

## Standard Electricity Agreement

Terms and conditions



# Welcome to Synergy.

Thanks for joining with us. We're looking forward to supplying electricity to you.

This brochure explains our Standard Electricity Agreement with you. It details each part of our agreement in a clear and easy-to-read way.

It also lets you known what you can expect from us, and your rights and obligations.

At Synergy, we always want to give you the highest level of professional service. If you have any questions after reading this, please call us on **13 13 53** for residential customers or **13 13 54** for business customers.

#### **Acknowledgement of Country**

Synergy acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of the lands on which we walk, work and live. We acknowledge and pay our respect to Elders past, present and emerging as we work together for a united future.

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## Standard Electricity Contract

Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation trading as Synergy, ABN: 58 673 830 106

Address: 219 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA 6000 Fax: (08) 6282 7027 or Website: synergy.net.au/contact or Email: retail.business.sales@synergy.net.au

The following notice applies if this is an **unsolicited consumer agreement** (as defined in the *Australian Consumer Law*):

## NOTICE UNDER SECTION 79 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER LAW

#### **Important Notice to the Consumer**

You have a right to cancel this Agreement within 10 business days from and including the day after you signed or received this Agreement. Details about your additional rights to cancel this Agreement are set out in the information attached to this Agreement.

the Customer:

(a)	apply to Synergy for the supply of electricity to the premises on the terms and conditions contained in the Synergy Standard Electricity Terms and Conditions;	
(b)	acknowledge receipt of prescribed <i>Code of Conduct</i> and <i>Australian Consumer Law</i> information outlining the various rights and obligations of Synergy and the Customer; and	
(C)	request the supply of electricity during the cooling-off period $\Box$ (tick if required).	
Signed by the <b>Customer</b> or for and on behalf of the <b>Customer</b> by its duly authorised representative:		
Sign:		
No	ame (print):	

representative:		
Sign:		
Name (print):		
Date:		
<b>Agent details</b> (if acting on Sy Signed for and on behalf of <b>S</b> agent:	rnergy's behalf) ynergy by its duly authorised	
Sign:		
Company name:		
Business address (not PO Box	):	
Date:		
Telephone:		
Email:		
Contract Particulars		
1. Your details		
Title:		
Family name:		
Given names:		
Postal address:		
Suburb:	Postcode:	
Home:	Work:	
Mobile:	Facsimile:	
Email:		
2. Your business details (combusiness applications only)	plete this section for	
Registered Business Name:		
ARN/ACN:		

Signed for and on behalf of Synergy by its duly authorised

<ol> <li>Connection details (address of required)</li> </ol>	fsite connection	
Unit no.:		
Lot/House no.:		
Street:		
Suburb:	Postcode:	
Date connection required:		
4. Product & pricing details (to be completed by a Synergy representative)		

#### 5. Billing frequency

Standard ☐ Group ☐

- Standard means a single bill relating to a single supply address.
- Group means a single bill relating to multiple supply addresses or multiple sites at the same supply address.

#### 6. Cooling-off period

In addition to *your* rights under the Synergy Standard Electricity Terms and Conditions, *you* can end the *contract* by giving *us* notice that *you* want the *contract* to end during the following period:

- (a) if the contract was not negotiated by telephone the period of 10 business days starting at the start of the first business day after the day on which the contract was made: or
- (b) if the contract was negotiated by telephone the period of 10 business days starting at the start of the first business day after the day on which you were given the contract, (the cooling-off period)

We will not supply you with electricity during the cooling off period, unless you ask us to do so and either:

- (c) electricity is not connected to the premises; or
- (d) electricity is connected to the premises, but no electricity is being supplied to the premises by us.

If, at *your* request, *we* supply *you* with electricity during the cooling-off period and *you* end the *contract* during the cooling-off period, *we* may charge *you* for any electricity and associated services supplied to *you* during this period.

#### **ATTACHMENT A**

The following notice applies if this is an **unsolicited consumer agreement** (as defined in the *Australian Consumer Law*):

## NOTICE INFORMATION UNDER SECTION 79 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CONSUMER LAW

Your additional rights to cancel this agreement In addition to *your* rights described in the agreement:

- (a) You have a right to cancel this agreement at any time within 10 business days from and including the day after you signed or received this agreement.
- (b) You also have a right to cancel this agreement at any time within 3 months from and including the day after you signed or received this agreement if there has been a breach of one or more of the following sections of the Australian Consumer Law contained in the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth).
  - section 73 (permitted hours for negotiating an unsolicited consumer agreement);
  - (ii) section 74 (disclosing purpose and identity);
  - (iii) section 75 (ceasing to negotiate on request).
- (c) You also have a right to cancel this agreement at any time within 6 months from and including the day after you signed or received this agreement if there has been a breach of one or more of the following sections of the Australian Consumer Law contained in the Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (Cth):
  - section 76 (informing consumer of termination period);
  - (ii) a provision of Subdivision C of part 3.2 of the Australian Consumer Law (requirements for unsolicited consumer agreements);
  - (iii) section 86 (prohibition on supplies for 10 business days).

You may cancel this agreement by telling us over the telephone or in person that you would like to cancel the agreement or by:

- (a) giving us a notice personally; or
- (b) giving us or sending us a notice, in an envelope addressed to Synergy 219 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA, 6000; or
- (c) contacting us electronically at synergy.net.au/ contact; or

- (d) emailing retail.business.sales@synergy.net.au; or
- (e) sending us a fax to (08) 6282 7027,

saying that you would like to cancel the agreement.

You may use the notice attached as Attachment B to this agreement to let us know you would like to cancel the agreement.

**Supplying goods or services during the cooling-off period**We are not allowed to supply you with electricity or accept or ask for any payment for electricity at any time within 10 business days from and including the day after you signed or received this agreement, unless:

- (a) electricity is not connected to the *premises*; or
- (b) electricity is connected to the premises, but no electricity is being supplied to the premises by us.

#### **ATTACHMENT B**

#### Section 82

#### **Australian Consumer Law**

Cancellation notice - Unsolicited consumer agreement

## Right to cancel this agreement within 10 business day cooling-off period

You have a right to cancel this Agreement without any reason within 10 *business days* from and including the day after you signed or received this Agreement.

#### Extended right to cancel this agreement

If the supplier has not complied with the law in relation to unsolicited *consumer* agreements, *you* also have a right to cancel this Agreement by contacting the supplier, either orally or in writing. **Refer to the information attached to this Agreement.** You may have up to 6 months to cancel this Agreement in certain circumstances.

To cancel this Agreement in writing, complete this notice and send it to the supplier.

Alternatively, write a letter or send an email to the supplier.

#### Supplier details (to be completed by the supplier)

Name: Synergy

Address: 219 St Georges Terrace, Perth, WA, 6000

On the web: synergy.net.au/contact

Email: retail.business.sales@synergy.net.au

Fax number (if any): (08) 6212 1035

Details of goods or services supplied under the agreement:		
Date of Agreement:		
Transaction number (if any):		
Consumer details:		
Name of Consumer		
Consumer's Address:		
I WISH TO CANCEL THIS AGREEMENT		
Signed by the consumer		
Date:		

**Note:** You must either return to the supplier any goods supplied under the agreement or arrange for the goods to be collected.

# Synergy (ABN 58 673 830 106) Standard Electricity Terms & Conditions

#### 1. Supply of electricity

We will sell electricity to you at the premises in accordance with these terms and conditions. These terms and conditions apply to the sale of electricity to all residential customers or business customers who pay the standard price for electricity.

#### 2. Code of Conduct

The Code of Conduct regulates the conduct of electricity retailers, network operators and electricity marketing agents. The Code of Conduct is designed to protect the interests of residential and small business users. Matters covered by the Code of Conduct include electricity marketing, connection, billing, payment, payment difficulties and financial hardship, disconnection, reconnection, pre-payment meters, information and communication, complaints and dispute resolution, reporting and service standard payments.

If you are a customer who consumes not more than 160 megawatt hours of electricity per annum, we will supply electricity to you under this contract in compliance with the Code of Conduct. Accordingly, where you are a customer who consumes not more than 160 megawatt hours of electricity per annum and these terms and conditions deal with a subject matter that is covered by the Code of Conduct, then we will act consistently with the relevant provisions of the Code of Conduct.

You can obtain more information about the Code of Conduct from us or the Economic Regulation Authority - erawa.com.au

#### 3. When the contract starts

The contract begins on the date and time we agree to supply electricity to you or at any earlier time when electricity is deemed by law to be supplied to you under these terms and conditions.

#### 4. Charges and rebates

#### 4.1 Standard price

You must pay to us the standard price that applies to you.

#### 4.2 What are standard prices?

There are two main types of *standard prices* available: residential prices and non-residential prices.

