

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 225  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 2  
**Program:** International Climate Change and Energy Innovation Division (ICCEID)  
**Topic:** Pensioner Power Costs  
**Hansard Page:** n/a  
**Question Date:** 24 October 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Lambie, Jacqui asked:**

On average, isn't it the case that the average aged pensioner is paying at least 4% extra on their power bills because of our RET?

**Answer:**

The Australian Energy Market Commission's 2015 Residential Price Trends Report estimated that the RET added around 4 per cent a year to an average annual household electricity bill in 2015-16.

State and territory governments are responsible for electricity pricing policy and have concession schemes and rebates to help reduce the cost of electricity and gas customers for eligible customers on low or fixed incomes. The schemes vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.