

**From:** [Gavin Gilchrist](#)  
**To:** [ESS MailBox](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Monday, 1 July 2024 9:33:07 AM

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Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the NSW Peak Demand Reduction Scheme (PDRS) consultation.

**Start Date of the Scheme:**

Inner West Community Energy is a six year old community energy group in Sydney's Inner West that promotes rooftop solar and the electrification of everything. To date we have helped 383 households install solar.

We had high hopes that NSW would finally follow other states in having a state-based rebate program for batteries. Many of our members are keen to buy a battery but they are holding off until the price drops somewhat.

We all know the NSW power grid needs more storage and that more household batteries would be a very cost-effective way to deliver more storage, fast.

We have serious concerns with the scheme's 5-month start date and the impact this is having on the businesses of our five preferred solar installers. Obviously, a household that was about to buy a battery will now hold off till November so they can obtain the PDRS rebate.

It seems clear to us that in its haste to make a positive announcement, this decision was rushed out by the Government and not thought through.

According to the Smart Energy Council, the period between the announced start date of the scheme and the November start date will cost the industry between \$50-\$100 million in lost sales.

**Please bring forward the start date of the scheme to August 1, or make the scheme retrospective from the announced date of the scheme.**

Yours sincerely,

Gavin Gilchrist  
Project Manager

Inner West Community Energy Inc,

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