In addition, there are also different types of residential prices and non-residential prices. Some examples of these are the business price, community service price and the charitable accommodation price.

We publish our standard prices in the Charges By-laws or on our website from time to time or both, including any variations.

Whether a particular standard price applies to you will depend on you meeting the eligibility conditions for that standard price.

For an explanation of the standard prices available and the eligibility conditions applying to those standard prices, please visit *our* website or call *us*.

If we change the standard prices, we will notify you of the changes in the standard prices by no later than your next bill.

#### 4.3 Which standard price do you pay?

Your bill will show which standard price you are paying. Please advise us if you wish to choose a different standard price from the price appearing on your bill. If you meet the relevant eligibility conditions, we will change the standard price that applies to you to the standard price of your choice.

The new standard price will be effective from the date that your meter was last read unless otherwise agreed between you and us. In some cases, Western Power Networks may need to adjust the meter at your premises or provide you with a new *meter* in order for us to provide you a different standard price. In that case, the new standard price will be effective when your meter is adjusted or your new meter has been installed by Western Power Networks. Please note that there may be a separate charge for meter adjustments and new meters in order for us to pay Western Power Networks for the meter adjustments or new meters. For an explanation of these charges, please visit our website or call us. In the event of any delay in a meter adjustment or a new meter installation by Western Power Networks we shall have no liability for any loss (either direct or indirect) to you for that delay.

#### 4.4 Eligibility conditions on standard price

It is *your* responsibility to assess if the *standard price you* are paying is appropriate for *your* circumstances based on eligibility conditions applicable to that *standard price*.

You must advise us as soon as possible if you no longer meet the eligibility conditions applying to the standard price that you currently pay.

If we discover that you are no longer eligible to receive the price that you currently pay, including because the premises are changed pursuant to clause 23.9(a), then we will advise you of the new standard price that you must pay instead of the price that you currently pay.

If you are no longer eligible to receive a particular standard price because we no longer offer that standard price we will notify you on or before the date of the withdrawal and offer you an alternative standard price. In the event you do not nominate an alternative standard price then we will advise you of the new standard price you must pay.

If you have been undercharged for your electricity supply because you were being charged at a standard price that you were not eligible to receive, then we can require you to pay to us the amount that you have underpaid for a period of up to 12 months prior to the date that we advise you of the new standard price or a longer period if the underpayment was directly attributable to your act or omission.

#### 4.5 Rebates

If you are eligible for a *rebate* and *you* apply to *us*, *we* will provide that *rebate* to *you*. You can contact *us* if *you* have any queries about *your rebate* eligibility.

#### 4.6 Eligibility conditions on rebates

If you are no longer eligible for a rebate, you must advise us as soon as possible. If we discover that you are no longer eligible for a rebate, then we will advise you in writing that you will not be receiving any further rebates. We can also require you to pay to us the amount that you have underpaid for a period of up to 12 months prior to the date that we advise you that you will not receive the rebate or a longer period if the underpayment was directly attributable to your act or omission.

#### 4.7 Advising you of a new standard price

If we need to advise *you* of a new *standard price*, we will do so by any means including post, telephone or *electronic means*.

#### 5. How we will calculate your electricity use

#### 5.1 Basis of a bill

Where a meter has been installed at your premises we use meter readings that are provided to us to prepare your bill. We will obtain metering data to prepare your bill consistent with clauses 4.6 and 4.7 of the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you).

However, if we ask you or Western Power Networks asks you, you can agree to read the meter yourself and provide Western Power Networks or us with the meter readings for billing purposes (subject to validation and clause 4.7 of the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you). Where a type 7 connection point exists we will bill you in accordance with the metering code.

In any event and provided a *meter* has been installed at *your premises*, we will use *our* best endeavours to ensure that *Western Power Networks* obtains metering data for *your premises* as frequently as required to prepare bills and at least once every 12 months.

#### 5.2 Estimated bills

If we cannot reasonably base a bill on Western Power Networks' or your reading of the meter, or if required by the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) we will provide you with an estimated bill in accordance with the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) and we will inform you in the bill that the bill was estimated.

If your bill is estimated you can contact us and we will tell you the basis of that estimation and the reason for the estimation. If we have provided you with an estimated bill and we subsequently obtain an actual meter reading from Western Power Networks or you, then your next bill will be adjusted to take account of that meter reading.

If we provide you with a bill based on an estimate because you failed to provide access to the meter and you later request us to replace your estimated bill with a bill based on an actual reading of your meter, we will use our best endeavours to do so if you:

- (a) pay our reasonable charge for reading the meter, and
- (b) provide due access to the meter.

#### 5.3 You can request a meter test

You can ask us to test the meter to ensure that it is measuring accurately and we will arrange for Western Power Networks to test the meter if you first pay to us a meter testing fee. If we find that the meter is not measuring accurately, then we will refund the meter testing fee to you.

If the *meter* is not measuring accurately, we will also arrange for Western Power Networks to either repair or replace the *meter* at no charge to you provided you have complied with clause 8.3 of this contract.

In this clause "accurately" means as accurately as the law requires the *meter* to measure.

#### 6. Bills

#### 6.1 When we will bill you

We will bill you in accordance with the billing cycle that we set for our customers from time to time. As an indication (and subject to the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you), our billing cycle is no more than once a month and no less than once every three months, unless you have agreed otherwise or the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) provides otherwise.

We will issue bills to the address nominated by you, which may be an email address.

#### 6.2 Paying your bill

You must pay the total amount payable for each bill by the due date specified in that bill. The due date will be at least 12 *business days* from the date of the bill unless *you* and we garee otherwise.

We must accept your request to make a payment in advance in accordance with the Code of Conduct, however we will not be required to credit any interest to the amounts paid in advance.

You can find out the range of payment options that *you* can choose from by referring to *your* bill, by visiting *our* website or by calling *our* customer service centre.

#### 6.3 If you are having trouble paying

(a) If you are having trouble paying your bills, please advise us. If you are a residential customer we will assess your request within 5 business days of your request and we will offer you assistance (for example, additional time to pay or an instalment plan) and provide you with information in accordance with the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) and our financial hardship policy if you qualify for that assistance. If we cannot assess your request within 5 business days, we will refer you to a relevant consumer representative organisation to make the assessment.

- (b) If you are a business customer having trouble paying your bills and you tell us, we will offer you assistance in accordance with the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you).
- (c) If you owe us money, you may request that we transfer the debt to another customer, we may transfer the debt to that person provided we obtain that person's verifiable consent.

#### 6.4 If you do not pay your bill

- (a) If you do not pay the total amount payable for any bill by the due date, then we can:
  - (1) send a disconnection warning to you; and
  - (2) subject to complying with clause 5.6 of the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you), charge you a fee for each overdue account notice we send to you; and
  - (3) charge *you* interest on any amount *you* have not paid; and
  - (4) disconnect your electricity supply; and
  - (5) shorten your billing cycle
- (b) If you do not pay the total amount payable for any bill after we send a disconnection warning to you, then we may:
  - refer your debt to a debt collection agency for collection and if we do so, you must pay any costs that we incur in connection with the recovery of the unpaid bill (including the agency's fees and legal fees); and/or
  - (2) recover your debt in any court of competent jurisdiction as a debt due to us.
- (c) If you pay a bill and the payment is dishonoured or reversed and, as a result, we have to pay fees to any other person, you must reimburse us for those fees.
- (d) If your account remains overdue for more than 60 days, we may give information about you to a credit reporting body. This information will allow the credit reporting body to create or maintain a credit information file containing information about you. The information that we disclose about you to a credit reporting body may include any of the following:
  - (i) Identification information including your name, sex, address (and your previous two addresses), date of birth, name of employer and drivers licence number;
  - (ii) Amounts over \$200 that are overdue by more than 60 days and for which debt collection action has started;

- (iii) Advice that *your* payments are no longer overdue in respect of any default that has been listed;
- (iv) Information that, in our opinion, you have committed a serious credit infringement (that is, acted fraudulently or shown an intention not to comply with your credit obligations); and
- (v) Dishonoured cheques cheques drawn by you for \$150 or more which have been dishonoured more than once.

This information may be given before, during or after the supply of services to *you*.

#### 6.5 Billing data

If you consume less than 50 MWh of electricity per annum, we will give you your billing data for the premises upon request. Unless we are required by law to provide this billing data to you free of charge, you must pay us a reasonable fee before we provide the data to you. For example, this information will be free of charge:

- (a) for the first request that you make in a year if the data requested is for a period less than the last 2 years, or
- (b) if you request the billing data in relation to a dispute with us.

If you have registered for our online services, you may be able to access this information directly from our website at no cost.

#### 7. Reviewing your bill

#### 7.1 Reviewing a bill

If you have a query about your bill and you ask us to review the bill, then we will review it.

