

Media Release

The Hon Lily D'Ambrosio MP

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change
Minister for Solar Homes



**DELIVERING
FOR ALL VICTORIANS**

Thursday, 30 May 2019

SAVING VICTORIANS HUNDREDS OF DOLLARS OFF THEIR POWER BILLS

Victorian families and small businesses will save hundreds of dollars on their electricity bills, with the Andrews Labor Government setting the first ever Victorian Default Offer.

Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change Lily D'Ambrosio today announced the Victorian Default Offer, in line with advice from the Essential Services Commission.

More than 130,000 Victorian households will automatically save between \$310 and \$450 per year from 1 July when they are switched to the Victorian Default Offer from their current costly standing offers.

Victorian small businesses are also set to benefit, with over 30,000 businesses also switching over on from 1 July – saving between \$1,380 and \$2,050 per year.

From 1 July, other Victorians can ditch confusing, costly electricity offers and choose the Victorian Default Offer, a fair price on energy that has been assessed by experts.

The new measure is part of the Government's final response to the bipartisan Independent Review of the Electricity & Gas Retail Markets in Victoria.

In addition, the Labor Government's Solar Homes package is helping Victorians take control of their energy bills by rolling out solar panels, solar hot water or solar batteries to 770,000 homes over the next 10 years.

The Labor Government has also helped more than 200,000 people compare their energy offer through our \$50 Power Saving Bonus, with Victorians who use the site saving an average of \$330 on their energy bills in the first year alone.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Energy, Environment and Solar Homes Lily D'Ambrosio

"We've set a fair price based on advice from the experts – delivering automatic savings for thousands of Victorian households and small businesses from 1 July."

"This is one of the biggest reforms to the energy sector in over a decade – and it's not just available to people currently on standing offers, anyone can ask for the Victorian Default Offer."

"This is just one of the ways we're putting power back into the hands of Victorians, as we put solar on 770,000 homes and cut the cost of energy."