

Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen Minister for Public Works and Procurement

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Professor Flavio Menezes
Chair
Queensland Competition Authority
Email:

Dear Professor Menezes

Plavio

Since its commencement in 2016-17, the annual South East Queensland (SEQ) retail electricity market monitoring function provided by the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) has greatly assisted the Queensland Government in ensuring that electricity customers in SEQ have the opportunity to benefit from increased competition in the market.

Queensland's energy system is transforming to create reliable, clean and affordable energy to power generations to come, and the Queensland and Energy Jobs Plan (QEJP) is driving real and lasting benefits for communities. In unison with the accelerated progress of the QEJP, Queensland homeowners and businesses are being provided with more diverse pricing structures and products and service offerings as part of their retail electricity plans.

Although market reports to date have provided information including retail fees and prices, discounts and incentives, new types of electricity plans, market competitiveness and other significant issues, there continues to be a gap in information regarding disengaged customers who have remained on legacy market offers that have increased over time above the Default Market Offer (DMO). The government wants to ensure that no customer pays above a fair price for electricity.

As you are aware, in June 2021, I directed QCA continue to report on the operation of the SEQ retail electricity market annually from 2020-21 to 2024-25, pursuant to section 89B of the *Electricity Act 1994* (the Act). Accordingly, I am now requesting QCA utilise its powers under section 89C of the Act, to request that retailers provide the number of households and small businesses in SEQ which remain on legacy market offers that are now above the DMO, for inclusion in future market monitoring reports.

The Department of Energy and Public Works (DEPW) will be available to consult with QCA on the matters as required. If you require more information or assistance with this matter,

Yours sincerely

Mick de Brenni MP Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen Minister for Public Works and Procurement