In the meantime, you must pay to us the balance of the bill that is not being queried or an amount equal to the average amount of your bills at the premises over the previous 12 months (excluding the bill that you are querying), whichever is less. If you have any other bills that are due, then you must also pay those bills by the due dates. If in accordance with clause 4.16 of the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) you request us to review your bill, then we will review your bill and inform you of the outcome of the review as soon as we can and no later than 20 business days from the date we are taken to receive your request for us to review your bill.

If after a review of vour bill:

- (a) we are satisfied the bill is correct, we:
  - (1) may require you to pay the unpaid amount; and

- (2) will advise you that you can ask us to arrange a meter test; and
- (3) will advise you of our customer complaints policy and any external complaints handling processes; or
- (b) we are satisfied the bill is incorrect, we will adjust the bill for any undercharging or overcharging (clause 7.2 explains how we do this).

#### 7.2 Undercharging and overcharging

- (a) If we undercharge you for any reason, then we can require you to make a correcting payment. However, if you are a customer who consumes not more than 160 megawatt hours of electricity per annum and we:
  - (1) undercharge *you* due to an error, defect or default for which *we* or *Western Power Networks* are responsible: or
  - (2) are required to adjust the bill in accordance with the Code of Conduct (other than due to your actions).

we can only require you to make a correcting payment for amounts undercharged in the 12 months prior to the date that we advise you that you have been undercharged unless the undercharge is your fault or results from your or someone at that premises unlawful act or omission, while you were occupying the premises. If you are a residential customer, we will offer you the option to pay the correcting payment by instalments. If you are a customer who consumes more than 160 megawatt hours of electricity per annum, then we can recover the amount of any undercharge subject to and in accordance with applicable laws, including the Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979 (WA).

(b) If we overcharge you due to an error, defect or default for which we or Western Power Networks are responsible (including where the meter has been found to be defective), then, in accordance with the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) and subject to clause 22, we will notify you and seek your instructions as to whether to credit the overcharged amount to your account or have the overcharged amount repaid to you. If we do not receive instructions from you, we will use reasonable endeavours to credit the overcharged amount to your account. The 12 month limit referred to in clause 7.2(a) does not apply to amounts that we have overcharged you. (c) If we overcharge you and you owe us a debt, we may after providing written notice to you, use the amount you have been overcharged to set off the debt you owe us provided that you are not experiencing payment difficulties or financial hardship. If, after the set off, there remains an amount of credit to you, we will deal with it in accordance with clause 7.2(b).

#### 8. Electricity supply equipment and your equipment

#### 8.1 Electricity supply equipment

The electricity supply equipment remains the property of Western Power Networks at all times and Western Power Networks is responsible for installing and maintaining the electricity supply equipment.

You must not do anything that will damage, bypass or interfere with the electricity supply equipment or use electricity in a way that interferes with, damage or bypass that equipment. You must ensure, and take all necessary actions to ensure, that any other person does not do anything that will damage, bypass or interfere with the electricity supply equipment or use electricity in a way that interferes, damages or bypasses that electricity supply equipment.

"electricity supply equipment" means the meter (if any) for the premises and all wiring, apparatus and other equipment or works located upstream from the point that electricity leaves that meter or, if there is no meter for the premises, upstream from the connection point for the premises and which are used by us or by Western Power Networks for, or in connection with, the supply of electricity and any wiring, apparatus or other equipment or works belonging to us or Western Power Networks located downstream of the point that electricity leaves the meter for the premises or, if there is no meter for the premises, downstream of the connection point for the premises which are used by us or by Western Power Networks for, or in connection with, the supply of electricity.

#### 8.2 Your equipment

You are responsible for keeping *your equipment* in good working order and condition.

'your equipment' means all wiring, apparatus and other equipment or works located at the *premises* which are used for, or in connection with, the supply or consumption of electricity, except any *electricity* supply equipment.

#### 8.3 Prohibited activity

- (a) You must not
  - tamper with, bypass, circumvent or otherwise interfere with the electricity supply equipment, or do anything that will prevent us or Western Power Networks from accessing the electricity supply equipment;
  - (2) use electricity in a way that interferes with the supply of electricity to anyone else;
  - (3) use electricity in a way that interferes with the supply of electricity by us to you;
  - (4) use electricity in a way that causes loss to us or anyone else;
  - (5) contravene any applicable laws in relation to the use of electricity, use or operation of the electricity supply equipment or use or operation of your equipment; or
  - (6) use a connection point to transfer electricity into the electricity network operated by Western Power Networks without our prior written consent and the prior written consent of Western Power Networks.
- (b) You must ensure that any other person does not do any of the things listed in clause 8.3(a) of this *contract*.
- (c) You must immediately notify us on becoming aware of any behaviour or circumstances which is suspected to or may reasonably be expected to contravene clauses 8.3(a) and 8.3(b) of this contract.
- (d) In the event you or someone else tampers with, bypasses, circumvents or otherwise interferes with the electricity supply equipment then you will be responsible for any loss to us.

#### 9. Moving premises

#### 9.1 New electricity connection

If you move into the premises, or the premises under this contract is changed pursuant to clause 23.9(a) of this contract, and it does not already have an existing electricity connection, then we will sell you electricity from the day that Western Power Networks connects the premises to the network and energises the premises.

#### 9.2 Existing electricity connection

If you move into the *premises*, or the *premises* under this *contract* is changed pursuant to clause 23.9(a) of this *contract*, and it has an existing electricity connection, then we will charge you for electricity supplied to the *premises* from the date that the *meter* at the *premises* 

was last read, unless you read the meter and advise Western Power Networks of the meter reading within 3 business days of the day that you move in. If a final meter reading was not taken, we will estimate the amount of electricity used by the previous occupant so we donot overcharge or undercharge you.

#### 9.3 Moving out

- (a) If you move out of a premises and no longer wish to obtain an electricity supply at that premises, you must notify us:
  - (1) of the date of your departure from the premises:
    - (A) if the premises are in any of the Albany, Bunbury, Geraldton, Kalgoorlie or Perth metropolitan areas, at least 3 business days before you move out; or
    - (B) if the premises are outside the metropolitan areas named above, at least 5 business days before you move out; and
  - (2) of an address where the final bill for the supply of electricity at those premises can be sent, unless you and we otherwise agree.
- (b) If you notify us as described in clause 9.3(a), and you move out of the premises at the time specified in your notice, then we will arrange a final meter reading on the day that you move out of the premises and issue a final bill to you for electricity consumed at those premises and other charges relating to your supply at those premises (including, for example, supply charges) up to the day you move out of those premises.
- (c) If you have demonstrated to us that you were evicted from those premises or were otherwise required to vacate those premises, we will not require you to pay for electricity consumed at those premises from whichever is the later of the date you vacate those premises and the date that you notify us of the following:
  - the date that you vacated or intend to vacate the premises; and
  - (2) a forwarding address to which a final bill for the supply of electricity at those premises may be sent.

However, we may still charge you for other charges relating to your supply at those premises (including, for example, supply charges and our reasonable charges for reading the meter).

(d) If you move out of those premises and no longer wish to obtain an electricity supply at those premises, and you have not notified us of that and of an address where a final bill for the supply of electricity at those premises can be sent, at least 3 business days before you move

- out, then, subject to any applicable laws, we may require you to pay for our reasonable charges for reading the meter and for electricity consumed at those premises for up to a maximum of 5 days after you do notify us that you have moved out of those premises.
- (e) If you move out of the premises and no longer wish to obtain an electricity supply at those premises and you have given us at least 3 business days' notice of the time of your departure from those premises and of an address where a final bill for the supply of electricity at those premises can be sent before you move out, then (despite the notice requirements in clause 9.3(a) and irrespective of whether the premises are within or outside the metropolitan areas named in clause 9.3(a)(1) (A) above) we may require you to pay for our reasonable charges for reading the meter and for the electricity consumed at those premises only up to the day you move out of those premises.
- (f) If your account is in credit after you have paid us all amounts payable under clause 9.3(b), (c), (d) or (e), and you validly terminate this contract, then you can choose to have us credit your new account with this amount or repay the amount to you.

#### 10. Access to the premises

- (a) You must let us or persons nominated by us (including Western Power Networks) have safe and unrestricted access to the premises when we need it and without having to give you notice, at all reasonable times and at any time in an emergency, for the purposes of the performance of our functions in relation to the supply of energy to you or, where Western Power Networks need access, for the purposes of the performance of their functions in relation to their electricity supply equipment, including:
  - (1) to read the meter, or
  - (2) to inspect or work on the electricity supply equipment; or
  - (3) to disconnect your electricity supply; or
  - (4) to inspect or work on your equipment; or
  - (5) for any other reason relating to the supply of electricity to the *premises*.
- (b) A person entering the premises on our behalf will clearly display identification that identifies the person as our employee or agent and show his or her identification to you if you ask to see it.
- (c) If you do not provide safe and unrestricted access to the premises for the purposes of a meter reading by

Western Power Networks, we may request you to read the meter and provide the meter reading to Western Power Networks. If we make that request, then you must read the meter and provide the meter reading to Western Power Networks within the timeframe specified in our request. This does not prejudice our rights and remedies in respect of your breach of clause 10(a)(1).

