



Media Release  
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### AURORA PAY AS YOU GO PRICE COMPARISON REPORT

The Office of the Tasmanian Energy Regulator has released its second Aurora Pay As You Go (APAYG) Price Comparison Report.

In releasing the Report, the Director Jane Hyland noted that “Aurora Pay As You Go remains a popular choice for customers and this analysis will help to make it an informed choice for existing and new customers.”

APAYG is a prepayment option offered to residential customers as an alternative to electricity supply via the standard tariffs. APAYG is now used by over 44 000 Tasmanian customers, or 20 per cent of residential customers.

This is the second comparison of prices that the Office of the Tasmanian Energy Regulator has undertaken. It is based on 2008-09 rates for APAYG and tariff customers.

The Report found that:

- Low consumption standard customers (with typical fortnightly expenditure on electricity of around \$37) may be paying \$2 per fortnight more on APAYG in summer, with winter payments about the same.
- High consumption standard customers (with typical fortnightly expenditure of around \$65 in summer and \$90 in winter) may pay \$2 more per fortnight in summer and up to \$8 less per fortnight in winter on APAYG.
- Low consumption HydroHeat customers (typical fortnightly expenditure of \$46) may pay up to \$5 more per fortnight in summer on APAYG and \$2 less per fortnight in winter.
- High consumption HydroHeat customers (with typical fortnightly expenditure of around \$63 in summer and up to \$129 in winter) may pay \$7 more per fortnight in summer and \$8 less per fortnight in winter.
- Low consumption OffPeak customers (with typical fortnightly expenditure of \$46 in summer and \$63 in winter) may be paying up to \$8 more on APAYG per fortnight in summer and the same amount per fortnight in winter.
- High consumption OffPeak customers (with typical fortnightly expenditure of \$56 in summer and \$111 in winter) may pay up to \$6 more on APAYG in summer and \$6 less in winter.

These observations on the relative costs of APAYG are based on various assumptions about tariffs and the quantity and pattern of the customer's use.

Customers' expenditure depends on:

- the tariff mix, ie whether they use Light and Power only, Light and Power and Hot Water, HydroHeat, or OffPeak;
- whether they use comparatively more electricity in winter than in summer, which probably depends on how much electric heating is used; and
- how much electricity is used in the lower price period, such as after 8 pm in winter or on weekends, rather than in the higher priced morning and evening working day periods.

As a general observation, APAYG may be less attractive for low consumption customers, but slightly more attractive for winter usage due to the lower winter rates. However, every customer will have a different pattern of use and this will affect the comparative cost.

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Copies of the Price Comparison Report are  
available at:  
[www.energyregulator.tas.gov.au](http://www.energyregulator.tas.gov.au)