



Privacy Policy



About this policy

Energy Locals will do the right thing by its customers and we know privacy is important to you. To provide you with a service we need to collect, store and in some cases share personal information. This policy explains how we manage that in order to protect your privacy.

Energy Locals

This policy relates to all activities of Energy Locals Pty Ltd, trading as Meriton Energy Services (ABN 23 606 408 879) (Energy Locals) including its website. References to "us", "we" and "our" in this policy are references to Energy Locals, its related bodies corporate and its contractors.

Privacy Act

The Privacy Act 1988 (the Act) sets out the Australian Privacy Principles (the Principles) and we are committed to following them, as they are designed to protect confidentiality. Information that can be used to identify an individual (such as name, address and so on) is classified as personal information.

Why and how we collect personal information

Energy Locals will only collect personal information if it's necessary for one or more of the services we provide to you.

Where possible, Energy Locals will always collect personal information directly from you, either via a form you completed on our website, email, post, via a phone conversation with you (the phone conversation could be with Energy Locals or a third party authorised to work on behalf of us) or via a community or commercial partner of Energy Locals. There are also situations in which we may collect information from others, such as meter data from a distribution company or metering coordinator so we can calculate your usage, or information from your existing energy retailer so we can fulfil your request to transfer to us.

How we keep your information secure

We will store your information electronically wherever possible. Mostly this will be within our customer billing system. Where other information needs to be stored electronically, it will be held in password-protected storage areas and only staff who need access to personal information will be able to retrieve it. From time to time it may be necessary to transfer information outside of Australia in order to process it and provide our services to you. In addition, if you are on a Virtual Power Plan proposition where you have a battery and/or electric vehicle as part of a Virtual Power Plant (VPP), information obtained from that battery and/or electric vehicle may be passed to and held by another entity in relation to the VPP and/or transferred overseas to a subcontractor for processing.

Where information is passed overseas, it will also take place using secure transfer and storage methods. The countries it may be necessary to transfer personal data to include the United States of America.

Where information is transferred outside the country it is mainly for processing and in some circumstances for an overseas employee or sub-contractor to use it to provide you with a service.

If it is necessary to store personal information physically, it will be held using reasonable security precautions at our offices.

Use of your information

To provide you with our services, we use your information in a number of ways, such as:

- setting up and maintaining your electricity supply with us;
- confirming your identity;
- emailing you with relevant information about your account with us, or about products and services we offer which may benefit you;
- communicating with you;
- carrying out credit checks, receiving payments and collecting debts;
- providing you with information on related products and services;
- external and internal reporting to regulatory bodies;
- where you have a battery and/or electric vehicle as part of a VPP proposition, for the purposes of assessing the performance of the battery and/or electric vehicle and for the efficient operation of the VPP; and
- assessing the performance of our business (at an aggregate, not individual customer, level).

Your personal information will not be disclosed outside Energy Locals except as outlined in this policy.

If you leave Energy Locals, your information may be used to:

- collect any money you may owe on your account;
- ask you for your feedback on us;
- provide you with information about our products and services;
- report, on an aggregate rather than individual basis, how our business is performing; or
- report to regulatory bodies as required.

Disclosure of your information

The only time we will disclose your personal information is when:

- we are required to by law, or it is requested by Police or other Government authorities;
- your local distribution company, metering coordinator or metering provider requires information to maintain your supply or resolve a dispute;
- you have had a battery and/electric vehicle as part of a VPP proposition;
- we carry out a credit check;
- we need to use a third party to collect overdue debt;
- you choose to move to a different energy retailer;
- we need to work with an ombudsman or other approved body to resolve a complaint or dispute;
- we need to add your information to other customers' information so we can measure the overall performance of our business;
- we need to communicate with one of our community or commercial partners to tell them which customers have chosen to support them, to provide you with a service, to manage your account or to report on the performance of our business at an aggregate level; or
- you tell us we can do this.

Your access to your personal information

You can ask us to share with you the information with hold about you. You can do this by emailing us at hello@meritonenergy.com.au If you think that we are holding inaccurate information, you can ask us to change or delete it. We can't guarantee we'll be able to meet every request to change or delete information and if we can't, we'll explain why.

If we're sending you information about new products and services that you don't want to receive, you can opt out of these communications at any time by emailing hello@meritonenergy.com.au

Your payment details

We do not store credit card data. All credit card data is stored by our banking partner, Westpac. The transfer of bank account data (e.g. BSB and account number) always takes place using a TLS (Transport Layer Security) protocol.

Your own login details

When you set up a login for online access to your Energy Locals account, it's your responsibility to keep those details secure. Please log out after using the Energy Locals website if others have access to the same computer or device.

Cookies and our website

Like most websites, Energy Locals uses cookies to help improve the experience people have when dealing with us online. Cookie files can't be used to access your computer, or the information stored on it. To help improve our website and online experience, we use analytical tools to measure how the website is used.

In order to keep our electricity prices low, we may introduce advertising on the Energy Locals website. This would involve the use of cookies to better select advertising that may be relevant to you, but your private data would not be shared with any advertiser.

If you start the process to join Energy Locals but don't finish it, we may use the information you entered up to that point to contact you by phone or email to see if we can help.

Changes to this policy

Energy Locals may change this policy at any time and we'll notify you of changes by posting a message on our website.

Complaints

If you feel we have not complied with this policy, please contact us so we can investigate. You can contact us by emailing hello@meritonenergy.com.au or writing to us at Energy Locals, 2/11 Newton Street, Richmond, Victoria 3121.

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trading as Meriton Energy Services
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 EnergyLocals