

From: escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au <escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au>
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To: ESCOSA:Essential Services Commission of South Australia <escosa@escosa.sa.gov.au>
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: New Project Submission uploaded

Submission ID: 12202226142888

Project Title:	Tesla Energy Plan - Virtual Power Plan
Date:	Dec 26, 2022
Author type:	Individual
First Name:	[REDACTED]
Last Name:	[REDACTED]
Organisation:	
Email:	[REDACTED]
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Option to write your submission:	<p>Due to my work, please treat my name and contact details as confidential, the information in the submission is not confidential.</p> <p>Submission – Inquiry into retail Energy Prices</p> <p>I installed Solar power in September 2009, a 2 kW system with no battery. I did not pay any money for electricity during the 13 years of this installation. While I understand that I received the high feed in tariff during this time, I still did not use enough electricity to pay any accounts.</p> <p>On 25 March 2021, I upgraded the solar system by replacing the panels and installing a battery using the Tesla Energy Plan, Virtual Power Plant. The installed system is 6.6 kW with a 13.5 kW Tesla Powerwall 2 battery. The plan started on March 12, 2021. My daily usage averages at 2.044 kWh for 20 months, with a range of minimum 0.3 to 6.18 maximum. My average usage electricity usage is less than 50% of the average person.</p> <p>From the first day of installation, I noticed that Tesla was exporting power from the grid to charge the battery overnight. Tesla exports power even when the battery was at over 50% charge and there was no reason to charge the battery. Tesla informed me that sometimes the system needs to “divest electricity” overnight, I am not sure why. When this happens, customers pay for the “divested electricity” even if the customer does not use or need the electricity. On 27 July 2022, I sought clarification about the reasons for the Tesla exporting power from the grid when not required. There is now a reduction in the amount Tesla exports into the battery at night. Even so, Tesla continues to export power a small amount of power from the grid each day.</p>

Since the Solar installation and connection to the Tesla Energy Plan, I regularly pay for electricity, a total of \$378.69 from 1 May 2021 to 30 November 2022. Additionally, I received a Solar Feed-In of \$620.97 for the same period. There is no need for Tesla to export power to the solar battery at my property. While I understand that the Solar Feed-In Tariff offsets the electricity that I pay, the usage at my property does not warrant any payment for electricity.

As the system enables me to take the system off grid, I experimented for 2 weeks with no grid connection, at no time did I need to reconnect to the grid as the battery stayed over 15%. I maintained my normal electricity use, including electrical heating and working from home.

The highest average use at my property is 6.18 kW, as the system has a 13.5kW battery, and the battery has not discharged to lower than 15%, there is no need to charge the battery from the grid. I understand that part of the Tesla Energy Plan is to provide a system that can discharge and charge from the batteries to support and stabilise the grid. Even so, customers should not pay for the cost of electricity that they do not use when the system is in the stabilising process.

I submit that Tesla use algorithms to artificially inflate electricity bills. The Tesla Energy Plan also makes customers pay to stabilise the grid. While I have no definitive evidence, 3 things support my submission that Tesla artificially inflate electricity bills.

- 1) Tesla exports power from the grid into the battery at night for no reason
- 2) Even with very low usage, I have electricity bills that do not match my usage
- 3) Tesla has changed the system to reduce the grid exporting power at night

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