintain your own household battery system.
- You receive community battery credit payments paid into your nominated bank account.
- Access to an app and an online customer hub which will enable you to view your household energy use and solar generation in real-time as well as credits earned in the trial.
- Be invited to provide feedback during the trial and receive additional rewards for doing so.

Benefits of community batteries

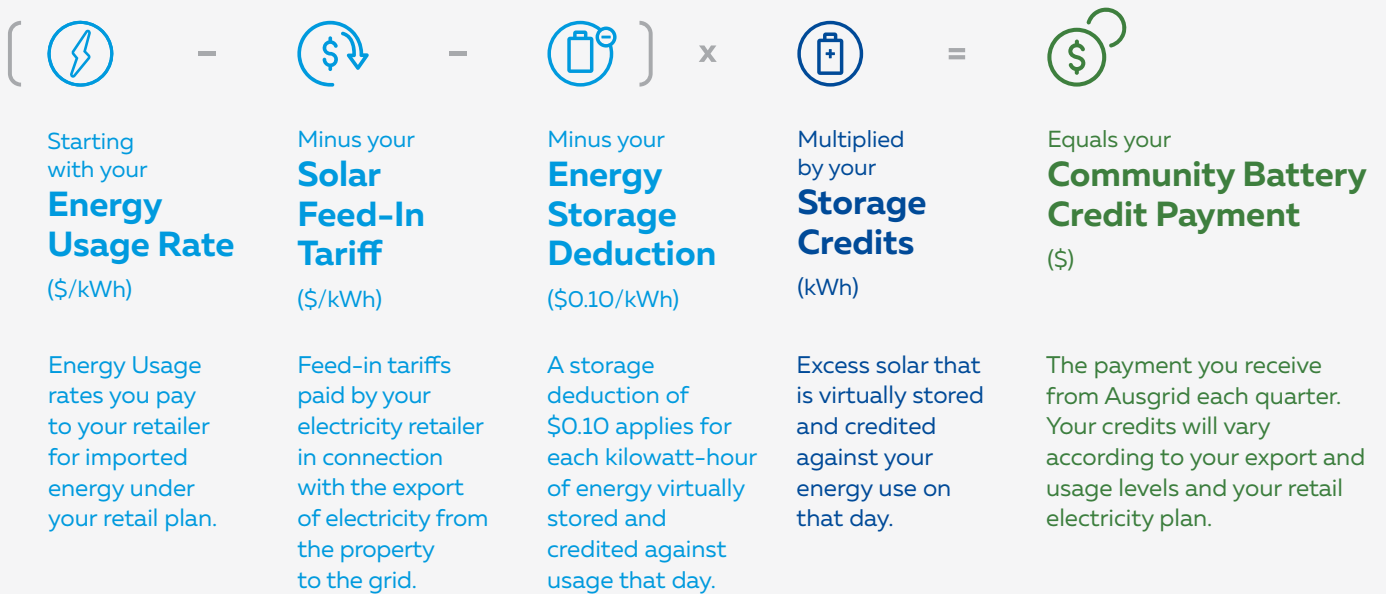
- Contribute to making access to energy storage more equitable and support the increasing amount of renewable energy in the system.
- Contribute to reduce energy prices for the wider community with community batteries offering a flexible alternative to traditional poles and wires investment.

How your community battery credit payments are calculated

Each day you can virtually store up to 10kWh of excess solar energy you generate. You will receive credits for any stored solar energy against the electricity you use from the grid that day. This is measured by the smart measurement device installed at your home.

Your community battery credit payment from Ausgrid is a separate benefit you receive on top of the solar feed in tariff that you already receive from your energy retailer.

A worked example is provided in Schedule 3 of the Terms and Conditions.



Your participation is important

The trial will help Ausgrid understand how the benefits of community batteries can be shared between local customers, the wider community as well as how they can help deliver cost savings and increase access to renewable energy. It will also help us understand how shared solutions, such as community batteries, can offer a cheaper alternative to a traditional poles and wires network, and shape future battery storage services in the future.

What happens next?

1. Check the details in the letter of offer and Schedule 2 are correct.
2. Read the installation information explaining the work involved in installing the smart measurement device onto your property and contact us if you have questions.
3. If you are a tenant of the property, you need the owner's permission in writing. Please forward this with the signed Schedule 2.
4. Sign Schedule 2 to accept our offer and email a copy or send a photo to sharedbattery@ausgrid.com.au.
5. After we receive your acceptance, we will arrange for our installation partner, GSES, to contact you to make an appointment to install the smart measurement device to your meter board.
6. After the smart measurement device is installed, we will send you information to complete the onboarding process.

Are there any fees involved?

There are **no fees** to sign up or participate in the Community Battery trial.

Will I still get my solar feed in tariff?

Yes. Your community battery credit payment is a separate benefit you receive on top of your solar feed in tariff that you already receive from your energy retailer.

Do I need to change my electricity retail provider if I am in the trial?

