



**MEDIA RELEASE- 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017**

## **More voices against rising power bills needed**

Businesses struggling to cope with rising power bills have been given a voice.

Coordinator of the Queensland Electricity Users Network (QEUN) Jennifer Brownie said Mareeba was leading the charge to reduce power bills but more voices were needed.

“We launched our online business survey in Mareeba with a target of 200 businesses across the Mareeba Shire Council area. To date we have received 151 completed surveys and the survey closes on 31<sup>st</sup> August.”

“Businesses are very frustrated as power bills rose again on 1<sup>st</sup> July”.

“Most businesses believe there is nothing they can do but this is definitely not the case,” Ms Brownie said.

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission’s (ACCC) Inquiry into Electricity Supply and Prices must deliver a preliminary report to the Federal Treasurer by 27 September 2017.

“Whilst businesses in Mareeba Shire couldn’t attend the ACCC meeting in Brisbane and don’t have the time to write a submission, they can still have their voices heard if they fill in the QEUN’s brief online survey,” she said.

The QEUN will provide a report to the ACCC on the findings of the business survey.

Ms Brownie said “All individual responses to the survey are aggregated allowing a business to voice an opinion without being identified.”

“We encourage as many types of businesses as possible to fill in the survey from main street shops, to those in located in industrial estates and including all types of farming businesses.

The aim of the survey is to lower power bills through a range of initiatives including a reduction in the unavoidable fixed charge component of a power bill.

To complete the online survey please visit [www.qeun.com.au](http://www.qeun.com.au)

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