

Guy Barnett MP

Minister for State Development, Construction and Housing
Minister for Energy and Renewables
Minister for Resources
Minister for Veterans Affairs
Liberal Member for Lyons



Tasmanian Government **Media Release**

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Guy Barnett, Minister for Energy and Renewables

Continuing to help Tasmanians with the cost of living

The Tasmanian Government knows just how important the cost of living is to Tasmanians and that's why we have worked to ensure our regulated energy prices for Tasmanians have remained the lowest or among the lowest in the nation.

Last year, households received a 7.11 per cent reduction in regulated electricity prices, and small businesses received an 11 per cent drop and over the past seven years, in real terms, regulated energy prices have decreased by 18 per cent for residential customers and decreased by over 27 per cent for small business customers.

However we know Tasmanians continue to face real challenges when it comes to cost of living pressures and the Tasmanian Government is working to do what it can to alleviate those within the tools available to it.

Following today's release of the Independent Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator's final price determination for 2022, the Tasmanian Government has requested Aurora Energy to not include the cost of delivering Aurora+ to Tasmanian customers from its total cost to serve from July 1 2022 when it makes its final tariff submission to the Regulator.

What this means is that Aurora would not proceed with implementing Aurora+ element of the total cost to serve as outlined in today's Economic Regulator determination, meaning those Tasmanians who do not yet use that service, will not pay for the product in their bills from 1 July.

Aurora+ is designed to give customers more insight and control over their electricity usage which is an incredibly important tool to help Tasmanians better understand and manage their power usage and mitigate bill shock. It remains an important tool for Tasmanians to address cost of living pressures and Aurora Energy will continue to communicate its benefits with consumers.

Aurora+ will remain a product of choice for the time being, rather than being incorporated into the regulated tariff framework, with its take-up and impact to be reviewed in 12 months' time.