Dobinsons Spring & Suspension is based in Rockhampton and has been manufacturing leaf and coil springs since 1953 for the automotive industry here in Australia. As well we export to over 40 countries around the world. It is a struggle to stay competitive as we have to compete with countries like China, Thailand and Malaysia where the electricity is around 10 cents a kilowatt and when the current Tariff 20 Large and Tariff 37 become obsolete on 30/6/2020 Dobinsons Spring & Suspension will be paying close to 37 cents a kilowatt on Tariff 46 based on today’s pricing – that is a 68% increase.

In 2007 Tariff 37 was 8.27 cents a kilowatt - see below the change and increases that will be incurred in costs:-

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TARIFF</th>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>COST</th>
<th>TOTAL POWER BILL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T37</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>8.272 cents including GST, plus T20</td>
<td>$100,000 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T37</td>
<td>2015</td>
<td>19.694 cents including GST, plus T20</td>
<td>$301,000 per annum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T46</td>
<td>2020</td>
<td>37 cents per kilowatt with Daily Service fee and Demand Charge</td>
<td>$519,000 per annum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

That will be a 500% increase from 2007 to 2020. How can any business survive when the current T20 and T37 become obsolete and being forced to go to the next most competitive tariff, being T46?

I have attached previous submissions I have sent to the QCA dated 19/19/12 and 14/01/13 both of which seem to have fallen onto deaf ears.

Dobinsons Spring & Suspension consumption for T20 for May 2014 to April 2015 was 184,596 kw and T37 was 1,214,431kw for the same period, giving a total of 1,399,027kwH.

Now to cut a long story short, I do not see a future after 2020 when the current Tariffs 20 and 37 become obsolete as Dobinsons Spring & Suspension will not be competitive anymore if the current tariffs could be left as is it would keep Australia businesses competitive.

Tariff 37 is very similar to the new demand type tariffs. T37 electricity prices increase from 19 cents to 49 cents between 4.30pm and 10.30pm which works perfectly for Ergon Electricity. Dobinsons Spring & Suspension stop all manufacturing at 4.30pm so as to not incringe on Ergon’s peak loading, so we work hand in hand with Ergon’s loading times and our manufacturing times.

Electricity pricing has become a very complex matter and even more difficult to work out on T50. I haven’t got enough time to write out the 100 pages it really needs to explain fully how complex the matter is.
Please leave T37 and T20 as it is as we have structured our business for the past 50 years around these tariffs and keep on making changes in all aspects of our business year in year out to become more productive and efficient so as to try and make a dollar and all that seems to happen is we make it in one hand and the Government takes it out of the other hand by way of taxes, charges and now electricity costs. I am over it. It is damn depressing. We need to leave it as it was 7 years ago.

Glen Dobinson

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