# Queensland Competition Authority

Residential and small business customer fact sheet

**Active customers are likely** to pay less than inactive or disengaged customers.

We encourage customers to regularly check whether they can find a better electricity plan by using **Energy Made** Easy.

It is a free website developed by the Australian Energy Regulator — independent of commercial third parties, and includes all generally available electricity plans.

> Our current and past monitoring reports

## SEQ retail electricity market monitoring 2021-22

### **Electricity prices increased**

Recent increases in retail electricity prices are primarily driven by a significant increase in wholesale energy costs



By the September quarter of 2022, the average market offer was more expensive than the average standing offer

#### It pays to shop around

Some retailers had market offers available in June 2022 that were cheaper than their cheapest plan a year earlier



#### Incentives became more common than discounts in 2021-22

Non-financial

13

Retailers continued to compete on price by offering discounts and incentives. Some retailers offered more than one type of incentive and/or discount.

> Unlike previous years, discounts were less common than financial incentives

which can include sign-up credits or gift cards.

Non-financial incentives can include streaming service subscriptions, green power rebates, rewards points or items such as air fryers.

incentives **Number of** retailers offering discount or incentive type **Financial** incentives

**Discounts** 

18



#### **Check the fine print**

There may be conditions or eligibility criteria attached to a plan, and not every customer will be able to realise savings from discounts and incentives.

#### Key market indicators suggest the SEQ retail market remains competitive

#### Market concentration



AGL and Origin Energy's market share decreased from 80% to 65% (2015 to 2022)

#### **Customer switching**



Switching increased significantly in the June quarter of 2022

#### Plan structures

New or innovative plans emerged or became more common, which:

- Incentivised electric vehicle charging during certain times
- Offered subscriptions for a set • amount of electricity with no fees or supply charges
- Rewarded customers that had a battery

Allowed customers to join • virtual power plants or form a collective with a local generator for renewable energy