**Submission on QCA's draft determination on the notified prices 2026-27**

**Name: Sutcliffe, D**

**Date: 5 May 2026**

I respectfully request your consideration of this personal submission in the determination and presentation of the revised – Regulated Electricity Prices for Regional Queensland 2026-27

I have witnessed several changes in the billing of electricity usage to my residence over recent years and find the manner in which increased costs of the renewables transition has been subsumed within the items of my bill in such a way as to support the political narrative from Canberra disingenuous.

The latest round of tariff changes proports to reduce my electricity bill, but I can see this as a means of sugar-coating the decisions you preside over, whilst my total bill continues to increase. Yes, the energy tariffs are coming down based on energy usage (kWhrs), but my service charges based on flat daily rates have increased to more than half my bill, and I have no control over this component of my bill unless I have my power cut off. Previously Ergon charged me $1.24243 per day as a service fee, but this is now $1.53493 per day. I know the service fee in the Energex area is currently $1.26500 per day. How do you reconcile this difference alongside the Uniform Tariff Policy (UTP)? Does the Service Fee not form part of the regulated benchmark in SEQ?

I understand that the uptake of subsidised rooftop solar panels, utility scale solar farms and windfarms has resulted in a glut of electrical energy during the days when the sun is shining and the wind is blowing, resulting in the wholesale market price for energy being lower. At the same time the network costs have increased to include provision for firming, frequency support and synchronisation of this form of intermittent generation. There is now the added cost of large transmission line systems to connect high density power users in urban areas to the over build of low density renewable generation.

I also understand that the higher penetration of rooftop solar in urban areas results in a lower Solar Feed-in Tarif than that experienced in regional Queensland from the application of the 'avoided cost' methodology. Obviously I have no complaint on this aspect, except to say that the 'avoided cost' methodology is seen from the retailer's perspective. The customer would view this discrepancy between urban and regional FiT much differently. Especially since the decline in FiT has been dramatic of the last decade.

My request therefore is that the narrative regarding Electricity cost to customers is honest in its representation of the total cost to consumers. At some point, and it is fast approaching, the truth will be revealed federally. Meanwhile, as a Queensland Authority, with a mandate to ensure some fairness across the industry, please include some statement which alerts readers of your publications to the additional costs associated with electrical supply to regional customers.