

5,000 smart meters rolled out in Victoria

A milestone has been reached in Victoria's electricity distribution infrastructure with more than 5,000 new smart electricity meters installed in the past six weeks.

Victorian Energy Minister Peter Batchelor says the program to roll out 2.5 million smart meters to Victorian households and small businesses over the next four years will help Victorians save energy and money on their electricity bills.

He says the meters will also help Victorians reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by giving them the tools to monitor their energy use.

"The installation of more than 5,000 meters already shows the progress being made on the smart meter project, which will provide a valuable tool to help Victorians to manage their electricity use and provide better customer service from both electricity distributors and retailers.

"Smart meters will allow customers to know how much electricity they are using at any given time, so they can reduce their individual carbon footprint."

The meters are being installed by Victoria's five electricity distributors – Jemena, United Energy Distribution, SP AusNet, CitiPower and Powercor.

Over the next three months, Jemena and United Energy Distribution plan to continue rolling out around 20,000 new meters, Powercor will install 6,000 meters and CitiPower will install 4,000 meters. SP AusNet will begin its roll-out in January next year.

Victoria is the first Australian state with the go-ahead for the widespread roll out of smart meters.

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