**Interviews:**

**Participant 1: Caleb**

22 y/o male, living in a house with his family of 5 (Household total: 5).

**What is your overall opinion on global energy consumption in general?**

I think it can really improve, especially in major countries where they have the ability to transition to renewable energy sources, at the moment there isn’t much initiative but is getting there slowly.

**Do you think current consumption is acceptable in today’s world why/why not?**

Somewhat, because technology is becoming an increasing part of life, so energy consumption will logically go up, but we should be using more sustainable resources to accommodate for this demand

**Do you think enough action is taken to reduce it, why/why not?**

No, because energy is created using non renewable resources many governments are hesitant and resist transitioning to renewable resources, so there is insufficient action being taken in this regard.

**What concerns if any do you have about the consequences of electrical consumption?**

The more non renewable resources that are used eventually causes more damage to the environment and increases the rate that we run out of this resource.

**Which person(s) in your household currently pays the energy/electricity bills? Why does this person(s) pay for this bill?**

My parents, they pay it because they generate the most money in the household, and have a responsibility to provide for their kids.

**Is energy consumption something you actively think about when undertaking daily tasks/living in your household, why do you think/not think this is the case?**

Not really, because I am not the one paying for the bill.

**What energy consumption data is available to your and your household?**

The electricity bill, provides monthly energy usage, so my parents can compare energy consumption.

**Do you or the person paying for the energy bill look at this data? How often?**

Somewhat, my parents and I briefly look at the data when it is provided by the electricity company, which is once every 3 months.

**What does your household energy consumption data mean to you, or what is the level of significance to you or the person paying the energy bill?**

Other than the cost of the energy consumption there is very little significance of the data.

**Do you find the current data available to you in relation to your household’s energy consumption to be satisfactory, why/why not?**

No, it provides no useful information.

**What features or what types of data would you like to see when viewing your household energy consumption?**

Graphs all of the usages, side by side comparison, cost per appliance, how low the appliances should be compared to other households or the ideal usage.

**Do you think access to these features will drive you/members of your household to change your/their consumption habits, why do/don’t you think this?**

Yes, because it would be like a game leader board, highly interactive and engaging, and would allow household members to check the information more frequently and encourage us to utilise these features in our daily routine which would help us change our habits.

**Is energy consumption and habits discussed in your household? How often? What are the main areas of concern?**

Not in a serious manner, parents asking us to turn off certain appliances when not in use, but that is about the extent of the discussion.

**What do you use electricity for? What steps do you take to minimise energy consumption in your household?**

Computer, lights, xbox, tv. Turning lights off, turning my computer off when I leave the house.

**Participant 2: Sophia**

21 y/o female, living in an apartment by herself (Household total: 1).

**What is your overall opinion on global energy consumption in general?**

The over-consumption of energy is a big concern due to the impact it is having on the environment (pollution, climate change etc.)

**Do you think current consumption is acceptable in today’s world why/why not?**

We use a lot of energy in this day and age and I believe we are consuming too much, or need to find and use an effective alternative soon.

**Do you think enough action is taken to reduce energy consumption why/why not?**

There is not enough action taken to reduce energy consumption, we are not providing solutions fast enough as the consequences of this lack of action are dire.

**What concerns if any do you have about the consequences of electrical consumption?**

Global warming, air pollution, water pollution, more waste, extinction of wildlife

**Which person(s) in your household currently pays the energy/electricity bills?**

I do

**Why does this person(s) pay for this bill?**

I live alone

**Is energy consumption something you actively think about when undertaking daily tasks/living in your household, why do you think/not think this is the case? (provide some examples if you'd like)**

As mindful as possible, not overusing, turning off power points but I don’t actively think about energy consumption.

**What energy consumption data (i.e., energy bills) is available to you and your household?**

Origin sends me a report on how much energy I used for the 3-month period I am billed.

**Do you or the person paying for the energy bill look at this data? How often?**

I get reports every bill on how much I used, how much of an impact I make as a household and how much electricity I use in contrast to other households.

