



Letter to Residents of Sark

Dear Residents of Sark,

I noticed on Friday that SEL has posted a letter on its website in which it informs customers that it is having to raise its per unit price of electricity supplied to 85 pence as from 1 October 2019. It is a substantial increase of almost 30%. SEL seeks to justify the increase on a fall in consumption and legal costs of £10,000 per month "caused by having to deal with the Price Regulation legislation". I am disappointed by the decision of the company to increase its charges particularly in circumstances where my office received no warning that it intended to do so. I also refute the suggestion that the legislation has been used to bankrupt the company as claimed by SEL in its October 2019 letter.

The Control of Electricity Prices (Sark) Law, 2016 enables and requires me as holder of the office of the Sark Electricity Price Control Commissioner to investigate the electricity price and determine whether the price is, or is not, fair and reasonable. The process envisaged under the Law is not complex. Earlier this month I sent a draft determination to SEL for comment. I intend to publish the draft tomorrow and will consider all comments on the draft which are submitted to my office by 22nd of October 2019. Responses will be shared with SEL who will have an opportunity to comment on any responses. I will take all material considerations and comments into account before making any formal determination about the price being charged by SEL.

Anthony White

Commissioner

30th September, 2019