



MINISTRY OF FINANCE
Government of Tonga

P R E S S R E L E A S E

Government Announces Continuing Support towards Electricity

The Government of Tonga continues the electricity price subsidy to the March 2023 quarter since the current price of electricity still appears to remain much higher than the usual monthly bill for most customers.

Allowing for the reconciliations noting that some customers have already paid their bills, the cost of subsidies for January-February 2023 should be reflected and settled together in the March 2023 billing. The government subsidy will cover both categories: (i) residential customers whose units of consumption are less than 150 kWh; and (ii) the rest up to March 2023. The December 2022 review indicated that the electricity tariff would decrease from \$1.19 per kWh to \$1.01 per kWh, effective from the 1st of January 2023. With the 18 cents per kWh decrease in electricity tariff, the estimated total subsidy for January 2023 is less than an average monthly of a million in the past six (6) months.

The continuous provision of government subsidies is to assist in reducing the burden of high electricity prices for all households, including businesses, particularly during these challenging times.

For further details, please contact Mr. Sione Faleafa or Ms. 'Ana Ika at the Economic, and Fiscal Policy Division, Ministry of Finance, at (676) 7400752 or email sfaleafa@finance.gov.to or aika@finance.gov.to .

Ongoongo kuo Tuku Atu

Fanongonongo ki he kei hokoatu 'a e Tokoni 'a e Pule'anga ki he Totongi 'Uhila

'Oku kei hokohoko atu pē 'a e tokoni 'a e Pule'anga Tonga' ki he totongi 'uhila', ki he kuata Ma'asi 2023, 'i hono fakatokanga'i 'a e kei mā'olunga pe 'a e ngaahi mo'ua 'uhila fakafehoanaki ki he mo'ua 'uhila angamaheni he māhina takitaha 'a e tokolahi e kakai e fonua.

Ke fakakakato 'a hono fakafehoanaki 'o e ngaahi fakamatala', pea mo hono fakatokanga'i kuo 'i ai 'a e tokolahi kuo 'osi totongi 'enau ngaahi mo'ua 'uhila', 'e toki fakakau atu 'a e tokoni 'a e Pule'anga' ki he totongi 'uhila 'o e māhina Sanuali mo Fepueli 2023 'i he mo'ua 'uhila 'o Mā'asi 2023. 'E kei fakahoko pe hono tokoni'i 'a e: (i) ngaahi 'api nofo'anga 'oku si'i hifo 'enau ngāue'aki 'a e 'uhila' 'i he kilouate (kwh) 'e 150, pea mo e (ii) toenga 'oku laka hake 'i he kilouate 'e 150, 'o a'u ki he kuata Mā'asi. Ko hono toe vakai'i ko ia 'i Tisema 2022 'a e mahu'inga e totongi 'uhila', na'e mahino mei ai 'e holo 'a e mahu'inga 'o e totongi 'uhila' mei he \$1.19 ki he \$1.01 'o e 'iuniti kilouate (unit of kwh), 'o kamata mei Sanuali 'aho 1, 2023. 'I he holo ko eni 'aki 'a e seniti 'e 18, 'oku fakafuofua ai ko e tokoni ki he māhina ko Sanuali 2023, 'e si'isi'i ange 'i hono fakahoa ki he 'avalisi he miliona 'i he māhina 'a e pa'anga tokoni 'a e Pule'anga ki he 'uhila', 'i he mahina 'e ono (6) kuohili.

'Oku kei fakataumu'a pe 'a hono hokohoko atu 'a e tokoni 'a e Pule'anga' ki he totongi 'uhila', ke faitokonia 'a e kau ma'u 'uhila' koe'uhi' ko e kei mā'olunga 'a e totongi 'uhila' ki he ngaahi fāmilī, kau ki ai e ngaahi pisinisi', lolotonga 'a e taimi faingata'a ni.

Ki ha toe fakaikiiki, kātaki fetu'utaki kia Sione Faleafa pe ko 'Ana Ika, Tafa'aki 'Ekonomika mo e Tu'utu'uni Fakapa'anga 'a e Pule'anga, Potungaue Pa'anga, 'i he Telefoni (676) 7400752 pe ko e email sfaleafa@finance.gov.to or aika@finance.gov.to.