



CAROL MARTIN

Member of the Legislative Assembly

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5th of March 2009

Mr Paul Kelly
Chairperson ECCC
Level 6 197 St Georges Terrace
Perth WA 6000

Dear Paul

ERA REVIEW OF THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR ELECTRICITY RETAILERS FOR SMALL USE CUSTOMERS

This letter is to ensure that the ERA and Electricity Consultative Committee are aware of the views of some Indigenous community residents and other household electricity users in the Kimberley concerning the restrictions on the use of pre-payment meters.

Residents in communities in the Kimberley that have had pre-payment meters installed in their homes have generally been very satisfied with these meters and how they have been informed about their use. While some people have said that they would like to be able to buy the cards at night when the community store or town supermarkets are closed, this is a relatively minor issue.

I am aware that many people (Indigenous and non-Indigenous) in mainstream housing, in particular people in towns that have the prepayment meters in nearby town reserves, have become aware of the availability of the pre-payment meters and wish to be able to use them. People want to use the meter to assist them to budget for the cost of electricity and to encourage visiting family members to contribute to the cost of electricity as they use it. As you may be aware it is the quite often appropriate for Indigenous families in towns to receive visitors during the wet season, who may consume power, but leave the host family to meet the bill a few months later.

I encourage the Consultative Committee to take note of the views of people in regional WA and agree to the necessary changes that will enable the pre-payment meters to be available to all residential consumers of electricity. I can be contacted in relation to this matter through my Electorate Officer Mrs Jodie Lynch on 08 9192 3111.

Kind Regards


Mrs Carol Martin BASW JP MLA
Member for Kimberley

Economic Regulation Authority 18 March 2009



Electorate of Kimberley

Argyle	Glen Hill	Mt Hardman
Balgo	Halls Creek	Mueller Ranges
Bayulu	Imintji	Mulan
Beagle Bay	Jarlmadangah	Muludja
Bidyadanga	Jimbalakudunj	Ngaingkadji
Bilingurr	Junjuwa	Ngallagunda
Bow River	Kalumburu	Ngumpun
Broome	Kimbolton	Noonkanbah
Cable Beach	King Leopold ranges	One Arm Point
Camballin	Koolan Island	Oombulgurri
Cambridge Gulf	Kununurra	Ord River
Cockatoo Island	Kuparttiya	Pandanus Park
Dampier Peninsula	Kupungarri	Prince Regent River
Derby	LaGrange	Purnululu
Djarindjin	Lake Argyle	Ringers Soak
Djugun	Lombadina	Roebuck
Doon Doon	Looma	St George Ranges
Drysdale River	McBeath	Sturt Creek
Durack	Meda	Tanami
Eighty Mile Beach	Mindi Rardi	Wangkatjungka
Fitzroy Crossing	Mindibungu	Warmun
Galeru Gorge	Minyirr	Waterbank
Geegully Creek	Mitchell Plateau	Willare
Gibb	Moongardi	Wirrimanu Community
Gibb River Station	Mowanjum	Wyndham
Gingerah	Mt Barnett	Yakanarra
	Mt Elizabeth	Yiyili