

### **Smart Meters Encourage Energy Efficiency**

Energy retailer EnergyAustralia hopes that smart meters and time based pricing will encourage customers to switch some of their electricity use outside peak times to help even out electricity consumption and make the electricity network more efficient. Households with smart meters are more aware of their electricity consumption, according to analysis by EnergyAustralia of 10,300 household electricity accounts already using the smart meters. Energy Australia's analysis shows that 85 per cent of customers were better off under time based pricing compared with the standard domestic tariff. Time based pricing is considered a fairer system, according to 71 per cent of the smart meter users. 72 per cent say they are actively making changes to their electricity usage. EnergyAustralia will provide new electronic smart meters installed for free to households and businesses that request them giving more than 1.5 million homes and businesses in New South Wales more control over their electricity bills.

[Source essa news]