





29 November 2022

Electricity Review Board finds Synergy's pricing behaviour in breach of the market rules

The Electricity Review Board has released its <u>determination</u> in relation to Synergy's generation offer prices in the Western Australian wholesale balancing market.

In April 2019, the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) concluded an investigation into the prices Synergy was offering for its electricity in the balancing market, which is a part of the Wholesale Electricity Market (WEM) where electricity is offered for sale in 30-minute trading intervals.

The ERA alleged that Synergy offered its electricity at excessive prices and that this behaviour related to Synergy's market power. The WEM Rules require that dominant generators must price their electricity based on their reasonable expectation of marginal costs. The ERA referred the matter to the independent Electricity Review Board for a determination.

The Electricity Review Board heard the matter in May and June 2021. The Electricity Review Board decision strongly endorses the ERA's application. The Board has found that for 11,012 Trading intervals between 16 April 2016 and 10 July 2017 Synergy offered its generation into the energy market based on inflated costs and that these price offers related to Synergy's market power.

The ERA welcomes the Electricity Review Board's decision and will continue to work with market participants to ensure that the implications of the determination are understood and clear guidance is available to all parties on how price offers should be made to be consistent with the WEM rules.

Further information

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