

4 SELECT COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, DEMAND AND PRICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES (FORMAL BUSINESS)

Mr Borsak moved, according to notice, as by leave amended:

1. That a select committee be established to inquire into and report on electricity supply, demand and prices in New South Wales, and in particular:
 - (a) the reasons for recent large increases in the price of electricity,
 - (b) the impact of the deregulation of electricity prices in 2014,
 - (c) alleged collusion and price gouging by energy retailers,
 - (d) the effectiveness or impact of any current regulatory standards and guidelines,
 - (e) options for future government oversight and responsibility in the re-regulation of electricity prices,
 - (f) the adequacy of planning to meet future electricity demand, including utilising high efficiency, low emissions coal technology as well as the use of nuclear, gas, solar and wind energies, and energy storage through batteries, pumped hydro and hydrogen, and improved transmission between regions,
 - (g) the adequacy of programs to assist low income earners, pensioners and senior card holders to afford electricity as well as the impact of additional fees, such as late payment fees, included in energy bills, and
 - (h) any other related matter.
2. That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the standing orders, the committee consist of seven members comprising:
 - (a) two government members,
 - (b) two opposition members, and
 - (c) three crossbench members, being Mr Borsak, Mr Buckingham and Mr Green.
3. That the Chair of the committee be Mr Green and the Deputy Chair be Mr Borsak.
4. That members may be appointed to the committee as substitute members for any matter before the committee by providing notice in writing to the Committee Clerk, with nominations made as follows:
 - (a) nominations for substitute government or opposition members are to be made by the Leader of the Government, Leader of the Opposition, Government or Opposition Whip or Deputy Whip, as applicable, and
 - (b) nominations for substitute crossbench members are to be made by the substantive member or another crossbench member.
5. That a committee member who is unable to attend a deliberative meeting in person may participate by electronic communication and may move any motion and be counted for the purpose of any quorum or division, provided that:
 - (a) the Chair is present in the meeting room,

- (b) all members are able to speak and hear each other at all times, and
 - (c) members may not participate by electronic communication in a meeting to consider a draft report.
6. That, unless the committee decides otherwise:
- (a) submissions to inquiries are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration,
 - (b) the Chair's proposed witness list is to be circulated to provide members with an opportunity to amend the list, with the witness list agreed to by email, unless a member requests the Chair to convene a meeting to resolve any disagreement,
 - (c) the sequence of questions to be asked at hearings alternate between opposition, crossbench and government members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each,
 - (d) transcripts of evidence taken at public hearings are to be published,
 - (e) supplementary questions are to be lodged with the Committee Clerk within two days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, following the receipt of the hearing transcript, with witnesses requested to return answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions within 21 calendar days of the date on which questions are forwarded to the witness, and
 - (f) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration.
7. That the committee report by 9 March 2018.

Question put and passed.