



BRAD HAZZARD MP

SHADOW MINISTER FOR PLANNING
SHADOW MINISTER FOR INFRASTRUCTURE
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MEDIA RELEASE

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INCOMPETENT LABOR: FAMILIES PAY MORE AS BLACKOUTS CONTINUE

Families and businesses who experienced blackouts this morning are faced with huge increases in their power bills despite the Keneally Labor Government's claim all is well with the electricity network, Shadow Minister for Infrastructure Brad Hazzard said today.

"Families and businesses are paying more for the same old blackouts and the same old excuses from Labor," Mr Hazzard said.

"Families continue to pay the price for the Keneally Labor Government's incompetence," he said.

"The incompetent State Labor Government has ripped more than \$11.4 billion out of the State's electricity system in dividends, and failed to adequately ensure power supply and reliability keeps pace with population growth and industry needs.

"Families and businesses face electricity price rises of up to 42% over the next three years to pay for Labor's neglect of the electricity network, including up to 13% for some customers this year, on top of last year's rise of up to 22%."

	FORECAST AVERAGE ELECTRICITY PRICE INCREASE 2009/10 – 2012/13
Energy Australia	36% (\$448)
Integral Energy	20% (\$246)
Country Energy	42% (\$601)

Source: IPART Electricity Fact Sheet

"Kristina Keneally and Labor should ensure customers today are properly and speedily compensated and not blocked in their efforts to receive fair compensation.

"Families and businesses are sick of Labor's excuses, it's just more of the same from this 15-year-old State Labor Government.

"All families and businesses know is they are paying more money, and the blackouts are continuing, and in some cases getting worse," Mr Hazzard said.

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