



Notice

21 April 2016

Code of Conduct for the Supply of Electricity to Small Use Customers

FURTHER ERA PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

The Economic Regulation Authority (**ERA**) has proposed further amendments to the *Code of Conduct for the Supply of Electricity to Small Use Customers* (**Code**) following the ERA's consideration of advice from the Electricity Code Consultative Committee (**ECCC**).

Background

The ECCC must carry out a review of the Code every two years and provide a report to the ERA. The ECCC commenced its 2015 review in August 2015 and, after consultation with interested parties, provided its Final Review Report to the ERA in December 2015.

Upon consideration of the ECCC's Final Review Report, the ERA published its Draft Decision on 4 February 2016. The ERA then sought the ECCC's advice on its Draft Decision.

The ECCC provided its Final Advice to the ERA on 11 April 2016.

Amended Draft Decision

Following receipt of the ECCC's Final Advice, the ERA has released its Amended Draft Decision. The Amended Draft Decision proposes four additional amendments to the Code, consistent with the ECCC's Final Advice.

Three of the amendments aim to clarify the intent of the relevant clauses (Additional Recommendations A, B & D). The fourth amendment (Additional Recommendation C) provides that distributors are no longer required to give a life support equipment customer three business days' notice of a planned interruption if the reason for the interruption is to reconnect supply. This generally occurs when, following an emergency or fault, a distributor must disconnect temporary generators in order to reconnect customers to the permanent network.

Copies of the ECCC's Final Review Report, the ERA's Draft Decision, the ECCC's Final Advice and the ERA's Amended Draft Decision can be found on the ERA [website](#).

Next steps

The ERA considers the fourth amendment (Additional Recommendation C) to be a material amendment to the Code that has not been previously consulted on. Therefore, the ERA has decided to request the ECCC's advice in relation to this amendment. The ERA will not be seeking the ECCC's advice on the remaining three amendments, as the ERA does not consider these to be material.

As per the requirements of the *Electricity Industry Act 2004*, prior to providing advice to the ERA regarding Additional Recommendation C, the ECCC must undertake consultation with interested parties. The ERA anticipates that the ECCC will call for public comment within the next week.

The ERA will take into consideration the advice it receives from the ECCC when making its final decision in relation to the Code.

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