



CONSULTATION

Alinta Sales Pty Ltd (t/a Alinta Energy)

AMENDMENT OF GAS TRADING LICENCE

The Economic Regulation Authority is seeking public comment on an application by Alinta Sales Pty Ltd (t/a Alinta Energy) (**Alinta**) to amend its gas trading licence GTL9.

Gas retailers are required by the *Compendium of Gas Customer Licence Obligations* (**Compendium**) to issue bills to customers not more than once a month, or at least once every three months, unless the specified exemptions apply.¹

On 17 September 2012, the Authority approved an amendment to Alinta's gas trading licence, allowing Alinta to issue a bill at least once every 110 days instead of the three month period specified in the Compendium. The billing frequency specified in Alinta's licence now aligns with the frequency by which Alinta receives metering data from its distributor.²

Alinta is currently required by the Compendium to keep records and report on the total number of, and percentage of, residential and business customer accounts that have been issued with bills more than once a month or greater than three months.³ Therefore, while Alinta's billing cycle has been increased to 110 days, its recording and reporting obligations related to the issuance of bills are based on the standard three month billing cycle.

Alinta now seeks to keep records and report only on the total number of, and percentage of residential and business customer accounts that have been issued with a bill outside of the 110 day period, instead of the three month period specified in the Compendium.

Alinta also seeks to remove the requirement to record and report on the total number and percentage of both residential and business customer accounts that have been issued with a bill greater than once a month.

A copy of the [amendment application](#) can be obtained from the Authority's website.

Interested parties are invited to make submissions on the proposed amendment by **4:00 pm (WST) on Friday, 1 March 2013**.

¹ Refer to clause 4.1 of the Compendium which is contained in Schedule 2 of Alinta's gas trading licence, available on the Authority's website at: <http://www.erawa.com.au/licensing/gas-licensing/licence-holders>

² The amendment is included in clause 4.1, Schedule 3 of Alinta's gas trading licence.

³ Refer to clauses 13.2(a)(i), 13.2(b)(i) and 13.15 of the Compendium. Alinta is also required to categorise the records into bills issued outside of the timeframes which are caused by the retailer, and those due to the distributor not providing the required metering data to the retailer.

Submissions should be marked to the attention of Assistant Director, Licensing.

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

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 section 55 of the *Economic Regulation Authority Act 2003*.

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:

General Enquiries

Rasmus Moerch

Assistant Director, Licensing

Ph: 08 6557 7900

Fax: 08 6557 7999

Media Enquiries

Richard Taylor

Riley Mathewson Public Relations

Ph: 08 9381 2144

Fax: 08 9381 3877

LYNDON ROWE

CHAIRMAN

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