



broadcast clip

Station :	ABC 891 Adelaide	Program :	Afternoons
Location :	Adelaide	Producer :	
Aired On :	4/08/2008 2:21:04 PM	Duration :	10 mins 11 secs
Compere :	Carole Whitelock	Summary ID :	A00031622297
Demographics :	Male 16+ 8000 ABs 3000	Female 16+ 7000 GBs 9000	
Interviewees :	Leon Hayes, Switch Select		
Interviewees :	Caller Margaret		

Whitelock says you hate it when you pay more for bills than you need to. She says a press release from Switch Select was released today saying there is a big differential between our cities when it comes to the cost of electricity. Leon Hayes says they compared the regulated retail prices of electricity across each of the capital cities and each of the particular energy regions across Aust using 7,500kw hours for two adults and two children and discovered Adelaide was paying more for electricity than other states across Aust. Hayes says in Adelaide it is \$1,700 whereas in Port Melbourne it is \$1,300 and in Qld it is \$1,296. He says the costs include generation, distribution, safety, maintenance and retail. Hayes says ESCOSA sets the standing contract prices in SA which are reviewed annually. He says Perth is the cheapest because deregulation has not happened there yet. Hayes says to produce green electricity because there is not much available, it does cost more. Pat Walsh says the amount of electricity used in the experiment was variable, but there are intrinsic costs in SA such as the coal used in this state, which is more difficult to burn in power stations. He says network costs are also higher due to the small population dispersed over a wide geographical area. Walsh says it is difficult to imagine being able to create power cheaper than the current prices, however the emissions trading scheme will increase the cost of carbon intensive fuel sources which will make greener options cheaper by comparison. He says their website contains an estimator which allows people to compare power prices. Caller Margaret says our electricity is so cheap that people have become dependent on it. She discusses electricity from the 1960s.