

EMBEDDED NETWORKS AND YOUR POWER OF CHOICE

Embedded Networks

Embedded networks are commonly installed to supply energy to occupants of a strata corporation or owners' corporation. These can be a domestic or commercial development.

Embedded networks are mostly utilised to deliver competitive pricing to occupants and the owners' corporation. This is delivered via bulk purchasing power. All the power consumed in each unit and the common areas is bundled together and this enables your Embedded Network Operator to go to the market and negotiate more favourable rates based on the bulk consumption. Accordingly, they are usually able to deliver pricing to you that is below what you could purchase on your own.

Power of Choice

New Power of Choice rules in the energy market have recently been implemented. They are intended to make it easier for customers of embedded networks to seek alternate contracts for purchasing their energy requirements. In other words customers of embedded networks are free to select an electricity supplier outside the embedded network if they wish. This is referred to in the market place as an "on-market" contract. To put it another way, an "on-market" contract is a contract to purchase electricity outside the embedded network.

If you chose to leave the embedded network because you have received an offer that you believe is lower than that offered by the embedded network, we recommend that you first discuss this with us to check all the facts about the pricing and the likelihood (or otherwise) of obtaining on-market lower pricing in the longer term.

You should be aware, however, that the meters used within the embedded network may not be used by other retailers and therefore, you may need to make your own arrangements for the purchase and installation of a separate meter.

If, after that, you chose to leave you should check that you won't be double charged for distribution network charges. These are charges imposed by the distributor of the electricity grid and these charges are apportioned amongst all users in an embedded network so you want to ensure your new supplier won't be doubling up on these charges.

Embedded Network Manager

One of the recent fundamental changes has been the creation of the role of Embedded Network Manager or an ENM. An ENM is appointed by the Embedded Network Operator and is responsible

for the relationship between occupiers with child meters (meters which service each lot and common areas) and the broader National Electricity Market. The ENM is responsible for providing each child meter with a national identifier number which can be recognised in the National Electricity Market system. This ensures that customers who chose to go "on-market" can then be recognised in the National Electricity Market systems.

ENM Solutions Pty Ltd is our appointed Embedded Network Manager, who can be contacted on 1300 000 366.