

# Powering on, whatever the weather

Energy company plans now allow for weather-related emergencies, writes Jason Clout.

**R**esponding to weather-related emergencies is a key part of the business plan for energy companies.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.



Power lines are a key part of the energy industry's infrastructure.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

Energy companies must be prepared to respond to weather-related emergencies, writes Jason Clout.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

# Power to the people

Energy companies must be prepared to respond to weather-related emergencies, writes Jason Clout.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

Energy companies must be prepared to respond to weather-related emergencies, writes Jason Clout.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

Energy companies must be prepared to respond to weather-related emergencies, writes Jason Clout.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

The energy industry is now planning for an eventuality that has not been a major concern in the past: the possibility of a major weather-related emergency.

## Current events

- **Monday 15.30** When a new report is released, it will be a surprise to many.
- **Tuesday 10.30** The new report is a surprise to many.
- **Wednesday 10.30** The new report is a surprise to many.
- **Thursday 10.30** The new report is a surprise to many.
- **Friday 10.30** The new report is a surprise to many.
- **Saturday 10.30** The new report is a surprise to many.
- **Sunday 10.30** The new report is a surprise to many.

# Victoria smart meter specification impossible

Matthew Duncker

The Victorian government has been warned the technical standards it is demanding as part of its troubled smart meter rollout cannot be achieved by any existing technology.

been plagued by concerns over its cost and benefits prompting the government to put a freeze on charging the new peak tariff until at least next year while it commissioned further research.

A letter from distribution company Amers, released by the Victorian government, says the technical specifications of the project would prove impossible to meet.

The letter from Amers managing director Paul Adams is October last year complains a late change in the specifications around load management is problematic. The change was to accommodate the new tariff specifications for the smart meters.

Amers spokesman said the company was waiting to see the final national specifications but anticipated they would "reflect reality".

Michael O'Brien said the government needed to explain why it had commissioned technology that the industry could not provide.

# Climate diplomacy resumes

Developed countries have until January 31 to submit their targets for 2020, and there's much uncertainty, writes John Brusch.

A month after the Copenhagen talks concluded with a weak, unaligned accord, climate diplomacy has resumed in the world of international climate change negotiations.

The rapid government's special envoy to climate change, Howard Murray, was in Mexico City on Monday to talk with President Felipe Calderon's government, which will host the next United Nations climate summit in November.

Murray had flown from New York and before the trip where he discussed the implementation of the Copenhagen accord with officials from the EU and other governments.

Only a handful of countries - including Australia, France and Canada - have announced their latest pledges of the pact.



The US Senate is likely to vote for emissions law before the end of the year.

significance of the deal, describing it as a "soft deadline".

The European Union has a target of reducing CO2 emissions by 20% by 2020, with a 30% cut in the case of an ambitious agreement to lock in global warming.

The US Senate is likely to vote for emissions law before the end of the year.

Amers spokesman said the company was waiting to see the final national specifications but anticipated they would "reflect reality".

# ETS still firmly on the agenda

Report says global trading system will be established by 2012, writes John Brusch.

Resources and Energy Minister Martin Ferguson said the federal government would push ahead with a carbon trading system.

Mr Ferguson said the government would push ahead with a carbon trading system.

Mr Ferguson said the government would push ahead with a carbon trading system.

# ETS still firmly on the agenda

Resources and Energy Minister Martin Ferguson said the federal government would push ahead with a carbon trading system.

Mr Ferguson said the government would push ahead with a carbon trading system.

Mr Ferguson said the government would push ahead with a carbon trading system.

# Plug pulled on smart meter plan

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters, writes John Brusch.

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters.

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters.

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters.

# Plug pulled on smart meter plan

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters.

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters.

Energy Minister Peter Batchelor has temporarily pulled the plug on smart meters.



POWER SURGE

# Shop around to

## Thousands miss out on electricity deals



POWER HUNGRY

THOUSANDS of thousands of people are missing out on cheaper electricity because they don't shop around.

About 20 per cent of Victorian homes — 800,000 households — are still on default power, which cost by the dollar to the consumer.

A spokesman for the state's energy regulator said that the number of households that have switched to a better deal is still only 100,000.

He said that the number of households that have switched to a better deal is still only 100,000.

**Karen Collier**  
Consumer expert

Missing the real electricity deals, she said.

Regulators say that while there are a number of deals available, many households are still on default power, which cost by the dollar to the consumer.

A spokesman for the state's energy regulator said that the number of households that have switched to a better deal is still only 100,000.

### Lights, gadgets, action: up go the bills

**THE** walkabout Colchester family don't do things by halves.

Their four-bedroom home boasts no fewer than four plasma TVs, four video game consoles, three desktop computers, three laptops, two stereo systems and three iPods — just to name a few of the gizmos, gadgets and barbies in it.

"We're bit obsessive," said the 47-year-old father of three, who said he had to be careful not to overdo it.

The Colchester family don't do things by halves. Their four-bedroom home boasts no fewer than four plasma TVs, four video game consoles, three desktop computers, three laptops, two stereo systems and three iPods — just to name a few of the gizmos, gadgets and barbies in it.

**Thousands miss out on electricity deals**

Regulators say that while there are a number of deals available, many households are still on default power, which cost by the dollar to the consumer.

A spokesman for the state's energy regulator said that the number of households that have switched to a better deal is still only 100,000.

### Turn it off at the wall, experts urge

**POWER** experts have urged that the value given as a company can be being used to help reduce energy consumption.

They have a technique called 'phantom loads' or 'standby power' that can be used to help reduce energy consumption.

They have a technique called 'phantom loads' or 'standby power' that can be used to help reduce energy consumption.

**ANNUAL STANDBY POWER COSTS**

TV (LCD)	Up to \$20
TV (CRT)	Up to \$40
Desktop computer	Up to \$20
Printer	Up to \$10
Modem/router	Up to \$10
Video camera	Up to \$10
Video recorder	Up to \$10
Video camera	Up to \$10
Video recorder	Up to \$10
Video camera	Up to \$10
Video recorder	Up to \$10

### Meter could ration electricity

# Power cuts for poor

**PICTURE** shows how a meter could ration electricity for the poor.

Picture shows how a meter could ration electricity for the poor.

Picture shows how a meter could ration electricity for the poor.

### Smart businesses save by being green

**THERE** are a growing number of local businesses involved in production and manufacturing, and the cost of each of them would always be looking for ways to reduce costs.

The South Gippsland Enterprise Centre is hosting the Green Business Loan Business Seminar at the Leongatha RSL on Tuesday, August 10.

All businesses would benefit from the seminar, which will provide details on ways to operate in a more sustainable way.

The "green" business support officer, Alycia Stobie, said green initiatives can result in a business's bottom line, including cost savings, increased customer loyalty and brand strength and improved staff morale.

**Smart businesses save by being green**

All businesses would benefit from the seminar, which will provide details on ways to operate in a more sustainable way.

The "green" business support officer, Alycia Stobie, said green initiatives can result in a business's bottom line, including cost savings, increased customer loyalty and brand strength and improved staff morale.



### Better than disconnection

**BALLOONING** bills: Kathleen O'Toole finds it tough. PICTURE: DARRIN MCGILLIVRAY

**BALLOONING** bills: Kathleen O'Toole finds it tough. PICTURE: DARRIN MCGILLIVRAY

**BALLOONING** bills: Kathleen O'Toole finds it tough. PICTURE: DARRIN MCGILLIVRAY