



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, DEMAND AND PRICES IN NEW SOUTH WALES

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1 September 2017

A new Upper House committee has been established to inquire into electricity supply, demand and prices in NSW.

The committee will investigate the reasons for recent large increases in the price of electricity, and the impact of the deregulation of electricity prices in 2014.

The Chair of the committee, the Hon Paul Green MLC, stated “Affordable electricity is an essential requirement in the modern world, and can be an increasing challenge for single parent families, pensioners, the vulnerable and small to medium enterprises. The committee will look into electricity prices in NSW, investigate any price gouging by energy retailers, and assess the effectiveness of current regulatory standards and guidelines.” Mr Green continued “While the government has implemented programs to assist low income earners to afford electricity, the adequacy of these programs will be a key feature of this inquiry.”

The committee will also look at the level of planning to meet future electricity demand in New South Wales, including the use of various generation, energy storage and transmission technologies. “With recent power outages in South Australia, it is appropriate that the committee look at what the government is doing to ensure that the lights don’t go out in New South Wales” Mr Green said.

The Committee welcomes submissions from interested parties, which should be received by 16 October 2017. Submissions can be lodged via the parliamentary website:

<https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/listofcommittees/Pages/committee-details.aspx?pk=251>

For more information, including terms of reference and guidelines for making a submission, please visit the parliamentary website.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair Hon. Paul Green MLC, on 9230 3364