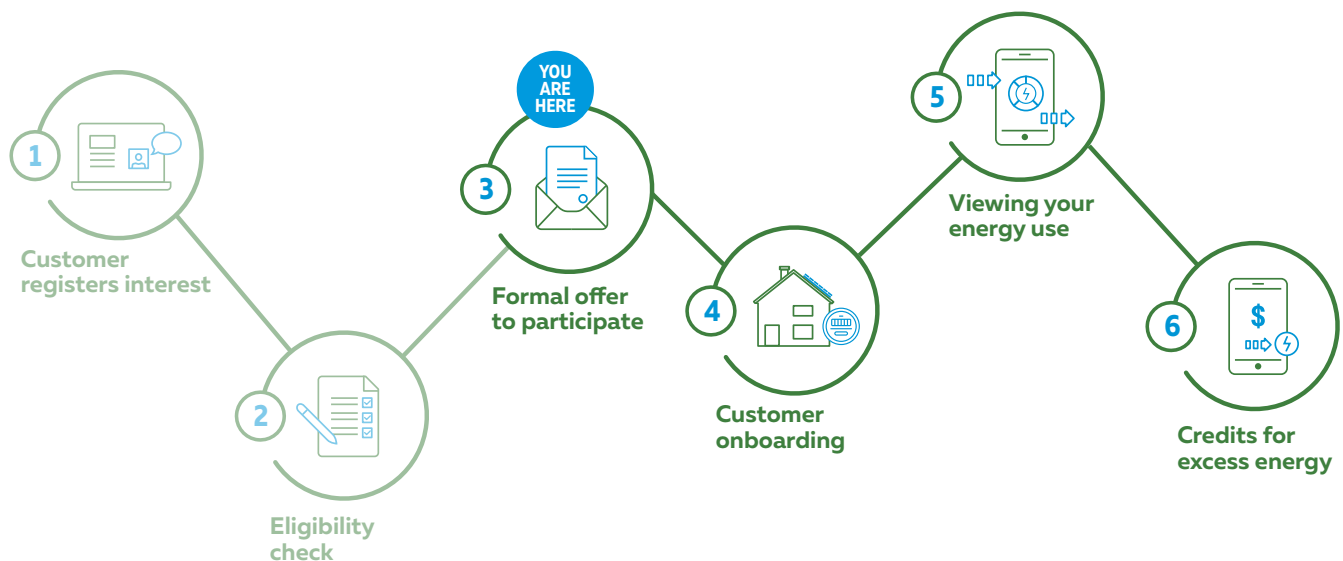
No. You will not need to change retailers or your retail plan to participate in the trial.

What happens if I change my mind or move house during the trial?

Participation in the trial is voluntary to those who are eligible to join. The trial will run for two years; however, participants can opt out at any time. If you move house or decide to opt out your participation in the trial will end. You will need to notify Ausgrid in writing and allow access for Ausgrid or its partners to remove the measurement device.

More information

Please refer to the FAQs section on our website at www.ausgrid.com.au/sharedbattery. If you can't find answers to what you are looking for or would like to speak to a member of the project team, please send your question to sharedbattery@ausgrid.com.au or call 1800 995 674.



Smart measurement device installation

What you need to know

As part of the trial, a smart measurement device called a Droplet will be installed to measure your solar system generation and energy flowing to and from your house, in order to calculate your community battery credits. This is separate to your electricity meter.

This will also measure a major household appliance, such as your air conditioner or pool pump, so you can view the appliance's energy usage in the app.

Your recorded energy data will be visible to you through your mobile phone application during the trial and through the online portal. Ausgrid and its project partners will also have access to the data for the purposes of the trial, which is kept secure and sent via a 4G SIM card inside the measurement device.

Please read the information about the installation of the smart measurement device at your property carefully.

What is installed will vary depending on your property and what kind of meter board and inverter you have. In most cases, the measurement device will be enclosed in a weatherproof box next to your meter board.

Ausgrid will install the equipment and remove, or give it to you, when the trial is complete free of charge.

At properties where a weatherproof enclosure is required, we will need to complete the following alterations:

- A hole at the bottom or behind the switchboard
- A cable entry hole beside the switchboard where cable conduits will exit to enter the weatherproof enclosure (site dependent)
- Fixture holes on the wall for the weatherproof enclosure and conduits.

The installation will take approximately 4 hours and power will be switched off for approximately 30 minutes.

The image above is an example of a standard scenario where a weatherproof enclosure is required.



Smart measurement device – standard installation

We will install the following equipment:

1. A smart measuring device that communicates to the online platform, enabling you to monitor your energy use, solar generation and credits.
2. Energy meters to measure household energy consumption, solar energy output and energy usage from your preferred major appliance.
3. Power point to supply power to the devices.
4. Where required, a weatherproof enclosure to store the Droplet, power point and meters. Otherwise the equipment will be installed at the existing switchboard.
5. 4G antenna mounted on the enclosure or switchboard to communicate the usage data from the Droplet to the online platform.
6. Cables, conduits and current clamps to measure energy and connect to the meter.

Please note

This will vary between properties according to the outcome of your solar assessment. Ausgrid will provide more detail prior to installation and you will also have an opportunity to discuss this with GSES.

If you would like to discuss further, please contact the project team at sharedbattery@ausgrid.com.au or call 1800 995 674.

