

2015/16

GRANT DECISIONS

Energy  
Consumers  
Australia

| AP  | Applicant                                  | Project Title   | Project Purpose   | AMT FUNDED   | Approved: Yes (Y)/ No(N) |
|-----|--|---|---|--------------|--------------------------|
| 755 | Australian PV Institute                    | Network charges and regulatory proposals advocacy for energy consumers who have, or intend to, install photovoltaics                            | To represent the more than 1.2 million grid-connected householders with PV systems in the Victorian electricity distribution networks determination.  | \$28,250.00  | Y                        |
| 757 | Total Environment Centre                   | 2015 update of TEC/Greenpeace Green Electricity Guide and What Price Solar factsheet  | The What Price Solar? factsheet is the only simple comparison available of government feed-in tariffs and voluntary retailer export prices across Australia and will also provide tips on how solar customers can avoid contractual and tariff traps.       | \$34,990.00  | Y                        |
| 759 | South Australian Council of Social Service | National Consumer Roundtable on Energy – organisation of meetings   | To maximise the complementarity and effectiveness of Energy Consumers Australia (ECA) and the Roundtable during the establishment of ECA by maintaining and sharing consumer advocate knowledge bases, networks, relationships and resource.                | \$102,126.00 | Y                        |
| 760 | South Australian Council of Social Service | Embedding Better Practice among Energy Retailers  | To ensure that optimal outcomes occur for consumers at risk of or directly experiencing energy hardship and affordability issues. The project will target 6 energy retailers and aim to embed SACOSS' Better Practice Guideline within their business plan. | \$65,465.00  | Y                        |
| 761 | Cummings Economics                         | Assistance to Far North Queensland industry and social organisations to ensure input to Qld Productivity Commission Electricity Pricing Inquiry | To ensure that the Qld Productivity Commission Inquiry into Electricity Pricing receives input from regional organisations, to secure competitively priced and reliable electricity supply for regional Queensland.   | \$36,000.00  | Y                        |

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| 762 | Consumer Action Law Centre                 | Regulatory architecture for a consumer-driven energy market   | To assess alternative regulatory models for retail consumer protection in a transforming energy market, to produce a regulatory model that is sufficiently flexible, adaptable and dynamic to respond to market development and potential consumer detriment. |             | Withdrawn |
| 763 | Public Interest Advocacy Centre            | Legal support and capacity-building for consumers in limited merits review                                  | To provide legal expertise to consumer organisations in order to improve their capacity to participate in limited merits review processes.  |             | Withdrawn |
| 764 | Tasmanian Small Business Council           | Advocacy on the future of the natural gas supply and prices to Tasmanian small businesses                   | To identify and measure the risk to Tasmanian small business from their currently limited access to natural gas and the renegotiation of the Tas gas transport contract post December 2017, together with forecast increase in domestic price.                | \$31,500.00 | Y         |
| 765 | Major Energy Users Inc                     | Consumer advocacy into stage 2 of the AEMC review of east coast gas markets                                 | To ensure consumer views are integrated into AEMC review of east coast gas markets.   | \$30,000.00 | Y         |
| 766 | South Australian Council of Social Service | SACOSS intervention in the Australian Competition Tribunal merits review of SA Power Networks               | To represent consumers in the ACT limited merits review process of SA Power Networks, to minimise SA consumers' prices, consolidate gains of NSW/ACT appeal and ensure consumer engagement NSPs benefits consumers.   | \$48,400.00 | Y         |
| 767 | Tasmanian Small Business Council           | Examination of the existence and impacts of cross-subsidies in Tasmanian small business electricity tariffs | To establish the existence of cross-subsidies in Tasmanian small business electricity tariffs, determine their impact on small business prices and competitiveness, identify rationale for cross-subsidies and advocate for reform.                           | \$25,000.00 | Y         |