(d) Nothing in this contract limits or excludes in any way the consent you are deemed to have given under section 46(9) of the Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979 (WA) and this clause 10 is otherwise subject to clause 23.5 (which relates to the application of laws).

#### 11. Persons dependent on life support equipment

#### 11.1 Eligibility conditions on life support

You must advise us if you or a person residing at the premises is dependent on life support equipment and give us written confirmation from an appropriately qualified medical practitioner that the person requires life support equipment at the premises.

You must advise us as soon as possible if you or a person residing at the *premises* who is dependent on *life support* equipment;

- (a) no longer requires life support equipment at the premises;
- (b) changes their contact details or premises; or
- (c) changes their life support equipment.

#### 11.2 Interruptions

If you have advised us (or we are otherwise aware) that you or a person residing at the premises is dependent on life support equipment, then we will notify Western Power Networks so that Western Power Networks does not disconnect the premises for failure to pay a bill while the person requiring life support equipment continues to reside there or make any planned interruption to the electricity supply at the premises without giving you at least 3 business days' written notice. However, in an emergency, we or Western Power Networks can interrupt your electricity supply without giving you prior notice.

It is therefore very important that *you* make suitable alternative arrangements (for example a back-up supply or alternative power source) to address the needs of any person residing at the *premises* who is dependent on *life* support equipment.

#### 11.3 Disconnections

If you have advised us (or we are otherwise aware) that you or a person residing at the *premises* is dependent on

life support equipment, then consistent with the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you) we cannot arrange to disconnect your electricity supply because you fail to pay us a bill by the due date while the person requiring life support equipment continues to reside at the premises.

#### 12. Interruptions to your electricity supply

#### 12.1 Emergency and other reasons

We can interrupt or disconnect *your* electricity supply at any time without notice to *you* in an *emergency*, if we are permitted or required by law or if Western Power Networks requires us to do so.

We will use *our* best endeavours to turn *your* electricity on again as soon as reasonably practicable once it is safe to do so.

If we disconnect your electricity supply because that emergency was caused or substantially contributed to by you or anyone under your care, custody or control or who was present at the premises with your permission, then we can charge you a fee for disconnecting your electricity supply and we can also charge you a fee for reconnecting your electricity supply when you ask us to do so and we are satisfied that the emergency no longer exists and it is otherwise safe to reconnect your electricity supply.

#### 12.2 Planned work on distribution system

We can interrupt or disconnect your electricity supply at any time if Western Power Networks needs to carry out planned work on a distribution system. Western Power Networks will advise you directly if it needs to carry out planned work.

#### 12.3 Events beyond your control

If an event beyond your control occurs and prevents you performing any of your obligations under this contract to any extent, you must tell us as soon as reasonably practicable, and you are then not required to perform that obligation to the extent and for as long as you are prevented by that event beyond your control. However, you must pay your bill by the due date shown on the bill, even if an event beyond your control occurs.

#### 12.4 Events beyond our control

If an event beyond our control occurs and prevents us performing any of our obligations under this contract, then we are not required to perform that obligation to the extent, and for as long as, we are prevented by that event beyond our control. If such an event beyond our control occurs and we consider it appropriate to do so, we may notify you of the event beyond our control by any reasonable means, including by a public announcement (for example, on television, radio or in a newspaper).

#### 12.5 Disconnection due to your actions

We can arrange for Western Power Networks to disconnect your electricity supply, acting in accordance with clause 12.6 and any applicable laws, including the Code of Conduct, if:

- (a) subject to clause 11.2 of this *contract you* fail to pay a bill in full by the due date shown on the bill; or
- (b) you do not give us or Western Power Networks safe and unrestricted access to the premises or the meter at the premises; or
- (c) there has been unlawful or unauthorised use or supply of electricity at the premises or any other premises; or
- (d) you fail to keep your equipment in good working order or condition; or
- (e) you get electricity supplied to the premises in breach of this contract; or
- you commit a substantial breach of any of your obligations under this contract; or
- (g) without limiting any of the above paragraphs, you breach any of your obligations under this contract where that breach is capable of remedy and you fail to remedy the breach within 10 business days of us requesting you to do so.

## 12.6 Things we must do before disconnecting your electricity supply

If we wish to disconnect your electricity supply because you fail to pay a bill within the meaning of clause 7.1 of the Code of Conduct, we will (subject to the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you):

- (a) give you a reminder notice not less than 15 business days from the date that we sent you the bill; and
- (b) use *our* best endeavours to contact *you* to advise of the proposed disconnection; and
- (c) if you still have not paid us after the reminder notice, then give you a disconnection warning not less than 20 business days from the date that we sent you the bill, advising you that we may disconnect you on or after a day that is at least 5 business days after the date you are deemed to receive the disconnection warning; and

(d) not disconnect you until at least 1 business day after the date that we say we may disconnect your electricity supply in the disconnection warning.

If we wish to disconnect your electricity supply because you fail to give us or Western Power Networks access to the meter at the premises, we will:

- (e) only disconnect you if you deny access for at least 9 consecutive months; and:
- (f) give you at least a 5 business days' written notice:
  - advising you of the next date or timeframe of a scheduled meter reading at the premises; and
  - (2) requesting access to the meter at the premises for the purpose of the scheduled meter reading; and
  - (3) advising you of our ability to arrange disconnection if you fail to provide access to the meter, and
- (g) use our best endeavours to contact you; and
- give you an opportunity to offer reasonable alternative access arrangements; and
- (i) if you still have not given us or Western Power Networks access, give you a disconnection warning advising you that we will disconnect you on a day that is at least 5 business days from the day you are deemed to receive the disconnection warning.

Unless you have requested us to disconnect your electricity supply, or we are required to disconnect your electricity supply due to an emergency, we will not arrange for disconnection:

- if you have made a complaint directly related to the reason for disconnection to us, Western Power Networks, the electricity ombudsman or another external dispute resolution body and that complaint has not been resolved;
- (k) after 3.00pm Monday to Thursday;
- (I) after 12.00 noon on a Friday; or
- (m) on a Saturday, Sunday, public holiday or on the business day before a public holiday, except where Western Power Networks has arranged for a planned interruption under clause 12.2, unless
- (n) you are a business customer, and
- (o) your normal trading hours fall within the time frames set out in paragraphs (j), (k) or (l) and do not fall within any other time period; and

(p) it is not practicable for us or Western Power Networks to arrange for disconnection at any other time.

#### 12.7 Reconnection of electricity supply

If your electricity supply is disconnected under clause 12.5, then we will arrange for Western Power Networks to reconnect your electricity supply when you ask us to reconnect your electricity supply and we are reasonably satisfied that the circumstances giving rise to the disconnection no longer exist.

For example, the circumstance giving rise to the disconnection may no longer exist because you provide access to the premises and the meter at the premises or we are reasonably satisfied that you cannot continue to obtain your electricity in the unauthorised way and you have paid all amounts owing to us under this contract (or agreed with us an arrangement to pay them), or you have subsequently provided the required security deposit.

Before we arrange for Western Power Networks to reconnect your electricity supply under this clause 12.7, you must pay us:

- (a) all reasonable costs we incur in disconnecting your electricity supply; and
- (b) a fee for reconnecting your electricity supply under this clause 12.7 or accept an instalment plan for our fee for reconnecting your electricity supply under this clause 12.7; and
- (c) for all electricity that you used (or which we estimate that you used) and have not paid for (except to the extent you have agreed our offer for you to repay the debt via an instalment plan or other payment arrangement).

If we are obliged to reconnect your electricity and you ask us to reconnect your electricity at a time:

- before 3.00pm on a business day, then we will forward your request to Western Power Networks on that day;
   and
- (ii) after 3.00pm on a business day or on a day that is not a business day.

Then we will forward your request to Western Power Networks no later than the next business day.

#### 12.8 Consequences of disconnecting your electricity supply

If Western Power Networks disconnects your electricity supply at our request under clause 12.5, then:

(a) we can, or we can arrange for Western Power Networks, to remove or physically disconnect the meter at the same time that the supply of electricity to you is disconnected, or at a later time; and

- (b) we can charge you a fee for removing or physically disconnecting the meter and replacing or physically reconnecting the meter, and
- (c) you must not reconnect the electricity supply.