**What does your household energy consumption data mean to you, or what is the level of significance to you or the person paying the energy bill?**

I will start worrying once my household use exceeds that of the average 1 person household.

**Do you find the current data available to you in relation to your household’s energy consumption to be satisfactory, why/why not?**

It is satisfactory for me as I be as mindful as I can be and my usage does not exceed the average household.

**What features or what types of data would you like to see when viewing your household energy consumption?**

I would like to see what I used the most, usually I can figure out what I used and why (e.g. used the heater more because it was cold, etc)

**Do you think access to these features will drive you/members of your household to change your/their consumption habits, why do/don’t you think this?**

I think access to more detailed features will drive me to change my habits as there could be something in my lifestyle I can change or one more thing I remember to turn off if I had this information.

**Is energy consumption and habits discussed in your household? How often? What are the main areas of concern?**

I don’t really discuss energy consumption.

**What do you mainly use electricity for?**

Lights and powering my main appliances: fridge, laptop and heater.

**What steps do you take to minimize energy consumption in your household?**

I use the heater less, turn it off before sleeping (so that it’s not on all night) I turn off everything I can from the powerpoint once I have finished using it.

**Participant 3: Bianca**

27 y/o female, living in a share house with 2 individuals (Household total: 3).

**What is your overall opinion on global energy consumption in general?**

There is over-consumption of non-renewable resources and the side effects of consuming this much non-renewable resources is unhealthy for the Earth.

**Do you think current consumption is acceptable in today’s world why/why not?**

Socially yes its acceptable, but realistically for the survival of humanity it is not acceptable.

**Do you think enough action is taken to reduce it, why/why not?**

Absolutely not, you see it everywhere, all the lights in the city are all on, the production of energy is scary, there are no proper regulations to attempt to minimise the production and use of energy and consumption of energy, if we were trying, we would have been able to achieve sustainable energy consumption by now, there just isn’t a motive.

**What concerns if any do you have about the consequences of electrical consumption?**

Destruction of the earth, how hot summers in Australia.

**Which person(s) in your household currently pays the energy/electricity bills? Why does this person(s) pay for this bill?**

Split equally between 3 people, it’s a shared house so responsibility is equal.

**Is energy consumption something you actively think about when undertaking daily tasks/living in your household, why do you think/not think this is the case?**

Yes, I do not use the air-conditioning, I turn the lights and electrical PowerPoints off when they’re not being used.

**What energy consumption data is available to you and your household?**

Electricity bill, but I do not see this and am only told what to pay, so pretty much just standard bill that is not easy to interpret.

**Do you or the person paying for the energy bill look at this data? How often?**

No

**What does your household energy consumption data mean to you, or what is the level of significance to you or the person paying the energy bill?**

Yes, the price has a high significance to me, if the price is too high then action needs to be taken to bring down cost. But the data provided in the electricity bill isn’t meaningful or significant.

**Do you find the current data available to you in relation to your household’s energy consumption to be satisfactory, why/why not?**

No

**What features or what types of data would you like to see when viewing your household energy consumption?**

Where most energy consumption is coming from, where the least amount of energy is coming from (i.e. appliances that can be turned off and reduce the amount of energy being consumed).

**Do you think access to these features will drive you/members of your household to change your/their consumption habits, why do/don’t you think this?**

Yes, because I feel like money is a good motivator, so an itemised list of what is being consumed and how much is being consumed will be a good initiative to take more action. It would motivate other household members to conserve energy as well.

**Is energy consumption and habits discussed in your household? How often? What are the main areas of concern?**

No, we do not see each other very often and it makes it hard to collaborate and communicate.

**What do you use electricity for? What steps do you take to minimise energy consumption in your household?**

Chargers, laptop, lights, answered in previous question.

**Participant 4: Kathy**

57 y/o female, living in a unit with her husband (Household total: 2).

**What is your overall opinion on global energy consumption in general?**

Not great, I think that energy consumption has increased drastically and there is a lot more that we can be doing than we are currently, especially since we are still largely using coal and not things like solar.

**Do you think current energy consumption is acceptable in today’s world why/why not?**

No its not, because we are not doing enough for climate change, and we are over-consuming energy as a population.

