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Media Release

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First retail price changes a modest start to lower prices

Energy Consumers Australia CEO Rosemary Sinclair today said lower energy prices announced by Origin Energy in Queensland and South Australia was good news for some but the decision not to provide price relief for consumers in NSW or the ACT did not meet the expectations of consumers in those markets.

“There’s some good news here for people in Queensland and South Australia, but very unfortunately, no price relief for households and small businesses in New South Wales or the ACT,” said Ms Sinclair.

“With the costs of electricity generation and managing the poles and wires falling, consumers are expecting to see prices coming back down to more normal levels having seen around 30% increases in the past two years.”

“The ACCC review of electricity prices is due this month and they’ve already said there is a severe electricity affordability problem which is putting Australian businesses and consumers under unacceptable pressure.”

“Consumers are telling us they’ve had enough of high electricity prices – they want comfortable homes, competitive businesses and bills that don’t make them so anxious that they put off opening them.”

“Consumers expect that the emerging benefits of a stabilising energy market to be shared with them now in the form of lower electricity prices.”

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