#### 12.9 Reporting illegal use

If we think you or someone at the premises have used, or are obtaining, electricity illegally, then we can advise the Director of Energy Safety, Western Power Networks and the Police (as appropriate) and give them any information that we have in relation to your electricity use.

#### 13. Electricity supply

#### 13.1 The nature of the electricity supplied to you

In order to sell electricity to *you*, we ask Western Power Networks to deliver the electricity through the electricity network.

The electricity network is operated by Western Power Networks and we cannot control the way in which Western Power Networks operates the electricity network. For example, we cannot control the quality, frequency or continuity of electricity being supplied to you through the electricity network.

As a result, the electricity supplied to you:

- (a) may not be free from interruptions or fluctuations and may fluctuate in quality from time to time;
- (b) will be of the quality of electricity contained in the electricity network; and
- (c) may not suit your specific needs if, for example, you have specific goods or equipment at your premises that require a continuous electricity supply free from interruptions or fluctuations in supply or fluctuations in quality.

There are things you can do to minimise the impact of these interruptions, fluctuations and other supply limitations so that you can protect your property and interests.

For example, in the case of an unexpected, prolonged power outage affecting *your* refrigerator/freezer contents, *you* may be reasonably able to minimise *your* loss (depending on the circumstances) by asking a friend/neighbour if *you* can use their refrigerator/freezer (if they are not affected by the outage) or by obtaining bagged ice from *your* local service station or other outlet. If those or similar options would not be reasonably available to *you* in that situation, then *you* should consider if the value

of the contents of *your* refrigerator/freezer (such as important medicines or expensive foods, wines or other produce) means they are worth protection by some other, possibly more substantial and reliable means that *you* could reasonably put in place (such as a back up power supply).

You are best placed to know *your* particular needs and how best to protect them. So, if *you* do have particular needs or specific goods or equipment that require a continuous electricity supply free from interruptions or fluctuations in supply or fluctuations in quality, then *you* should take reasonable care to ensure *you*:

- (d) address your particular needs, including making suitable alternative arrangements (for example, a back-up supply or alternative power source);
- (e) protect persons, property, goods and equipment at the premises from any loss, harm or damage that arises if the electricity supplied to you is not free from interruptions or fluctuations in supply or fluctuations in quality (for example, installing surge protection devices for sensitive equipment); and
- (f) otherwise do what you reasonably can to mitigate your loss arising from any interruptions or fluctuations in supply or fluctuations in quality.

Further, as electricity is by its nature inherently dangerous (including risks of fire and electrocution) you must take care in relation to your use and treatment of electricity supplied.

You must only use electricity with appropriate wiring, fittings, appliances and installations that comply with applicable laws and relevant safety standards (including as regards to their proper installation, use and maintenance) and in accordance with the instructions for safe use provided by the manufacturer or a licensed electrician. For more information on electricity safety please contact Building and Energy – Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety.

#### 13.2 Operation of the electricity network

As an electricity retailer, we are not responsible for matters relating to the operation of the electricity network. However, to assist you when you raise a concern with us about your electricity supply, we can:

- (a) supply you with a copy of the distribution standards if you pay us a fee; and
- (b) respond to a request about changes in the quality of your electricity supply that exceed the distribution standards; and

- advise you about things you can do to avoid interfering with electricity network equipment or another person's electricity supply; and
- (d) forward your concerns to Western Power Networks.

#### 14. Liability

#### 14.1 Protected rights

- (a) If you are a Consumer, we may be taken to have given you certain consumer guarantees under the Australian Consumer Law about the supply of goods (including electricity) or services (if any) to you. If we fail to comply with those consumer guarantees, then you may have rights against us under the Australian Consumer Law that we are prohibited by law from excluding, restricting or modifying.
  - However, where any electricity or other goods or services (if any) supplied under this *contract* are not of a kind ordinarily acquired for personal, domestic or household use or consumption, *our* liability for breach of any *consumer* guarantee applicable to *our* supply of those goods or, if applicable, services under the *Australian Consumer Law*, is (to the extent permitted by the *Australian Consumer Law*) limited to any one or more of the following, as determined by *us*:
  - the supply of equivalent goods or, as applicable, the supply of the services again;
  - (ii) the payment of the cost of acquiring equivalent goods or, as applicable, of having the services supplied again.
- (b) Nothing in this contract is to be taken to exclude, restrict or modify Your Protected Rights if, and to the extent that, we are prohibited by law from excluding, restricting or modifying them. This applies whether or not you are a Consumer.
- (c) This clause 14.1 takes precedence over every other provision of this contract and applies despite any other provision of this contract to the contrary. If another provision of this contract has (or, but for this clause 14.1(c), would have) an effect that is inconsistent and conflicts with clause 14.1, then this clause 14.1 overrides that other provision and that other provision will not apply where and to the extent it is inconsistent and conflicts with clause 14.1.

#### 14.2 Other liability limitations

(a) Protected rights have priority Your Protected Rights
are not excluded, restricted or modified by this clause
14.2, if, and to the extent that, such an exclusion,
restriction or modification is prohibited by law.

## (b) All customers – general exclusion of implied warranties etc.

Unless this *contract* expressly provides otherwise, all conditions, warranties and guarantees *you* may have at any time in relation to this *contract* (including, without limitation, any rights of recovery or to compensation) however arising, are, to the maximum extent permitted by law, excluded. However, please note clause 14.2(a) which relates to *Your Protected Rights*.

#### (c) All customers – general exclusion of our Supply Related Liability

We supply electricity, but we do not own or operate the network. The network is operated by Western Power Networks. Unless otherwise expressly provided in this contract (such as, in clause 14.2(e)), in no event are we liable to you for any Supply Related Liability. However, please note clause 14.2(a) which relates to Your Protected Rights.

Although we, as an electricity retailer, may not be responsible for Supply Related Liability, if you ask us, we will raise concerns that you may have in relation to your electricity supply with Western Power Networks. You may also be eligible for a service standard payment from Western Power Networks in certain circumstances under the Electricity Industry (Network Quality and Reliability of Supply) Code 2005 or the Code of Conduct. You can obtain more information about this payment by contacting Western Power Networks or us.

## (d) All customers – our statutory liability limitations still apply

To the extent we are liable to you for any loss or damage under this contract, that liability is limited to the fullest extent permitted under law, including the Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979 (WA) and the Electricity Corporations Act 2005 (WA). However, please note clause 14.2(a) which relates to Your Protected Rights.

## (e) Residential customers & non contestable customers - additional limitations of our liability

If you are a residential customer or you are not a contestable customer, then to the fullest extent permitted by law we will not be liable to you for any loss, damage or liability (including any excluded loss and any Supply Related Liability) arising for any reason under or in relation to this contract.

However, that limitation does not apply to any directloss (**including** any *direct loss* that is *Supply Related Liability*) you suffer or incur to the extent it is

caused by *our* negligence. In no event are *we* liable to *you* for any *excluded loss*. However, please note clause 14.2(a) which relates to *Your Protected Rights*.

#### (f) Non residential, contestable customers – additional limitations of our liability

If you are a contestable customer and not a residential customer, then to the fullest extent permitted by law we will not be liable to you for any loss, damage or liability (including any excluded loss and any Supply Related Liability) arising for any reason under or in relation to this contract. However, that limitation does not apply to any direct loss (other than any direct loss that is Supply Related Liability) you suffer or incur to the extent it is caused by our negligence. In no event are we liable to you for any excluded loss. However, please note clause 14.2(a) which relates to Your Protected Rights.

(g) All customers – our liability limitations are cumulative Each of the limitations of our liability in this clause 14.2 applies in addition to each and every other relevant limitation of our liability, whether provided in this contract, at law or otherwise.

#### 14.3 Indemnity

#### (a) Protected rights have priority

Your Protected Rights are not excluded, restricted or modified by this clause 14.3, if, and to the extent that, such an exclusion, restriction or modification is prohibited by law.

#### (b) Indemnity

You must indemnify us fully against all and any loss, damage or liability of any kind caused by, consequent upon, or arising out of any acts or omissions on your part in relation to:

- (i) your breach of any term of this contract;
- (ii) your breach of any applicable laws; or
- (iii) your negligence, fraud, theft or other wrongful act or omission,

but only to the extent that such loss or damage was reasonably foreseeable as a possible consequence of *your* breach, negligence, fraud, theft or other wrongful act or omission, and that doing so would not be inconsistent and conflict with clause 14.1.

This indemnity is without prejudice to any other rightor remedy we have and survives termination of this contract.

#### 14.4 Legitimate interests

The terms of this clause 14 (including those that exclude, restrict or modify *our* liability) are reasonably necessary to protect *our* legitimate interests, including in the

circumstances and for the reasons outlined in clause 13 and by appropriating risks so as to help minimise *our* charges for electricity for all *our* customers.

