



Notice

4 June 2015

Variation to Western Power's Access Arrangement

FINAL DECISION

The Economic Regulation Authority has approved a variation to Western Power's access arrangement allowing it to defer the lodgement date for the next access arrangement review (2017/18 to 2021/22 (AA4)) from 1 March 2016 to 31 December 2016.

Approved Variation

A proposal from Western Power to amend its approved access arrangement during the current access arrangement period (2012/13 to 2016/17 (AA3)) was received on 14 April 2015.

In its application, Western Power notes the State Government is considering transferring regulation of the Western Power network (including price, connection, metering services and access) from the Western Australian regime to the national regulatory framework.

The current uncertainties in relation to network regulation make it difficult for Western Power to effectively plan its AA4 submission. Deferring the revision date by nine months from 1 March 2016 to 31 December 2016 will enable Western Power to make its submission with greater certainty of the regulatory framework.

The Authority considers the advantages of varying the access arrangement during the current access arrangement period outweigh the disadvantages, as the deferral provides an opportunity for greater clarity in relation to network regulatory requirements. The Authority considered the variation to be minor in nature and did not require public consultation under Appendix 7 of the Access Code.

The variation has been approved pursuant to section 4.41A of the *Electricity Networks Access Code* 2004 (Code) and the relevant section of the access arrangement is amended as follows:

1.4.1 Pursuant to section 5.31(a) of the Code, the revisions submission date for this access arrangement is <u>1 March</u>31 December 2016.

A copy of Western Power's access arrangement incorporating the approved variations is available from the Authority's website.

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