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| 768 | Total Environment Centre    | Amicus curiae application to Federal Court in SAPN v AER in support of solar consumers                      | To benefit solar PV households through an amicus curiae intervention to the Federal Court considering SA Power Networks appeal against the AER rejection of its solar tariff.  | \$19,595.00 | Y |
| 769 | Tyson Vaughan               | Spoilt for choice: how the NEM framework thinks consumers make choices and how they choose in reality       | To examine how the NEM policy framework expects consumers to make choices to achieve the NEO and if it differs in reality, make recommendations to advocates and policy-makers to manage that risk.  |             | N |
| 770 | Total Environment Centre    | Proponent involvement in local generation network credit rule change process                                | Support rule change to require networks to offer a credit to local generators reflecting their limited use of the total network, thus promoting long term utilisation of the grid and reducing costs for remaining grid-connected customers. | \$28,650.00 | Y |
| 771 | Total Environment Centre    | Life after FiTs: options for solar and other consumers  | To provide advice to the 230,000 solar customers whose premium feed-in tariffs end on 31/12/16 and advocate for NSP contributions to NSW Climate Change Fund continuing after 2016, to assist low-income consumers.                          | \$32,750.00 | Y |
| 772 | Backroad Connections        | Research review and advocacy on the fair value of distributed generation                                    | Advocacy to Qld, Vic and Tas FiT inquiries to ensure that their methodology includes all relevant factors that determine a fair compensation for exported energy and owners get a fair return on their investment.                           | \$37,245.00 | Y |
| 773 | National Retail Association | Embedded network energy pricing - developing an equitable energy pricing policy for retail shopping centres | To investigate whether small to medium retailers which are bound to embedded electricity networks in shopping centres incur substantially higher energy costs than those available in competitive energy markets.                            |             | N |
| 774 | University of Sydney        | Improving the effectiveness of consumers' submissions made to the AEMC                                      | To improve the persuasiveness and effectiveness of consumer submissions to the AEMC rule change process, and identify areas of that process that hamper consumer engagement.   |             | N |

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| 775 | Cummings Economics                                 | Daintree/Cape Tribulation Project  | To find out how households and businesses in the area have reacted to living off the grid and especially the degree to which they have installed non-fossil fuel generation and their experiences of it.                              | \$11,200.00 | Y         |
| 776 | Burnett Inland Economic Development Organisation   | 2016 Queensland Rural Domestic Energy Consumer's Report  | To identify energy issues in a rural community to support future advocacy, as well as provide household auditors and information to domestic rural consumers in the Burnett region to reduce usage and explain new tariffs.           |             | N         |
| 777 | ACT Council for Social Service                     | Energised Consumers - Supporting ACT low-income domestic NGOs and consumers and small business consumers | Increased ACT consumer participation and representation at all levels of the energy market with documented policy positions for disadvantaged consumers, NGOs and small businesses, to drive better engagement in market.             | \$50,000.00 | Y         |
| 778 | Total Environment Centre                           | Protecting solar customers in setting network tariffs  | The bills and interests of solar households and small businesses will be better protected by these consumers being directly represented in network tariff structure statements - without adversely affecting non-solar consumers.     | \$0.00      | Withdrawn |
| 779 | Communications and Information Technology Training | SME uptake of clean and renewable energy efficient solutions   | To engage with industry and SME stakeholders to assess their uptake of clean and renewable energy efficient solutions and determine barriers impacting their choice and promote and disseminate best practice models and case studies | \$30,000.00 | Y         |
| 780 | Communications and Information Technology Training | Survey of SME electricity supply contracts and barriers to reducing costs                                | To survey over 27,000 telecommunications small business operators to identify the benefits and barriers to embracing energy saving technologies and third party opportunities.  | \$20,000.00 | Y         |

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| 781 | Consumer Action Law Centre                 | Engagement in Victorian hardship inquiry  | To ensure the Victorian hardship framework is designed with vulnerable consumers at its centre, informed by casework from Consumer Action and partner advocates   | \$18,098.00  | Y |
| 782 | Major Energy Users Inc                     | Assessment of the SA electricity wholesale market late 2015   | To assess the drivers of high SA wholesale prices, the impacts on consumers and any mechanisms to address the issue.  | \$16,800.00  | Y |
| 783 | Energy Users Association of Australia      | Performance scorecard on NSPs development of cost reflective tariffs  | To develop an advocates' performance scorecard of the DNSPs' development of Tariff Structure Statements, to inform the AER's assessments.   | \$39,845.00  | Y |
| 784 | South Australian Council of Social Service | SACOSS Appeal/Intervention in the Australian Competition Tribunal – AER Final Decision on the SA Power Networks Determination 2015-20 | To represent SA consumers in the Tribunal to promote the long-term interests of consumers and to minimise price increases in the 2015-2020 regulatory period.   | \$146,000.00 | Y |
| 785 | Council of Social Service of NSW (NCOSS)   | CEO GRANT NCOSS advocacy in NSW TSS   | To advocate for low income and vulnerable NSW households in NSW tariff reform program, equip a broad range of community sector organisations to participate in future reform processes and to develop an NCOSS strategic plan for engagement in next TSS.   | \$8,000.00   | Y |
| 786 | Tasmanian Small Business Council           | CEO GRANT TSBC review of Tasmanian wholesale electricity contract regulatory instrument Issues Paper                                  | To engage in the Tasmanian Government review of the Wholesale Contract Regulatory Instrument.   | \$9,000.00   | Y |
| 787 | Business South Australia                   | Analysis of SAPN tariff reforms through its proposed TSS in relation to impacts on small business                                     | To inform Business SA submission to the AER on SAPN TSS, to understand the impacts on small business and possible TSS adjustments, as well as Fed and State Governments understand policy settings to help small business adjust to cost-reflective tariffs | \$27,600.00  | Y |