#### 15. Confidentiality of your information

- (a) Unless we are permitted to do otherwise under this contract, we will use and otherwise deal with your information and keep it confidential, subject to and consistent with our privacy policy. Our privacy policy sets out the steps that we take to ensure that your information remains confidential.
- (b) In particular, but without limiting the above, we will keep your information confidential unless:
  - (i) we have your prior written consent; or
  - the law (including applicable privacy laws and any regulatory, accounting, governmental, ministerial or stock exchange requirement) requires or permits us to disclose it; or
  - (iii) we need to use the information for our regulatory reporting or compliance, or in any legal or regulatory proceedings; or
  - (iv) the information is already in the public domain; or
  - (v) we believe you have obtained or used electricity illegally or in an unsafe manner and, as a result, we provide relevant information to the Economic Regulation Authority or the Director of Energy Safety, Western Power Networks or the Police (as appropriate); or
  - (vi) we use the information for business purposes, provided that we will only do so subject to applicable laws and, if you are an individual purchasing electricity for a private purpose, then we will only do so to the extent such use:
    - (A) does not cause a significant imbalance of the parties' rights and obligations arising under this contract; or
    - (B) is reasonably necessary in order to protect *our* legitimate interests from time to time; or
    - (C) does not cause you detriment (whether financial or otherwise); or
    - (D) is otherwise permitted under any of paragraphs(i) to (v) of this clause (both inclusive).
- (c) We will ensure our privacy policy is consistent with applicable privacy laws. You can obtain a copy of our privacy policy, free of charge, either from our website (synergy.net.au), or by requesting a copy from our customer centre.

(d) You agree to the above arrangements, including to the terms of our privacy policy and any use or disclosure of your information which is required or permitted by this contract, our privacy policy, applicable privacy laws or any other law.

#### 16. Complaints

If you wish to raise a complaint concerning our performance of your electricity supply, we encourage you to contact us to discuss the issue. We will manage and consider your complaint consistently with our customer complaints policy which complies with Australian Standard AS/NZS 100002:2014 in relation to complaint handling and in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

If you are not satisfied with how your complaint is being managed, you may have the complaint considered by a senior member of staff. If you are not satisfied with our response to your complaint, you may request our response and reasons in writing. Should you remain dissatisfied with our response, you may raise the complaint with the electricity ombudsman, whose contact details can be found in our customer complaints policy.

#### 17. Information

#### 17.1 We will provide you with information

If you wish to obtain further information about the contract or the supply of electricity, please contact us. If you request it, we will provide you with or make available to you in accordance with the Code of Conduct (where applicable to you):

- (a) information on the standard price and our other fees and charges within 8 business days of the date of receipt of your request (where 'date of receipt' has the meaning given to that term in the Code of Conduct);
   and
- (b) general information on energy efficiency, including how you may arrange for an energy efficiency audit of the premises and the typical running costs of major domestic appliances; and
- (c) information on the distribution of electricity; and
- (d) information on the types of *concessions* available to *you*; and
- (e) any other information we said we would provide you in this contract.

Unless we are legally required to provide the information free of charge, we will charge you a reasonable fee.

#### 17.2 You must provide us with information

- (a) You must provide us with information we reasonably require for the purposes of this contract and you acknowledge that any failure to provide us with such information may affect our ability to supply electricity to you under this contract. For example without limitation, we may need personal details necessary to establish your identity or a concession on your account, determine tariff eligibility or verify that life support equipment is required at your premises.
  - All information must be correct, and *you* must not mislead or misrepresent the information *you* provide to *us. We* have rights if information *you* provide is incorrect, misleading or deceptive.
- (b) In accordance with applicable laws we may disclose information to state and federal government agencies, regulatory authorities or agencies with statutory functions for the purposes related to this contract. Such information includes, but is not limited to, your personal details relating to concessions or life support equipment.

#### 17.3 Change of information

You must tell us as soon as possible if information you have provided to us changes. For example, without limitation, you must advise if:

- (a) there is a change in your contact details or the address to which your bills are to be sent; or
- (b) you change something at the premises which makes our access to the meter more difficult: or
- (c) you become aware of any problem with the electricity supply equipment which is at, or reasonably close to, the premises; or
- (d) you are moving premises and would like to amend the premises under this contract pursuant to clause 23.9(b) of this contract.

#### 18. Ending the contract

#### 18.1 When the contract ends

- (a) This contract will continue until you end the contract or we end the contract under clause 18.
- (b) If you end this contract because you enter into a new contract for the supply of electricity with us, this contract ends on the expiry of the cooling off period (if applicable) specified in the new contract.
- (c) If you end this contract because you enter into a contract for the supply of electricity with another

retailer, this contract ends when we receive notification from Western Power Networks that your premises have been transferred to the other electricity retailer in accordance with the customer transfer code.

#### 18.2 When you can end the contract

You can end the *contract* at any time by advising *us* at least 5 days before the day *you* want the *contract* to end.

#### 18.3 When we can end the contract

We can end the contract by giving you prior notice if you:

- (a) become insolvent (as defined in the *Corporations Act* 2001 (Cth); or
- (b) have a liquidator appointed; or
- (c) become bankrupt (as defined in the *Bankruptcy Act* 1966 (Cth)); or
- (d) commit a substantial breach of any of your obligations under this contract; or
- breach any of your obligations under the contract for which we have a right under the contract or a written law to disconnect supply; or
- (f) cease to be either a residential customer or business customer, or
- (g) cease to be eligible for a standard price; or
- (h) without limiting any of the above paragraphs, breach any of your other obligations under this contract where that breach is capable of remedy and you fail to remedy the breach within 10 business days of us requesting you to do so.

We can end the *contract* without giving *you* prior notice if *you* vacate the *premises* and:

- after reasonable enquiry we are satisfied you no longer occupy or reside at the premises and you do not request electricity supply from us in respect of different premises [within a 30 day period from that date]; or
- you inform us you no longer wish to obtain electricity supply from us under this contract

#### 18.4 What happens after a contract ends

If the contract ends:

- (a) We may arrange for a final meter reading and for disconnection.
- (b) We may issue a final bill to you.
- (c) We can charge you a fee for the final meter reading, disconnection and final bill, subject to the provisions of any written law.

- (d) We can remove or arrange for Western Power Networks to remove electricity supply equipment at any time and you must let us have safe and unrestricted access to the premises to allow us to do so.
- (e) You will remain liable to pay any outstanding payments to *us* and *we* will have no further obligation to supply electricity to *you*.

#### 19. Security for payment of bills

## 19.1 Circumstances in which we will require a security deposit

- (a) If you are a residential customer, we will not require you to provide a security deposit.
- (b) If you are a business customer, we will require you to provide a security deposit if:
  - we decide (acting reasonably) that you have an unsatisfactory credit history or an unsatisfactory history of paying for electricity that has been supplied to you;
  - (2) you owe us an amount in relation to electricity supplied to the premises, unless you have disputed the bill relating to that amount by making a complaint to us or to the electricity ombudsman; or
  - (3) in the two years before entering into this contract, you have fraudulently obtained a supply of electricity, or you have intentionally and unlawfully consumed electricity.
- (c) If we decide that you have an unsatisfactory credit history or an unsatisfactory history of paying for electricity that has been supplied to you, we will inform you of:
  - (1) our decision to require a security deposit and the reasons for our decision; and
  - (2) our complaints handling process and of the electricity ombudsman scheme, if you decide to raise a complaint to us or to the electricity ombudsman.
- (d) We can require you to provide a security deposit at the time you enter into this contract or at any time before termination of this contract.
- (e) If we require you to pay a security deposit and you fail to do so in whole or in part, then subject to this contract, including clauses 12.5, 12.6, 12.7 and 18.4 and the conditions in our Electricity Retail Licence, we may end this contract and/or disconnect your electricity supply or refuse to reconnect your electricity supply (as applicable).

#### 19.2 Value of your security deposit

The amount of any security deposit we require you to pay will be the lesser of the amounts calculated on the following methods, and we will notify you of the amount:

- (a) an amount which is no more than 37.5% of your estimated bills over a 12-month period. We will calculate your estimated bills based on your billing data, or if we do not have any billing data for you, based on the average consumption of a comparable customer over a comparable 12-month period; or
- (b) if your billing cycle is 2 months or less twice the average amount of the account taken over the 3 preceding billing cycles; or
- (c) if your billing cycle is more than 2 months 1.5 times the average amount of the account taken over the 3 preceding billing cycles; or
- (d) if we do not have any billing data for you the amount we determine having regard to the methods in clauses 19.2(b) and 19.2(c), unless or until one of the methods in 19.2(b) or 19.2(c) become applicable.

