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Australian Energy Market Commission

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The Hon Paul Green LC Committee Chair Select committee on electricity supply, demand and prices in New South Wales Parliament House Sydney ACT 2000

By email: electricitysupply@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Chair

Questions on Notice: inquiry into electricity supply, demand and prices in New South Wales

I am pleased to respond to a question taken on notice on 17 November during Australian Energy Market Commission's (AEMC or Commission) appearance before the Legislative Council's Select Committee on electricity supply, demand and prices in New South Wales (NSW). Please find the answer below.

What other things can New South Wales consider doing to make the market more transparent, to get more information and to address what has been a fairly alarming rise in electricity prices?

There are several steps that can be taken to improve the transparency and operation of the retail energy market in the face of price increases. Jurisdictions can:

- support actions to improve consumer awareness about options to reduce and manage their energy bills including by promoting the government price comparison website www.energymadeeasy.gov.au
- assist in streamlining arrangements to allow consumers and their representatives to access their metering data
- improve the awareness and effectiveness of energy concession schemes for different consumer groups.

Additionally, the New South Wales Government can support the introduction of a policy that improves the integration of energy and climate objectives such as the National Energy Guarantee. The Guarantee aims to improve the reliability of the system whilst reducing emissions from the sector. A policy that can encourage investment in the electricity sector is likely to reduce wholesale electricity prices, which ultimately benefits the consumer.

If you have any questions or require further information please contact me on email I

or

Yours sincerely

Kris Funston
Executive General Manager, Retail and Wholesale Markets