



Office of the Sark Electricity Price Control Commissioner

Statement by the Commissioner, 5th October, 2018

I was appointed Commissioner under the Control of Electricity Prices (Sark) Law 2016.

This law provides that following an investigation, the Commissioner shall determine whether a price charged by an electricity supplier is, or is not, “fair and reasonable”.

On 21 May 2018 I made a Determination under the 2016 Law that the price of 66p/kWh charged by Sark Electricity Limited to its customers was not “fair and reasonable”.

This price is in fact, as far as I have been able to discover, one of the highest in the world charged by any electricity supply company.

On 3 August 2018, I went on to make a Price Control Order under the 2016 Law, requiring a two stage reduction in the prices charged by Sark Electricity Limited. The company has made two unsuccessful applications to the Court for an interim ruling against these decisions, and currently has brought an Appeal and judicial review which is due to be heard by the Seneschal Court sitting in Guernsey in December.

If this Appeal goes ahead, it will consider whether the decisions taken were reasonable and justified; whether the impacts on Sark Electricity Limited taken together with its holding company Sark Electricity Holdings Limited are as stated; and whether the company has considered other options in the way that it operates and charges for electricity from its diesel generators.

In the light of yesterday’s statements from Sark Electricity Limited, I will await confirmation as to whether the company will be proceeding with the Appeal and legal proceedings that it has instituted.

Anthony White
Commissioner