



# CONSULTATION

## PROPOSED VARIATIONS TO WESTERN POWER'S ACCESS ARRANGEMENT FOR 2009/10 TO 2011/12: CONTRIBUTIONS POLICY

### DRAFT DECISION

The Economic Regulation Authority (**Authority**) has released its [Draft Decision](#) on Western Power's proposed mid-period revision to the contributions policy contained in Appendix 3 of its approved access arrangement for the second access arrangement period. The proposal was submitted under section 4.41A of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (**Access Code**).

The Authority's Draft Decision has identified a number of required amendments that will need to be addressed by Western Power.

The Authority is seeking public comment on its Draft Decision on Western Power's proposed mid-period revision to the contributions policy.

### BACKGROUND

Under the Access Code, the Authority may, by notice to a service provider, vary its access arrangement in accordance with revisions proposed by the service provider during an access arrangement period.

In considering revisions, the Authority is not obliged to undertake a complete review of the proposed revised access arrangement. Before giving a notice, the Authority must determine whether the advantages of varying the access arrangement outweigh the disadvantages, in particular the disadvantages associated with decreased regulatory certainty and increased regulatory cost and delay.

On 17 January 2012, the Authority received a proposal from Western Power to vary Appendix 3 of its access arrangement, the contributions policy, under section 4.41A of the Access Code. Western Power considers that the proposed variation will address concerns raised by customers about the lack of transparency of the current contributions policy and the lack of predictability of the required contributions amounts.

In response, the Authority published an [issues paper](#) and invited comments from interested parties. The public consultation period ran from 18 May 2012 to 5 June 2012. One public submission was received and has been published on the Authority's [website](#).

### PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

Interested parties are now invited to make submissions on the Authority's Draft Decision on Western Power's proposed mid-period revision to the contributions policy by **4:00 pm (WST) on Friday, 13 July 2012**.

Submissions should be marked to the attention of Leonie Browner, Principal Regulatory Analyst.

Postal address: PO Box 8469, PERTH BC WA 6849  
Office address: Level 4, Albert Facey House, 469 Wellington Street, PERTH WA 6000  
Email address: [publicsubmissions@erawa.com.au](mailto:publicsubmissions@erawa.com.au)

## **CONFIDENTIALITY**

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as being in the public domain and placed on the Authority's website. Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should clearly indicate the parts of the submission for which confidentiality is claimed, and specify in reasonable detail the basis for the claim. Any claim of confidentiality will be considered in accordance with the provisions of sections 14.12 to 14.15 of the Access Code.

The publication of a submission on the Authority's website shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has knowledge either actual or constructive of the contents of a particular submission and, in particular, whether the submission in whole or part contains information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise for the Authority.

For further information contact:

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LYNDON ROWE  
**CHAIRMAN**  
28 June 2012