

Energy Affordability and the AMI Benefits Realisation Project





Energy Affordability: Putting Energy Consumers First program funded through the 2017/18 State Budget.

Approximately \$11 million over two years, to minimise energy costs for consumers, with a particular focus on helping those in need.

This program funded the Advanced Metering Infrastructure Benefits Realisation project (which includes the *Power Changers* pilot) in addition to support for:

- Victorian Energy Compare website;
- Energy Data Hub concept study;
- Vulnerable Consumer Support project; and
- Energy Brokerage Service pilot.

- The deployment of smart meters commenced in 2009 and was completed in 2015, with the installation of approximately 2.8 million smart meters.
- The Victorian Government is focussed on accelerating the realisation of benefits enabled by the rollout of AMI in Victoria. We recognise to do this that there is a need for government, in consultation with stakeholders, to set a clear pathway to ensure that the value of Victoria's investment in AMI is fully realised.
- We are currently developing an AMI Benefits Realisation Roadmap in 2018 and 2019, to build consensus and provide a shared vision, actions, strategies and future roles and responsibilities of government and other key stakeholders.
- The *Power Changers* pilot run in partnership with Jemena provided some valuable insights into the delivery of specific AMI benefits, particularly in relation to consumer behavioural responses and attitudes.

- The Victorian Government is actively exploring demand management opportunities.
- The *Power Changers* pilot tested how advanced functionality of AMI can be utilised for the purposes of demand management.
- Smart meters also play an important role in the broader energy transition towards an increasingly decentralised energy system.
- Other related workstreams are also being progressed to explore other opportunities that may exist for greater demand response in the residential sector, as well as broader policy development on demand side management.