

[REDACTED]

From: Peter Hansen [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 15 June 2017 2:32 PM
To: Retail Electricity Inquiry
Subject: TRIM: ACCC action needed

HP TRIM Record Number: D17/81486

Dear ACCC

Consumers are painfully aware of the dysfunctional state of the retail electricity market in Australia. The ACCC as the consumer advocate and regulator of infrastructure has not been conspicuously active in remedying the situation. Conducting an enquirey at the minister's request is too little too late.

The cards are stacked against retail and commercial electricity users. Prices are amongst the highest in the world and are slated to further increase. The reasons for this are well publicized and make depressing reading. State and federal governments, generators and transmission companies and instrumentalities have acted in their own interests to the detriment of retail and business users. Excessive prices that rise well in excess of CPI, unreliability and lack of security are the result. Australia's natural competitive advantage in energy is being squandered, and we risk wasted money in assets that will become well and truly stranded once storage and PV become sufficiently attractive for retail customers to abandon the dysfunctional reticulated network.

Presumably the ACCC has powers to declare essential services as dysfunctional, thus passing their regulation to a supremo regulator empowered to operate a fully regulated system, with participants compelled to comply. We await such action.

Yours,

Peter Hansen