



### Switch now and save

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Rising bills? Well you can make it cheaper

A LOCAL service station owner has managed to save \$6000 on his power bills each year simply by switching to a better provider.

Independent business energy price comparison service **MakeItCheaper.com.au** helped Rajesh Patel, the owner of Caltex Bli Bli, make the money-saving move.

"I knew we were in a competitive market so I should be able to get a better deal. I looked online and found [www.makeitcheaper.com.au](http://www.makeitcheaper.com.au) and gave them a call. After a few conversations about my energy use they came up with a deal that will save me \$500 per month," Mr Patel said.

"They did everything, and I didn't have to pay them a cent. They posted out all the contracts and I had to sign them and send them back.

"The switch over was no problem. The company I was with rang to see if they could do any better for us, but I had already switched."

Mr Patel uses about 230,000 kW in the Bli Bli service station and slightly more in the other Caltex he owns at Caboolture. He will use **MakeItCheaper** for that site next April when his current power supplier contract runs out.

"There has been a massive difference in my power bills since I switched in July," he said.

"And with the cost of goods and wages going up, this helps cover that and take some pressure off.

"And now is a good time to lock in electricity because Queensland rates are quite low compared to the last few years."

**MakeItCheaper** CEO Tim Wolfenden said power bills went up an average of 13% in the July 1 price hikes and that equated to an average annual jump of \$800 for businesses, amounting to a total cost of almost \$40million for the Queensland business community.

"Many business owners don't even realise they can change their electricity provider," he said.

"No-one's locked into a contract they can't get out of, and any penalties for breaking a contract are quickly recouped when ongoing costs are slashed."

Mr Wolfenden said among the myths were that it was too hard to switch suppliers, that switching will result in power cuts and that there was no saving to be made.