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**From:** Charmaine Shakespeare [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 28 June 2017 11:20 AM  
**To:** Retail Electricity Inquiry  
**Subject:** TRIM: Electricity Supply and Prices Inquiry - Submission

**HP TRIM Record Number:** D17/88003

Dear ACCC,

As part of the electricity supply and prices inquiry, I would submit that attention should be given to the amount of debt that the generation and supply industry is being forced to service because of politically based equity raids. As 'government owned corporations' (GOC) billions of dollars of debt has been imposed on the generation and supply companies to cover political debt of (Qld) state government. The state government will also expect maximum dividends from its GOCs thus increasing the pressure to produce higher returns.

These energy companies surely cannot be expected to manage their long term maintenance, expansion and development when they are being stripped of their cash and expected to service massive debt and interest payments.

State governments should not be able to hide their fiscal mismanagement by forcing critical infrastructure companies into huge debt. Ultimately it is the consumers who will be paying for this through the increased retail pricing – effectively creating a 'hidden tax' on all energy users.

Sincerely,

*Charmaine Shakespeare*  
[REDACTED]