#### 19.3 Permission to carry out credit checks

- (a) You agree to:
  - (1) grant us permission to investigate your credit history; and
  - (2) provide us with any information you hold about your credit history,

as and when we may so request from time to time.

#### 19.4 How we will manage your security deposit

If you provide a security deposit:

- (a) we will keep the security deposit in a separate trust account and identify it separately in our accounting records; and
- (b) interest will accrue daily at the bank bill swap rate and is capitalised every 90 days unless paid

#### 19.5 How we will use your security deposit

- (a) Without otherwise limiting our rights at law, we will only apply the security deposit and any interest that may have accrued in accordance with clause 19.4(b) to satisfy, partially or in full, any amount you owe us if:
  - we disconnect your electricity supply because you fail to pay a bill by the due date and you no longer have any rights to have your electricity reconnected under this contract; or
  - (2) any amount you owe us relates to the final bill issued to you under this contract.

- (b) Within 10 business days after applying the security deposit in accordance with clause 19.5(a), we will:
  - provide you with a written statement of how we applied the security deposit; and
  - (2) repay you any amount of the security deposit that remains unused in accordance with your reasonable instructions.

#### 19.6 Repayment of your security deposit

- (a) Unless we apply the security deposit in accordance with clause 19.5, we will repay the amount of the security deposit in full and any interest accrued to you in accordance with this clause 19.6.
- (b) We will repay the amount of the security deposit in full and any interest accrued to you in accordance with your reasonable instructions and within 10 business days after:
  - you complete two years of payments for the supply of electricity by the due dates in the relevant bills: or
  - (2) you leave the premises; or
  - (3) we disconnect your electricity supply at your request; or
  - (4) your premises have been transferred to another electricity retailer.
- (c) If we are to repay the amount of the security deposit to you and you do not give us reasonable instructions for the repayment of the security deposit and any accrued interest, then we will credit the amount to be repaid to:
  - if the circumstance in clause 19.6(b)(1) applies your next bill; or
  - (2) if the circumstances in clauses 19.6(b)(2), 19.6(b)(3) or 19.6(b)(4) apply your final bill.
- (d) Nothing in this clause 19 limits our obligations under the Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979 (WA) to re-assess and repay to you the amount of a security deposit you provide where:
  - (1) the amount provided is in excess of the amount required under clause 19.2; or
  - (2) we consider the security deposit is no longer appropriate for the purpose for which it was required.

#### 20. GST

- (a) In this clause:
  - GST has the meaning given to that term in the GST Law.

- (2) **GST Law** has the meaning given to that term in A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 (Cth).
- (3) adjustment note, recipient, supplier, tax invoice and taxable supply have the meanings given to those terms in the GST Law.
- (b) All sums payable, or consideration to be provided, under the contract are expressed inclusive of GST.
- (c) If there is a taxable supply under or in connection with the contract, then the recipient must pay to the supplier an amount equal to the GST payable on the taxable supply in addition to, and at the same time as, payment for the taxable supply is required to be made under the contract.
- (d) The supplier must provide a tax invoice (or an adjustment note) to the recipient in respect of the taxable supply and the obligation of the recipient to pay the GST on a taxable supply is conditional on the supplier providing a tax invoice or adjustment note.

## 21. Adjustments for a change in law and network access costs

- 21.1 To the extent permitted by law, if a change in law occurs, we may adjust the standard price applicable under the contract to the extent necessary to place us in the position we would have been in under the contract had it not been for the change in law.
- 21.2 To the extent permitted by law, if a change in network access tariffs occurs, or a new network access tariff is imposed, we may charge you an amount to the extent necessary to reflect that proportion of the effect of the new network access tariff or change in network access tariffs, which we estimate in good faith is fairly attributable to or payable by you, taking into account the amount of electricity we supply to you.
- 21.3 To the extent permitted by law, if you change the rate at which you use electricity, we may adjust the standard price applicable under the contract to the extent necessary to reflect that proportion of any increase in network access tariffs which we estimate in good faith is fairly attributable to or payable by you, taking into account the amount of electricity we supply to you.
- 21.4 If we adjust the standard price in accordance with clauses 21.1 or 21.3, or we charge an amount in accordance with clause 21.2, we will notify you of

- the changes in the *standard price* or the additional charge by any means including post, telephone or *electronic means*.
- 21.5 This clause 21 does not limit or prejudice in any way any other rights we have from time to time to adjust the standard price applicable under the contract.

#### 22. Set Off

We may set off any amount owing to us under this contract against any amount payable by us to you under this contract. Nothing in this contract limits our ability at law to set off any amount owing to us under this contract against any amount payable by us to you under another contract you may have with us, or to set off any amount payable by us to you under this contract against any amount owing to us under another contract you may have with us. Subject to our obligations at law, we can use any security deposit you are required to pay under this contract to set off any amount owing to us by you under another contract you may have with us (provided that contract is a standard form or non-standard form contract).

#### 23. Miscellaneous

#### 23.1 Co-operation with Western Power Networks

You agree to:

- (a) co-operate with Western Power Networks in relation to the supply and consumption of electricity at the premises, including in relation to connecting the premises to the distribution system and disconnecting the premises from the distribution system; and
- (b) allow us to give Western Power Networks your details.

#### 23.2 Notices

Any notice or other communication given under the contract:

- (a) does not have to be in writing, unless the contract expressly requires that the notice or communication must be in writing;
- (b) subject to clause 23.2(c), is taken to be received:
  - (1) in the case of a verbal communication, at the time of the communication; and
  - (2) in the case of hand delivery, on the date of delivery; and
  - in the case of post, on the second business day after posting; and
  - (4) in the case of facsimile, on the date on which the sender's facsimile machine records that the

- facsimile was successfully transmitted; and
- (5) in the case of e-mail, on the date on which the sender's computer or other device from which the e-mail was sent records that the e-mail was successfully transmitted; and
- (6) in the case of online feedback to us via our internet website contact system, on the date on which our systems record that the online feedback was successfully received; and
- (c) If received after 5.00pm or on a day other than a business day, is taken to be received on the next business day.

#### 23.3 Electronic means

- You agree that we can use electronic means to give information to you.
- (b) We can decide procedures as to how communication by electronic means will operate and what things can be communicated by electronic means.
- (c) If you are not able to receive information by electronic means, we can decide to give information to you by other means such as mail.

#### 23.4 No assignment

- (a) Unless we give you our prior written consent, you must not transfer, assign or otherwise dispose of any of your rights or obligations under the contract.
- (b) We can assign or novate the contract without notice to you, to any person that we believe has reasonable commercial and technical capability to perform our obligations under the contract, and you are taken to have agreed to any such assignment or novation.

#### 23.5 Application of laws

Nothing in the *contract* limits or excludes the rights, powers and remedies that we have at law (including under the *Energy Operators (Powers) Act 1979* (WA) and the *Electricity Corporations Act (2005)* (WA) or in equity.

The contract also does not in any way limit our or your obligations to comply with the lawful directions of any lawful authority, including the Minister for Energy, the Coordinator of Energy, the Director of Energy Safety and the Police and Fire and Emergency Services in relation to emergencies and safety or otherwise.

#### 23.6 Entire gareement

The contract and all applicable written laws represent the entire agreement between you and us relating to the matters covered by this contract.

#### 23.7 Waiver of rights

If we do not enforce any right under the *contract* then this must not be construed as a waiver of that or any other of *our* rights under the *contract* or otherwise prevent *us* exercising any of them later.

#### 23.8 Governing law

The *contract* is governed by the laws of the State of Western Australia.

#### 23.9 Amendments

- (a) We may change the *premises* under this *contract* at *our* discretion if:
  - you notify us you are moving out of in accordance with clause 9.3, or no longer require supply in respect of the *premises*; and
  - (ii) you request supply of electricity in respect of alternative premises under the terms of our standard form contract within a period of [30 days] from the date you notify us; or
  - (iii) we reasonably believe that you are taking supply of electricity at another supply address and you have not entered into a contract with us or another retailer for that supply.
- (b) You may change the premises under this contract with our consent.

We can change these standard electricity terms and conditions without *your* consent from time to time in accordance with the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* (WA) or any other written law. If these terms change and those changes are approved by the Economic Regulation Authority, then *your contract* will be taken to be amended to reflect those changes. Any changes to the terms and conditions will be published as required by the Economic Regulation Authority.

#### 23.10 Effect of invalid terms

If any term of the *contract* is invalid or unenforceable it can be severed from the *contract* without affecting the enforceability of other *contract* terms.

