

**Submission
No 30**

**THE ELECTRICITY OUTAGES AFFECTING FAR WEST NSW IN OCTOBER
2024**

Name: Ms Anita O'Connor

Date Received: 10 February 2025

I live at [REDACTED] homestead being 15kms west of Milparinka.

When the power outage occurred we were shearing and had a team of 16 in the quarters, in addition to the two households which reside here. So, very inconvenient to say the least.

Our back up generators are really quite small. 8kva for re quarters and my household , and 12kva for the sheds and the main household. They are also quite old and not meant to be running for the number of hours required for this breakdown. There is no generator connected to the shearing shed. The rebate of \$400 per ABN was quite insufficient as one cannot hire a 20kva generator to run the woolshed and then supplement the quarters for \$400 a day. Also needs to be hired from Broken Hill which is 320km away. We operate our family business over three properties, all under the same ABN, so impacts to business at Mt Browne and Floods Creek had no rebate at all.

I would also like to mention that currently we are undergoing another power outage since about 6 pm last night, 9 February and no phone coverage without wifi. The wifi has to run with power!

I visited Tibooburra today and they were on the emergency power back up system when I was there from 12midday until 2pm. That seemed to be working quite well. However they had no phone service with it, and as I understand it, their phones didn't come back on line until about 2.30 pm. That means that anyone without access to wifi had no phone service for about 20 hours.

After all the politicians finally visiting Broken Hill re the major power outage (it only made the Sydney news about 3 days after it had begun), Teltra said they woud install generators at the towers. I imagine that it took Telstra 20 hours to get that started.

This is going to be even later, sorry, as my generator is not transferring power to my house at the moment to work the wifi.