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| 788 | RMIT Centre for Urban Research        | Smart home control: exploring the potential for enabling technologies in vulnerable and disadvantaged households  | To inform programs, strategies and technologies designed to provide households with greater control over their home appliances and electricity use in response to energy market reforms.                                      | \$153,660.00 | Y |
| 789 | Financial and Consumer Rights Council | Rank the Energy Retailer 2016   | To document and analyse the opinions and experiences of approximately 130 Victorian financial counsellors in regard to the financial hardship practices of Victorian energy retailers, to highlight poor and good performance | \$45,000.00  | Y |
| 790 | Energy Users Association of Australia | Ensuring the Powerlink and SP Ausnet 2017-2022 Revenue Determinations reflect consumers' long-term interests      | To collaborate with a range of consumer groups to advocate for consumers in the Powerlink and SP Ausnet revenue resets.   |              | N |
| 791 | Queensland Council of Social Service  | Interaction between energy supply and residential rental housing arrangements                                     | Research current and emerging energy consumer issues for various rental households to highlight existing scenarios and possible future issues in the developing energy market in urban and regional Qld.                      | \$67,909.00  | Y |
| 792 | Queensland Council of Social Service  | Advocacy for residential and business consumers to QLD Productivity Commission (QPC) Review of Electricity Prices | The Qld Energy Consumers Reference Committee (QECRC), chaired jointly by QCOSS and CCIQ, will provide a joint perspective to the QPC review and to the Qld Government to provide a Qld consumer perspective.                  | \$36,135.00  | Y |
| 793 | Tasmanian Small Business Council      | Small Business Advocacy on TasNetworks Distribution Determination 2017-2019                                       | To provide well-informed advocacy on behalf of Tasmanian small businesses for the AER's Determination of TasNetworks Distribution Services 2017-2019  | \$68,500.00  | Y |



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| 794 | St Vincent de Paul Society Victoria Inc       | Tariff-tracking and price analysis in NSW, QLD, SA, ACT and TAS post price resets in July 2016                   | To inform residential consumers across the NEM about changes to electricity and gas prices post the price re-set in July 2016 and inform regulators, policy-makers and advocates about market trends, tariff changes and issues arising in NEM retail markets. | \$77,190.00  | Y |
| 795 | Total Environment Centre                      | Networks & batteries: what's best for consumers?   | To develop and advocate for a consumer-focused approach on the involvement of distribution networks in behind-the-meter and grid-side battery installations.   | \$68,900.00  | Y |
| 796 | Aged and Community Services Tasmania          | Network Tariff Reform undertaken by TasNetworks  | To represent AGCT and LGAT members in the AER's consideration of TasNetworks Tariff Structure Statement, and particularly the proposed changes to the existing nursing home tariff   |              | N |
| 797 | Cummings Economics                            | CEO GRANT FNQEUN Consumer Engagement Grant   | To enable FNQUEN to advocate for small businesses and households in regional Queensland from mid-March to May 2016 during a critical time for electricity pricing for Qld consumers.   | \$10,000.00  | Y |
| 799 | Ethnic Communities Council of New South Wales | CEO GRANT Representing CALD energy consumers at the ENA Conference, Adelaide May 2016                            | To enable ECC NSW presentation of its consumer engagement research and guidelines to the ENA Conference 18-20 May 2015.  | \$960.00     | Y |
| 800 | Public Interest Advocacy Centre               | AER vs Australian Competition Tribunal ADJR applications to the Full Federal Court: NSD 415,416,418,419,420/2016 | To enable PIAC to intervene in proceedings initiated by the AER in the Federal Court, seeking judicial review of the Australian Competition Tribunal decision on NSW networks.   | \$212,800.00 | Y |
| 802 | Consumer Utilities Advocacy Centre            | CUAC intervention in the Australian Competition Tribunal – AER final decision for the Victorian DNSPs            | To ensure consumers are represented in Australian Competition Tribunal matters related to the Victorian DNSPs; minimise prices paid to Victorian consumers; ensure gains from NSW/ACT LMR processes benefit Victorians.  | \$48,000.00  | Y |



