QON No. 141

Legislative Assembly for the
Australian Capital Territory
Select Committee on Estimates 2026–2027

Inquiry into Appropriation Bill 2026–2027 and Appropriation (Office of the Legislative Assembly) Bill 2026–2027

Answer to question on notice

Asked by: Mr Thomas Emerson MLA

Addressed to: Evoenergy

Redirected to:

Reference: 2026-27 Budget Estimates

Hearing: 27 July 2026
In relation to: Electrifying multi-unit dwellings
Question received: 27/07/2026
Answer Due: 11/08/2026

1. How many applications for additional network capacity (e.g for increased EV charging capacity) for multi-unit properties (e.g. apartment complexes) have been received in the last three financial years, and how many of those required a customer co-payment beyond the incremental revenue threshold (i.e. the extra revenue Evoenergy expects to earn from that customer's higher usage over the next 30 years)?

2. What was the customer co-payment for each of those applications?

3. What was the average customer co-payment?

4. How many of the applications did not proceed after the customer co-payment amount was quoted?

5. Is any consideration being given to adjusting the lowest cost technically acceptable (LCTAS) framework to better anticipate future electrification demand without placing undue cost pressures on customers?

[NAME OF COMMISSIONER/OFFICIAL]: The answer to the Member's question is as follows:

1. **How many applications for additional network capacity (e.g for increased EV charging capacity) for multi-unit properties (e.g. apartment complexes) have been received in the last three financial years, and how many of those required a customer co-payment beyond the incremental revenue threshold (i.e. the extra revenue Evoenergy expects to earn from that customer's higher usage over the next 30 years)?**

Over the past three financial years, Evoenergy has received two formal connection requests for additional network capacity in multi-unit properties. This number is based on the information in customer application records which include customer-provided details such as property type, requested supply capacity and the stated reason for the connection request. These records rely on the information provided at the time of application, and therefore may not capture every preliminary enquiry or informal discussion about future capacity requirements.

Applications that appeared to relate to new developments, temporary construction supplies, asset relocations, removals, or baseline supply arrangements for new buildings were excluded, as they do not relate to additional capacity for an existing multi-unit property.

A third application was identified that combined a request for additional network capacity along with asset relocations and removals as part of a potential redevelopment project. Asset relocations and removals are fully customer funded under the National Electricity Rules.

In addition to these applications, Evoenergy has responded to a number of informal customer enquiries over this period about potential additional electrical load at existing properties. In some cases, customers were provided with guidance on their existing maximum demand and available capacity, including where additional load may be able to be managed without network augmentation. Evoenergy has also provided general guidance to customers on the potential option to use building management systems or similar customer-side load management arrangements to help customers manage demand within existing supply limits. Evoenergy does not have records for informal enquiries.

2. **What was the customer co-payment for each of those applications?**

For the two applications seeking additional network capacity only, the customer payment is expected to be limited to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER) approved relevant design fee.

On top of additional network capacity, the scope of the third application also included asset relocations and removals which are fully customer funded under the National Electricity Rules. Given these customer funded costs, this application did not have a customer contribution that was *only* related to the additional network capacity. Evoenergy understands that the customer did not proceed with this redevelopment project, for reasons unknown.

3. **What was the average customer co-payment?**

For the two applications seeking additional network capacity only, the customer contribution is expected to be nil beyond the AER approved applicable design fee.

4. How many of the applications did not proceed after the customer co-payment amount was quoted?

Of the two applications identified, one has been completed with additional capacity energised, and the other is currently going through the design process, after which Evoenergy will provide a connection offer to the customer.

5. Is any consideration being given to adjusting the lowest cost technically acceptable (LCTAS) framework to better anticipate future electrification demand without placing undue cost pressures on customers?

The Least Cost Technically Acceptable Solution (LCTAS) framework is used to identify the minimum works required to the network to safely and reliably meet a customer's requested electrical demand in accordance with Evoenergy's technical standards, Australian Standards and regulatory obligations. Amongst other factors, the relevant standards consider both the upfront cost of augmentation as well as the full asset lifecycle cost as ultimately those costs are borne by customers through tariffs.

Evoenergy regularly reviews its technical standards, construction methodologies and approved materials to ensure network solutions remain safe, reliable, efficient and aligned with industry best practice. Through these ongoing reviews, Evoenergy seeks to deliver network outcomes that minimise whole-of-life costs while maintaining compliance with its regulatory obligations and service standards. Where appropriate, Evoenergy does select equipment that provides a reasonable level of future capacity when this is technically justified and efficient.

Evoenergy will continue to apply the LCTAS framework in a way that balances customer requirements, network safety and reliability, efficient investment and regulatory obligations. Where a customer requests works beyond the identified LCTAS, those additional customer-specific requirements may be charged to the customer. Examples may include asset relocations, undergrounding, enhanced supply security or other works that are beyond the minimum technically acceptable solution.

Approved for circulation to the Select Committee on Estimates 2026–2027

Signature: Date:

By the [Commissioner for/Officer……], [name of Commissioner/Official]