



Notice

30 November 2016

Wholesale Electricity Market functions transferred to the ERA

The Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) has taken on more responsibility for Western Australia's wholesale electricity market following a review by the Minister for Energy.

In 2014 the Minister for Energy launched a review into the Wholesale Electricity Market in Western Australia. The review examined the structure of the production and sale of electricity within the South West Interconnected System and the incentives for industry participants to make efficient investments and minimise costs.

As a result of the review, the ERA has been given more responsibility for wholesale electricity market functions.

On 1 July 2016, responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules by market participants, and the power to undertake enforcement activities, was transferred from the Independent Market Operator to the ERA. The Government Gazette notice is available [here](#).

On 23 November 2016, the Energy Industry (Rule Change Panel) Regulations 2016 were gazetted. These regulations establish an independent Rule Change Panel that will be responsible for developing and amending the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules and Gas Services Information Rules. Once established, the Panel will be supported by the Secretariat of the ERA. The Government Gazette notice is available [here](#).

These Rules were previously maintained and developed by the Independent Market Operator.

The Rule Change Panel will have the power to make and amend rules from 3 April 2017. In the meantime, Rule Changes will be made by the Minister for Energy until 1 July 2017.

These changes are reflected in a government gazette amending the Wholesale Electricity Market Rules and Gas Services Information Rules which were published on 25 November 2016. The Government Gazette notice is available [here](#).

Information about the ERA's new functions are available on our [website](#).

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