**Do you think enough action is taken to reduce it, why/why not?**

No, I don’t think there is enough action taken, I don’t think large companies nor the government are taking the matter seriously enough.

**What concerns if any do you have about the consequences of energy consumption?**

Climate change, if there is no action, the weather will become more erratic and the earth and its population will suffer the consequences.

**Which person(s) in your household currently pays the energy/electricity bills? Why does this person(s) pay for this bill?**

We both pay equally because it is a joint responsibility and we both have income.

**Is energy consumption something you actively think about when undertaking daily tasks/living in your household, why do you think/not think this is the case?**

Its not really something I think about, its more about the habit I have of turning off a light when I am not in the room. For certain appliances such as the heater, I will consciously think about whether it needs to run. However, for some other appliances like the fridge, it is always running and I don’t think about the consumption for that appliance and some others.

**What energy consumption data is available to you and your household?**

The electricity bill shows me a graph of previous month usage and this month’s usage, and how many kilowatts were used during this month, but I don’t understand what it means.

**Do you or the person paying for the energy bill look at this data? How often?**

Once a month, briefly, and some months I understand typically use more energy than others.

**What does your household energy consumption data mean to you, or what is the level of significance to you or the person paying the energy bill?**

Low to non-existent significance, as I am not motivated to act from the information of the data, the data is provided but has little to no meaning to me.

**Do you find the current data available to you in relation to your household’s energy consumption to be satisfactory, why/why not?**

It would be nice if it could give me a breakdown of how they arrived at the total cost figure, and a more understandable breakdown of energy consumption each day, or by each appliance, like adding more detail so that we can more easily understand where the consumption is occurring most.

**What features or what types of data would you like to see when viewing your household energy consumption?**

How many it could cost if an aircon ran at 22 vs 24 degrees, graphs or information displaying which appliances use the most energy.

**Do you think access to these features will drive you/members of your household to change your/their consumption habits, why do/don’t you think this?**

Yes, because I would know detailed usage of my household energy consumption habits and I would know which appliances cost the most money or have the most impact on the electricity bill cost. I would be more motivated to change my behaviour because I would be more inclined to check the information on a regular basis and switch off appliances based off the readings of the features.

**Is energy consumption and habits discussed in your household? How often? What are the main areas of concern?**

Not really, brief statements like do you need to run that or does that light need to be on happen occasionally, but the topic of energy consumption and the concerns about energy consumption are not discussed in detail.

**What do you use electricity for? What steps do you take to minimise energy consumption in your household?**

Cooking, watching tv, using and charging my phone, heating up food, turning on lights to see, keeping food cool. Turning off unnecessary lights and PowerPoints.

**Participant 5: John**

65 y/o male, living in a unit with his wife (Household total: 2).

**What is your overall opinion on global energy consumption in general?**

Over the top, its excessive.

**Do you think current consumption is acceptable in today’s world why/why not?**

No, because over-consumption is bad for the environment, consumption means high energy use, higher energy use means more pollution, and more pollution means cactus planet.

**Do you think enough action is taken to reduce it, why/why not?**

No, because the government is corrupt and only interested in making a quick buck, or short term profits.

**What concerns if any do you have about the consequences of electrical consumption?**

Further, irreparable damage to the planet.

**Which person(s) in your household currently pays the energy/electricity bills? Why does this person(s) pay for this bill?**

My wife and I pay the bill equally because we are both equally responsible.

**Is energy consumption something you actively think about when undertaking daily tasks/living in your household, why do you think/not think this is the case?**

Most definitely, living in a tiny house, only using appliances as needed, using solar energy.

**What energy consumption data is available to your and your household?**

The information provided on the electricity bill.

**Do you or the person paying for the energy bill look at this data? How often?**

Yes, when we receive the bill, we look at the graph that tells us where we are on average energy usage.

**What does your household energy consumption data mean to you, or what is the level of significance to you or the person paying the energy bill?**

Yes, the data assists us in knowing what our consumption is so we can adjust our usage accordingly.

