



Electricity prices are going up - are you aware of how this will affect you?

Recently the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) released its draft determination in regulated electricity prices for 2013-2014.

In an effort to perhaps dull the blow that will affect us all come August when we receive our first invoice, the QCA have released figures indicating further increases in regulated electricity pricing for 2013-2014.

Coupled with the 30-40% increase some customers have seen over the

past 12 months, this is another blow for businesses to contend with.

Many small businesses have entered into a market contract with their retailer, receiving up to 10% discount, where large business customers are gradually being moved onto large retail market contracts.

The threshold for a large customer is 100,000 kWh per annum. As this consumption is identified they are required to move to a competitive retailer agreement.

This can be very beneficial to a business with the ability to lock in low retail rates for an agreed period of time while monitoring and controlling the Demand Side aspect of their business.

Demand Side Management is being identified as a necessity for reducing business costs, rather than a luxury.

Peak Demand Management will not necessarily reduce the total electricity consumption for your business, but can have a profound impact on the resulting cost of your electricity use.

With approximately 60% of electricity costs attributed to network charges, anything you can do to reduce these costs will help offset any further price increases.

For more information on the QCA draft determination in regulated electricity prices for 2013-2014 go to <http://www.qca.org.au/files/ER-QCA-DraftDetermination-RREP201314-0313.pdf>

Once final pricing is determined the QCA will publish all notified electricity prices at <http://www.qca.org.au/electricity-retail/NEP/>

Likely price increases for the most common regulated retail electricity tariffs

Retail Tariff	2012-13 Bill	2013-14 Bill	Typical increases (per annum)	
	\$	\$	\$	%
Tariff 11 – Residential	1,184	1,437	\$253	21.4%
Tariff 31 – Night rate (super economy)	242	278	\$36	15.0%
Tariff 33 – Controlled supply (economy)	343	408	\$65	18.9%
Tariff 20 – Small Business (flat rate)	1,615	1,868	\$253	15.7%
Tariff 22 – Small Business (time-of-use)	3,638	4,070	\$432	11.9%

"The QCA understands that price increases are never welcome news. The QCA has rigorously assessed the information before it to ensure that the price increases proposed in the draft determination are necessary to support a sustainable, competitive electricity market in Queensland."

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