

M/s. Leanne Donaldson MP,  
Cnr. Barolin & Quay Sts.,  
Bundaberg, Q. 4670.



Dear Leanne,

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss my concerns about electricity prices yesterday, 12/2/2016.

I am an aged pensioner and a carer for my wife. We have lived in Bundaberg since late January 2011 and are surprised at the continual increase in electricity costs.

I realize that the present government is trying to limit, or subsidise increases. However, I feel that all of these efforts are being eroded by the energy supplier. I am enclosing a sheet showing every price increase or decrease as well as the rebates and extra fees that I have been charged since I came to Bundaberg.

**Service fees.**

This appears to be a major windfall for the electricity supplier. It has grown from \$21.62 on my first account to \$111.53 on the last. It is obvious that the supplier has two ways to milk the user. Increase the price of electricity and also increase the service fee.

- \* From the 20/1/2011 to the 5/7/2013 the government rebate was double the service fee.
- \* From the 5/7/2013 to the 7/7/2014 the service fee doubled.
- \* From the 7/10/2014 to the 2/7/2015 the service fee exceeded the government rebate.
- \* From the 2/7/2015 to the 5/1/2016 the service fee has increased dramatically.

I do not wish to make money out of the government rebate. Neither do I want the service fee to increase so much that the rebate is of no benefit to me

I appreciate the reductions in electricity prices. On 7/10/2014.

The decrease in tariff 11, on 2/7/2015 was offset by an increase in tariff 31 and the addition of a metering charge.

**OPC draft report.**

**Point 3** refers to information for customers so that they can shop around. - If electricity prices reduce, why will I need to shop around?

**Point 4** refers to the Solar Bonus Scheme. I invested in solar because of the hype assuring me that I would be doing my state and nation a good turn by reducing the carbon footprint. I feel that I have been conned. Between price increases and massive service fee charges I wonder why I am being penalised for helping my country.

**Points 6 & 7** leave me surprised. I can remember in the 1950's how we were encouraged to rely on government electricity. If electricity generation is such a polluting problem why not put effort into making our gadgets more efficient? Instead we are asked to help with solar and now penalised because we have solar.

**Point 8.** The possible increase by 26% is frightening. How many power stations have been built since Joh Bjelkie Peterson days. There have been massive increases in power to industry since then. (I came from Gladstone.) What increases have industry faced? I can only handle a fair increase. Will electricity become a luxury?

I remain,  
Yours faithfully  
Bruce Jones.

*Bruce Jones*



BILLING PERIOD	TARIFF 11	TARIFF 31	OLD GOVT. ELECTRICITY REBATE.	SERVICE FEE.	METERING CHARGE.
FROM - TO	HOURS & POWER PT.	H.W. SYSTEM.			
PER QUARTER	C. PER K.W.HR.	C. PER K.W.HR.	FOR PENSIONERS.	FOR ERGON	FOR ?
10/1/11 To 11/4/11	19.41 <sup>c</sup> PER K.W.H.	7.92 <sup>c</sup> PER K.W.H.	\$ 46.20	\$ 21.62	-
To 13/7/11	20.69 <sup>c</sup> / ...	8.44 <sup>c</sup> / ...	\$ 55.59	\$ 28.99	-
To 7/10/11	✓	✓	\$ 54.30	\$ 24.76	-
To 9/1/12	✓	✓	\$ 59.36	\$ 27.06	-
To 10/4/12	✓	✓	\$ 58.09	\$ 26.49	-
To 9/9/12	23.07 <sup>c</sup> / ...	11.009 <sup>c</sup> / ...	\$ 56.83	\$ 25.92	-
To 8/10/12	✓	✓	\$ 57.45	\$ 26.19	-
To 7/1/13	✓	✓	\$ 57.45	\$ 26.19	-
To 5/11/13	✓	✓	\$ 57.45	\$ 26.19	-
4/13 To 5/9/13	26.73 <sup>c</sup> / ...	12.37 <sup>c</sup> / ...	\$ 56.28	\$ 26.65	-
5/7/13 To 8/10/13	✓	✓	\$ 73.54	\$ 52.48	- (#1)
To 8/1/14	✓	✓	\$ 71.21	\$ 50.82	-
To 3/11/14	✓	✓	\$ 65.79	\$ 46.96	-
To 7/7/14	28.015 <sup>c</sup> / ...	14.375 <sup>c</sup> / ...	\$ 74.27	\$ 55.03	-
1/9/14 To 7/10/14	25.378 <sup>c</sup> / ...	11.743 <sup>c</sup> / ...	\$ 80.89	\$ 84.41	- (#2)
To 6/1/15	✓	✓	\$ 80.03	\$ 83.50	-
To 2/4/15	✓	✓	\$ 75.63	\$ 78.91	-
2/11/15 To 2/7/15	22.238 <sup>c</sup> / ...	12.44 <sup>c</sup> / ...	\$ 80.03	\$ 84.00	\$ 0.19 DAYS (#3)
To 2/10/15	✓	✓	\$ 80.89	\$ 108.01	\$ 6.78 (#4)
To 5/1/16	✓	✓	\$ 83.53	\$ 111.53	\$ 7.00.