



# INFORMATION

## Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline

### LETTER TO MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF ENERGY

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) has today published a letter to the Ministerial Council of Energy (MCE). Under rule 14(1) of the National Gas Rules (NGR) the Authority must report on decisions made out of time to the MCE. A copy of the letter is available on the Authority's [website](#).

Under rule 13(1) of the NGR, there is an absolute overall time limit of 13 months between the date on which a proponent submits a full access arrangement proposal for the Authority's approval and the date the Authority makes a final decision on the proposal. The Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (DBNGP) access arrangement took 19 months to complete.

The letter compares the actual time it took to make a final decision on the DBNGP access arrangement with the statutory timelines and the 13 month time limit set out under rule 13(1) of the NGR. Specifically in accordance with rule 14(2) of the NGR this letter addresses:

- 1 the extent the decision was out of time (r. 14(2)(a));
- 2 the handling of the proposal (r. 14(2)(b)); and
- 3 reasons for the decision maker's failure to make the decision within the relevant time limit (r. 14(2)(c)).

The Authority will consider measures to improve the management of the access arrangement process. The letter addresses key issues the Authority has had with processes prescribed in the NGR as they are currently written and the Authority is supportive of rule changes to improve the management of information collection to facilitate effective and timely public consultation.

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