

# Community batteries

## Lighter Footprints Community meeting

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30 June 2021



# United Energy has deployed Australia's first Pole-Mounted Low Voltage Grid Battery

- Two pilot units were installed as part of the “*Bayside Battery Project*” and have been operational for 15 months and has completed >400 cycles (1 cycle = charge + discharge).
- The system performed well during summer – both units were operational on the peak demand days. The units were successful in reducing the demand by ~10% and ~20%, respectively.



# Other examples of community batteries



Photo retrieved from Western Power

Meadow Springs, WA  
(Western Power)



Photo retrieved from Renew Economy

Beacon Hill, NSW  
(Ausgrid)



Photo retrieved from PowerTec

Highbett, VIC  
(United Energy)

# Why community batteries?

Benefits for customers, the community and the network

## Battery supplies electricity at peak times



Battery charges from rooftop solar in the day

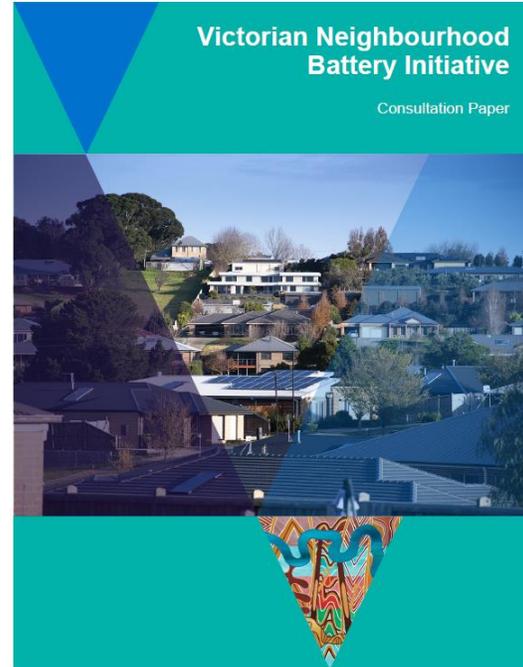


Our trials propose that customers pay for using the battery and the local network but avoid upstream network charges



# Community batteries are a priority for community energy groups

- Prioritising community storage opportunities is a Victorian Government priority, to enable customer choice and support more renewable generation coming on to the grid
- The Victorian Government announced \$3M of funding in the Neighbourhood Battery Initiative to support the delivery of community battery trial projects in Victoria from feasibility through to implementation
- We have proposed “shovel ready” projects for funding and supported local energy groups with feasibility studies.



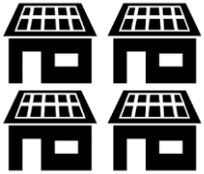
## Our Yarra Energy Foundation partnership

- We are working closely with the Yarra Energy Foundation to build grid-scale batteries in CitiPower, to allow more customers to export more solar



# Why low voltage connected energy storage?

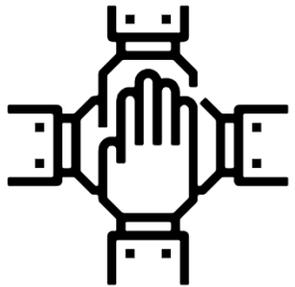
Distributors can enable grid-scale energy storage for the benefit of the network and customers



We are excited to be facilitating the development of community energy projects and supporting local community renewable energy aspirations



We are trialling community batteries to demonstrate how they can create local benefits, system benefits, allow more customers to export more of their own solar and provide benefits to all customers (including local customers without their own storage).



We are actively looking to partner with retailers and community energy groups to ensure the greatest benefits from the use of the battery



**We are proud to be  
working on community  
batteries to support  
local renewable energy  
aspirations**

