

SwitchDin enables more customers to join SA virtual power plant

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SwitchDin is enabling virtual power plant (VPP) compatibility for three of the five battery products available under the ARENA-supported Simply Energy Virtual Power Plant (VPP) program in South Australia.

Working directly with the manufacturers, SwitchDin provides the VPP-ready energy management system (EMS) in the form of its Droplet controller for the VARTA Storage's Pulse, the Sonnen's 'eco' range of battery systems, and the Eguana Technologies' Evolve system. The Droplet controller plugs directly into the Varta and Sonnen products whereas the Eguana product comes factory-equipped with SwitchDin's software.

Simply Energy offers payments to VPP participants in the form of ongoing 'VPP Access Credits' in exchange for access to & dispatch of their battery storage systems. Batteries will be used for both electricity distribution network services and energy market purposes.

Simply Energy, as the retailer, will dispatch the VPP's assets to help assist wholesale electricity market exposure. Modulated through SwitchDin's platform using the Simply Energy and Greensync's deX, the combined solution will give local distribution network operator South Australia Power Networks (SAPN) visibility of and access to distributed, customer-owned, 'behind-the-meter' systems.

SwitchDin's technology provides the VPP-readiness requirements essential for battery product approval under South Australia's Home Battery Scheme (HBS). This allows households to access the HBS incentive for approved systems as well as retailer offered VPP such as Simply Energy's VPP Access Credits. Together this dramatically improves the attractiveness of purchasing a home battery system in the state.

The project showcases how SwitchDin's technology ties together different verticals in the electricity sector by working with manufacturers and energy companies to facilitate better outcomes for energy end users and the grid as a whole.



“Helping customers, electricity retailers and distribution networks access the shared value that can come from orchestrating renewable energy and smart battery storage is what SwitchDin is all about,” said SwitchDin CEO Andrew Mears. “We bring a better deal for all parties.”

“SwitchDin enables Simply Energy to broaden the scope of battery products that we support in our VPP, giving customers more choice and value,” said Campbell Hutchison, General Manager (Acting) Simply Energy Solutions.

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About SwitchDin:

SwitchDin is an energy software company providing management solutions that offer intelligent asset monitoring, real-time aggregation and advanced control support for microgrids, virtual power plants and advanced network services. SwitchDin ensures that electricity networks, retailers and other energy service providers have visibility, flexibility and firm dispatch of heterogeneous fleets of small-scale distributed energy resources (DERs) while improving outcomes for energy end-consumers.