

Increases in electricity tariffs in my business will result in my business losing its competitive edge and force us to increase tariffs to our customers. This will most likely result in lowered income and we will have to reduce the number of staff employed from 7 to 4. Its your call but surely there is enough problems in rural Queensland without imposing further strains on the businesses that are still operating there and on the people living there who pay higher everything than their southern counterparts. Our business would still struggle but we would be forced to consider its profitability and we may even close it down. Businesses closing and population decreases as a result of ever escalating unnecessary price increases for vital items is a vicious circle that will continue until rural Queensland is almost devoid of population. That will put unbearable pressure on the south east corner for government services, etc. which the government will be unable to provide. Surely it would be better to keep services and population in rural areas than to impose this madness on north Queensland as electricity price increases, as we all know, just go to fill state government coffers. The State Government would be better of finding ways of cutting costs than increasing the tax burden on rural Queensland