

I understand that there is an intention to increase charges for electricity to businesses in regional Queensland by about 10%. This amount exceeds CPI. This will increase the overheads for running my company, which employs 17 people, and unlike the public sector or the Banks I can not simply increase the charges to my clients. In addition, the service delivery in regional areas is incomparable to that in capital cities and in my region I understand we lack built in redundancy in the circumstances of calamity. Therefore we are exposed to greater risks than counter parts who operate in capital cities. Instead of applying a 10% increase in charges, how about undertake to deliver a 10% increase in productivity and in doing so, provide a rebate to regional businesses. The problem created by passing on the costs of poor productivity to the private sector is that eventually the entrepreneurial drive is killed off - the ultimate outcome is loss of wealth to society as it is the private sector that generates wealth not the public sector.