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# Mayor supports call to scrap electricity price hike

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Cairns Mayor Bob Manning has put his support behind a push to review electricity price increases in regional Queensland.

A petition has been launched by the FNQ Electricity Users Network – of which CRC is a member – calling on the State Government to take control of electricity pricing in regional Queensland and to scrap proposed tariff price hikes of between 9.3 and 13.6 per cent.

“As a council, we recognise the cost of living pressures on our residents,” Cr Manning said.

“With this in mind, we have kept rates increases at below CPI in recent years, while still managing to provide quality services including sewerage and water supply.

“All the while, we have been absorbing these rapidly increasing electricity prices, which impact every part of our operations. We know every business is facing the same challenge and the struggle is growing.

“It’s time electricity companies took some responsibility for their impact on the lives and livelihood of regional Queenslanders. If councils can reduce their costs through efficient operations, so can they.

“It’s simply not good enough to leave regional Queensland to struggle with electricity prices due to a lack of competition.”

The petition is available to sign at [www.fnqeun.com.au](http://www.fnqeun.com.au).

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