**Do you find the current data available to you in relation to your household’s energy consumption to be satisfactory, why/why not?**

No, because its just basic information, it doesn’t tell you how much impact it has on total cost, the planet, etc.

**What features or what types of data would you like to see when viewing your household energy consumption?**

What impact it has on the planet, where the energy is being consumed from, appliances, or how much of the energy solar vs standard electricity is contributing.

**Do you think access to these features will drive you/members of your household to change your/their consumption habits, why do/don’t you think this?**

Yes, because we have more information and knew the results of our actions of course we would be more inclined to adjust our usage.

**Is energy consumption and habits discussed in your household? How often? What are the main areas of concern?**

Yes, turn the light off please would be a main example, the main areas of concern would mainly be the ability to pay.

**What do you use electricity for? What steps do you take to minimise energy consumption in your household?**

Tv, cooking, cleaning, not using appliances I don’t need to.

**Participant 7: Lorelle**

16 y/o female, living in a house with her family of 5 (Household total: 5).

**What is your overall opinion on global energy consumption in general?**

I think everyone probably consumes a bit too much but aren’t motivated enough to change

**Do you think current consumption is acceptable in today’s world why/why not?**

No, because we can already see how current consumption has affected the ozone layer and weather events and the environment.

**Do you think enough action is taken to reduce it, why/why not?**

No, I don’t think people really do much at all to reduce consumption as no one really thinks about it, and the government aren’t really doing much about it either.

**What concerns if any do you have about the consequences of electrical consumption?**

That we run out of the earths natural resources and we can no longer survive.

**Which person(s) in your household currently pays the energy/electricity bills? Why does this person(s) pay for this bill?**

My parents, they pay the bill because they’re my parents and have a responsibility to look after me, I’m also a bit too young to be contributing to household bills, but will be expected to contribute within the next few years.

**Is energy consumption something you actively think about when undertaking daily tasks/living in your household, why do you think/not think this is the case?**

Not really, I use appliances when I need/want to use them and don’t think about the cost of running the appliances. I am not the one paying for it, and I can’t relate cost with appliance. I will do basic things like turning off the lights in unused rooms, but I often leave my heater running in my room when I am at school all day and have salt lamps running 24 hours a day.

**What energy consumption data is available to your and your household?**

Electricity bills which my parents get, but I do not really have access to anything.

**Do you or the person paying for the energy bill look at this data? How often?**

My parents look at the bill to determine the cost they have to pay, once every 3 months.

**What does your household energy consumption data mean to you, or what is the level of significance to you or the person paying the energy bill?**

It has very little significance to me as I do not pay it, and it has some level of significance to my parents but not beyond the total cost, that is pretty much the only thing they care/are concerned about.

**Do you find the current data available to you in relation to your household’s energy consumption to be satisfactory, why/why not?**

No, I feel like there should be more detailed information like phone data usage, where you can see how much data has been used each day of the month, you can see spikes on days where you might have downloaded a large application or watched a lot of YouTube.

**What features or what types of data would you like to see when viewing your household energy consumption?**

Daily breakdown of energy consumption to be able to identify which days used the most amount of energy, individual appliance energy consumption breakdown, so you can see which appliances use the most amount of energy.

**Do you think access to these features will drive you/members of your household to change your/their consumption habits, why do/don’t you think this?**

Yes, I think access to this type of information would be very beneficial to my family, as we can see exactly how appliances are being used throughout the month, and we will know which appliances are the culprits for increases in the cost of our quarterly energy bill. I will be able to decide whether it is worth keeping my heater on all day when I am at school because I will see the associated cost related to keeping it running, etc.

**Is energy consumption and habits discussed in your household? How often? What are the main areas of concern?**

Sometimes by my parents who tell us to turn the lights off but not really, mainly unplugging hair dryers and straighteners as they can burn through surfaces and they’re dangerous left on, but not really any discussions about energy consumption in general, just logical things.

**What do you use electricity for? What steps do you take to minimise energy consumption in your household?**

Laptop, phone, chargers, heater, cooking, lights, tv, hair straightener and hair dryer