

Energy Consumers Australia

Foresighting forum 2018



What do we talk to much about ?

- **Interventions / suggestions of interventions** in the energy market all in a state near you !
- current live conversations – **“build stuff”**
Batteries / battery of the nation / snowy 2.0 / solar farms / solar thermal / wind farms / capital handouts to particular people **“change stuff”**
disconnect from the NEM / more interconnectors in the NEM / re regulate / re-nationalise and so on – may all be good ideas but system in transition where's the big plan how does it fit with what we have ?

What do we talk to much about !

- **Blame game** – heroes and villains its - all very tribal : coal vs gas vs solar vs wind vs batteries,
- networks vs retail vs wholesale
- dispatchable vs intermittent
- reliable vs unreliable
- old vs new etc
- Not that binary all need to work together at the moment to keep the lights on at the lowest cost and get to where we need to get to

What don't we talk enough about !

- **Dispersion of costs** – things not homogenous as before
- Some doing great ! Others are not this is not only on a households level this is also in communities who's jobs are being impacted
- The future **Energy rich VS Energy poor** – all ready seeing this those with solar vs those without but **more pronounced moving forward** with batteries Electric Vehicles and other “**smart homes/ communities vs dumb homes/ communities**” – how ill this impact particular households income rich income poor asset rich asset poor etc - impacts on government revenues ?

What don't we talk enough about?

- Well **designed and targeted complementary measures** to smooth and assist the transition – the energy market can't do it all – concessions and other supports, consumer framework and protections, tools that support choices
- OR maybe too much – **the role of consumer advocates**, expectations, accountability legitimacy, role, evidence.....