

6 Public Lighting Services – Fee Based

There are three distinct public lighting services, and these are subject to different degrees of competition and regulation. The services are:

- The retailing of electricity consumed in public lights;
- The distribution of electricity to public lights through electricity networks;
- The installation, operation, maintenance and replacement of public lights.

6.1 Retailing

The retailing of electricity consumed in public lights is subject to competition. Public lighting customers (local government councils and VicRoads) are able to choose the retailer from which they purchase the electricity used for public lighting, in the same way that they are able to choose their retailer with respect to electricity supply points that are already contestable.

6.2 Distribution (Network Charges)

The distribution of electricity is a natural monopoly service and is subject to continuing price regulation by the AER. Network tariffs for public lighting are published on an annual basis. For public lighting customers the unmetered supplies tariff will apply.

6.3 Operation, maintenance and replacement of public lights (services)

The AER will continue to treat the operation, maintenance and replacement of public lights as a fee based alternative control service for the purpose of regulating the changes for these services. In December 2010 the AER approved Operational, Maintenance and Replacement charges which apply effective 1 January 2011.

The Public Lighting Code as approved by the AER will specify a default level of service to be provided by distributors to public lighting customers. Distributors and public lighting customers are free to negotiate agreements in which they depart from the provisions of the Code, but the Code will apply in the absence of such an agreement.

The Electricity Safety Act has also been amended to allow councils and VicRoads to install public lighting infrastructure on public land, subject to conditions. The AER has stated that it will have no role in regulating the installation, operation, maintenance and repair of public lighting assets that are owned by public lighting customers.

6.4 Approved Public Lighting Excluded Service Charges

The public lighting fee based alternative control services are for the operation, maintenance, repair and replacement of public lights in accordance with the Public lighting Code. The charges are for lights with or without standard fittings.

The following charges have been approved by the AER. These public lighting alternative control service charges apply unless an alternative charge has been agreed in writing with the public lighting customer. The new charges apply from the 1 January 2011.

UED Schedule of Charges including Definitions



Light Type	Excluded Service Charge \$ p.a. as of 1 January 2011 (Excl GST)	Excluded Service Charge \$ p.a. as of 1 January 2011 (Incl GST)
Fluorescent 2 x 20 watt	\$63.51	\$69.86
Fluorescent 3 x 20 watt	\$63.51	\$69.86
Mercury Vapour 50 watt	\$72.87	\$80.16
Mercury Vapour 80 watt	\$49.23	\$54.15
Mercury Vapour 125 watt	\$72.87	\$80.16
Mercury Vapour 250 watt	\$72.82	\$80.10
Mercury Vapour 400 watt	\$100.83	\$110.91
Mercury Vapour 700 watt	\$100.83	\$110.91
Sodium High Pressure 70 watt	\$107.82	\$118.60
Sodium High Pressure 100 watt	\$86.57	\$95.23
Sodium High Pressure 150 watt	\$78.70	\$86.57
Sodium High Pressure 250 watt	\$80.02	\$88.02
Sodium High Pressure 400 Watt	\$100.83	\$110.91
Metal Halide 70 watt	\$106.25	\$116.88
Metal Halide 100 watt	\$106.25	\$116.88
Metal Halide 150 watt	\$106.25	\$116.88
Metal Halide 250 watt	\$108.03	\$118.83
Metal Halide 400 watt	\$108.03	\$118.83
T5 2*14w	\$25.37	\$27.91

Note: (a) Where a public lighting customer requires a lighting pole to be powder coated, the incremental cost of the powder coating will be negotiated with the customer. Any disputes in relation to the incremental cost of powder coating should be resolved in accordance with the Public Lighting Code.