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| 803 | Goanna Energy Consulting Pty Ltd                                 | Optimising consumer outcomes from increasing adoption of electric vehicles in Australia - Tasmanian case study | To understand the number of EVs required to have a material impact on the NEM, to measure that impact on prices, bills and equivalent vehicle fuel costs, and potential changes required to optimize consumer benefits.                                       |             | N |
| 805 | University of NSW  | Photovoltaics on apartment buildings   | To increase deployment of PV on Australian apartment buildings, to enable residents to share the financial and other benefits of on-site renewable energy deployment, through creation of a strong evidence base outlining benefits.                          |             | N |
| 806 | Engineroom Infrastructure Consulting                             | Realising the benefits of smart meters   | To identify the incidence of benefits from smart meters so they're introduced in cost-effective way and benefits passed through to consumers, and to identify any NER changes to support functionality requirements.  |             | N |
| 807 | Engineroom Infrastructure Consulting                             | Research and advocacy materials on accelerated depreciation  | To develop advocacy materials and reasoned analysis in relation to networks' and ENA proposals to use accelerated depreciation to manage the threat from emerging technologies.   | \$32,490.00 | Y |
| 808 | Seed Advisory Pty Ltd  | Plug and Play: Facilitating innovation and productivity in Australia's electricity markets                     | To ensure innovative technologies provide the maximum benefit to users, national policy settings are consistent with more coordinated approach to network access, national policy settings and market access respond efficiently in meeting emission targets. |             | N |
| 811 | Robert Campbell  | Engagement of Senior Counsel to advise on QLD FIT  | To secure legal advice on the legality of the Qld Government pass-through of the subsidy supporting the Feed-in Tariff (FiT) of \$0.44 until 2028.  |             | N |
| 814 | University of NSW, School of PV and Renewable Energy Engineering | Tariff Assessment Tool   | To develop a tariff testing tool to enable consumer advocates and researchers to investigate how different tariff structures impact on the bills of different types of residential customers, while also estimating alignment with network costs.             | \$54,200.00 | Y |

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| 815 | Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action                             | Planning future grids together: improving engagement between network planners and local government  | To enable local governments and DNSPs to work cooperatively to create planned, integrated energy solutions through sharing data and developing resources to identify planning opportunities and establish replicable process.                     | \$31,760.00  | Y |
| 816 | Australian PV Institute   | Tariff analysis and solar potential platform for consumers  | To develop a platform enabling consumers to input their load data and compare impact of different tariffs/products, estimate value if investing in PV, load control, storage, and research and test alternatives.                                 |              | N |
| 817 | Cummings Economics  | Input into strategies and understanding for smooth transition to renewable energy future while maintaining affordable and reliable electricity in NEM and particularly in the regions | To ensure national and state entities responsible for electricity pricing and supply receive informed input from residents and a diverse range of businesses located in regional Queensland, particularly Far North Qld.                          | \$96,000.00  | Y |
| 818 | Starfish Initiatives  | North Coast Energy Forum (NCEF) NSW 2016  | To advocate for and build community capacity for a more resilient, equitable and localised approach to forming a sustainable energy system. NCEF will gather business, government and community stakeholders to support local policy development. |              | N |
| 819 | Institute for Sustainable Futures, University of Technology, Sydney | Delivering stakeholder support for AEMC Local Generation Network Credits Rule Change  |   |              | N |
| 821 | CitySmart Pty Ltd   | Understanding the changing needs of residential energy consumers in the information age and the implications for tariff reform  | Assist energy industry and policy makers to understand the changing needs of today's energy consumers by creating a segmentation model to facilitate more effective education and awareness activity to support tariff reform implementation.     | \$195,000.00 | Y |
| 822 | Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland                         | Enhanced advocacy on behalf of small business in SE QLD   | To provide qualitative and quantitative analysis of the effectiveness of deregulation over a 6 or 12 month period for small business in SEQ, to inform advocacy on behalf of small businesses.  | \$50,621.90  | Y |

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| 823          | Canegrowers            | Canegrowers response to QCA Draft Determination – regulated retail electricity prices 2016-17  | To pursue the development of a suite of network tariffs to meet the needs of food and fibre producers using Ergon’s network, particularly irrigators.  | \$10,000.00           | Y |
| 824          | Hobart City Council    | Helping Tasmanian local government to understand their households and small businesses energy use  | To build the evidence base for community energy based advocacy and programs by local governments, by clarifying roles and responsibilities and developing methodologies to understand community energy use and behaviours. |                       | N |
| 826          | Major Energy Users Inc | Developing strategic and collaborative approach to influencing change in the SA wholesale energy market to address high electricity prices | To build capacity with all project participants through information sharing to achieve lower electricity prices in SA, through working with government and regulators to effect policy change.                             |                       | N |
| 829          | Major Energy Users Inc | Testing the advantages of the new approach to network revenue resets   | Evaluation of the new approach proposed by Electranet to its revenue reset provides a better outcome for consumers than the “conventional” method.   |                       | N |
| 830          | Backroad Connections   | Determining full economic value of feed-in tariffs for solar PV in Tasmania  | To commission an expert analysis of the impact of higher FiT rates to assess the full cost and benefit of various levels of increased FiT.   |                       | N |
| <b>TOTAL</b> |                        |  |  | <b>\$2,155,639.90</b> |   |