1. A key commitment of the Government at the 2015 election was to establish a Queensland Productivity Commission (QPC) to lift the productivity, competitiveness and efficiency of the Queensland economy.
2. Electricity prices have risen in Queensland by 43 per cent on average since 2011-12. The first task of the QPC is to undertake a public inquiry on electricity prices in order to investigate short and long-term options to respond to recent electricity price increases.
3. A QPC inquiry will enable the Government to take stock of the key challenges for the electricity sector and address the issues which have impacted these increases.
4. The public inquiry format will create an opportunity for a diverse range of stakeholders to put forward their views on the best policy options going forward.
5. It is proposed that the inquiry will focus on the following:
	* the role of electricity prices in the economy;
	* underlying drivers of electricity prices – generation, transmission, distribution and retail;
	* issues requiring an immediate response – price regulation in South East Queensland, Government election commitments, tariff reform; and
	* longer-term issues – including competition in regional Queensland, emerging technologies, the effectiveness of the concessions framework.
6. Cabinet approved that the QPC undertake an inquiry over ten months which will include an interim report to be delivered after six months dealing with high priority issues, followed by a final report covering the entire inquiry.
7. Cabinet approved the Terms of Reference for the inquiry.
8. *Attachments*
* [Terms of Reference](Attachments/TermsofReference.PDF)