#### 23.11 Authorised representatives

(a) You can, by giving us notice at any time at or after establishment of the contract, appoint a person nominated in your notice to be your authorised representative to act for and on your behalf under and in relation to the contract. By appointing an authorised representative you agree to give that person full, unrestricted power and authority to act for you and on your behalf as your agent under and in relation to the contract (but not any other matter). This includes doing all or some of the following for you and on your behalf under and in relation to the contract:

- (i) incurring liabilities for you to pay money,
- accessing your account information and personal details,
- (iii) giving and receiving notices, consents, instructions and other information,
- (iv) making enquiries,
- (v) exercising rights, powers and remedies,
- (vi) completing transactions,
- (vii) changing contact details,
- (viii) arranging additional time to pay an invoice,
- (ix) entering into direct debit, instalment plans and other payment arrangements,
- (x) requesting refunds,
- (xi) changing your standard price,
- (xii) requesting the provision of services such as a meter test,
- (xiii) applying for new concessions and terminating existing concessions; and
- (xiv) ending your contract.
- (b) Not withstanding clause 23.11(a) you may limit the matters your authorised representative can perform on your behalf by providing notice to us including, but not limited to, specifying in that notice the matters your authorised representative cannot perform on your behalf.
- (c) Any such appointment commences on the date of appointment specified in your notice to us appointing the authorised representative (or any later date when we first receive that notice) and continues in full force and effect until:
  - the date for termination of appointment you specify in your notice to us terminating the appointment of your authorised representative (or any later date when we first receive that notice of termination); or
  - (ii) if you have not specified a date for termination of appointment of your authorised representative at the time of that appointment, then the date in which you subsequently notify us to terminate the appointment of your authorised representative.
- (b) This clause 23.11 survives termination of the contract for any reason.

#### 24. Definitions and Interpretation

#### 24.1 Definitions

In these terms and conditions, unless the context otherwise requires:

**Australian Consumer Law** means schedule 2 to the Competition and *Consumer Act 2010* (Cth) as in force as a law of the Commonwealth under that Act, and as in force as a law of Western Australia under the *Fair Trading Act 2010* (WA).

**bank bill swap rate** has the meaning given to that term in the *Electricity Industry (Customer Contract*) Regulations 2005 (WA).

**billing cycle** means the regular recurrent period in which you receive a bill from us.

**business customer** means a customer who does not consume more than 160 *MWh* of electricity per annum and who is not a *residential customer*.

**business day** means any day except a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday.

**change in law** means a change in an existing law, or the imposition of a new law, which directly or indirectly results in an increase in *our* cost of supplying or selling electricity to *vou* under this *contract*.

**Charges By-laws** means the Energy Operators (Electricity Retail Corporation) (Charges) By-laws 2006 (WA).

**Code of Conduct** means the Code of Conduct for the Supply of Electricity to Small Use Customers as amended from time to time under section 79 of the Electricity Industry Act 2004 (WA).

**concession** means a concession, rebate subsidy or grant related to the supply of electricity available to a residential customer only.

**connection point** has the meaning given to that term in the *metering code*.

**consumer** has the meaning given to that term in the *Australian Consumer Law*.

**contestable customer** has the same meaning as in the Code of Conduct.

**contract** means the legally binding agreement between you and us, of which these are the terms and conditions.

customer complaints policy means our published policy in force from time to time (as amended or replaced by us from time to time) describing the process to be followed by us in responding to a complaint by you and which can be obtained on request from our customer centre or from our website.

**customer transfer code** means the Electricity Industry Customer Transfer Code 2016 (WA) as amended from time to time.

direct loss does not include any excluded loss.

disconnection warning means a notice in writing that we issue to you advising you of a date that we may disconnect you if you have not paid your bill or if you have failed to provide access to the meter and explaining the complaint handling process that you can use if you disagree with your bill.

**distribution system** means any apparatus, equipment, plant or buildings used, or to be used, for, or in connection with, the transportation of electricity at nominal voltages of less than 66 kilovolts (kV).

**electricity ombudsman** has the same meaning as in clause 1.5 of the *Code of Conduct*.

electricity ombudsman scheme has the meaning given to that term in the Electricity Industry (Customer Contracts) Regulations 2005 (WA).

electricity supply equipment is defined in clause 8.1.

**electronic means** has the same meaning as in clause 1.5 of the *Code of Conduct*.

emergency means an emergency due to the actual or imminent occurrence of an event which in any way endangers, or threatens to endanger, the safety or health of any person, or the maintenance of power system security in Western Australia, or which destroys or damages, or threatens to destroy or damage, any property in Western Australia.

event beyond your control or event beyond our control means an event or circumstance affecting you (in the case of an event beyond your control) or us (in the case of an event beyond our control) and in each case that is

beyond the direct control or influence of that affected person, including acts of God, government orders, court orders, emergencies, operational necessity, required maintenance, breakdowns at power stations or elsewhere, insufficient volumes of electricity or any other problem with a distribution system or the electricity transmission system (as defined in section 3 of the Electricity Industry Act 2004 (WA) but excludes your or our inability to pay any money due under this contract for any reason.

**excluded loss** means all and any of the following (whether or not known to or contemplated by *us* or *you*, or otherwise reasonably foreseeable at any time):

- (a) business interruption loss;
- (b) lost profits;
- (c) loss of an opportunity;
- (d) your liability to others under contracts, applicable laws or otherwise:
- (e) indirect or consequential loss of any kind;
- (f) any loss to the extent it is caused by your own negligence or other fault; or
- (g) any loss to the extent it is caused by an event beyond our control.

**life support equipment** means the equipment designated under the Life Support Equipment Electricity Subsidy Scheme.

**meter** means the equipment used to measure the volume of electricity that we supply to you.

**metering code** means the *Electricity Industry Metering* Code 2012 (WA) as amended from time to time.

MWh means megawatt hour.

**network access tariff** means the charges payable by us to Western Power Networks from time to time for transmission, distribution, metering and access services.

payment difficulties and financial hardship policy means the policy that we have developed in accordance with the Code of Conduct and outlines, among other things, our policy on how we assist you to meet your payment obligations under the contract. A copy of this policy can be obtained on request from our customer centre or from our website.

**premises** means the address to which electricity is to be supplied to *you* under this *contract*, and as amended from time to time pursuant to clause 23.9(a) or 23.9(b) of this *contract*.

**privacy policy** means our published policy in force (as amended or replaced by us from time to time).

**private purpose** means wholly or predominantly for personal, domestic or household use or consumption.

**rebate** means a *rebate* under by-law 9 of the *Charges By-laws* or such other *rebate* or *concession* that *we* publish as being available from time to time.

**reminder notice** means a notice in writing that we issue to you advising you that you have not paid your bill and explaining how we may assist you if you are experiencing payment difficulties or financial hardship.

**residential customer** means a customer who consumes electricity solely for domestic use and does not consume more than 160 *MWh* of electricity per annum.

**security deposit** means an amount of money required by us from a business customer as security against the business customer defaulting on a payment due to us under this contract.

standard price means a charge, fee or rental to be paid by you for, or in connection with, the supply of electricity under the Charges By-laws or those charges, fees or rentals for, or in connection with, the supply of electricity that we publish from time to time. Subject to the Charges By-laws we can, from time to time and at our discretion, change the standard price you must pay to us for, or in connection with, the supply of electricity.

**Supply Related Liability** means any loss, damage or liability (including any *excluded loss*) arising for any reason from, or in connection with:

- (a) any loss or curtailment of or interruption or delay in your electricity supply (including any delay in connection, disconnection or reconnection of your electricity supply);
- (b) any surge, disruption or fluctuation in electricity supply or its quality from time to time; or
- (c) us failing, for any reason, to supply electricity meeting any particular quality, reliability or quantity.

**type 7** has the same meaning as Type 7 under the metering code.

**verifiable consent** has the meaning given to that term in the *Code of Conduct*.

we, us and our means Electricity Generation and Retail Corporation trading as Synergy (ABN 58 673 830 106) of 219 St George's Terrace, Perth, Western Australia.

**Western Power Networks** means the person who owns and operates the South West Interconnected System (as described in the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* (WA).

**you** and **your** means the person to whom electricity will be supplied under the **contract**.

your equipment is defined in clause 8.2.

#### Your Protected Rights means:

- (a) any rights of recovery or to compensation you may have under the Australian Consumer Law (including in relation to excluded loss);
- (b) any other rights of recovery or to compensation you may have under law, including, for example, any service standard payments that may be payable to you under part 14 of the Code of Conduct; or
- (c) any other condition, warranty or guarantee (including the application of any consumer guarantee under the Australian Consumer Law) where applicable, if, and to the extent that, we are prohibited by law from excluding, restricting or modifying them.

#### 24.2 Interpretation

In the contract, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
- (b) a reference to any thing is a reference to the whole or any part of it and a reference to a group of things or persons is a reference to any one or more of them;
- a reference to a person includes a public body, company, or association or body of persons, corporate or unincorporated;
- (d) a reference to a person includes a reference to the person's executors, administrators, successors, substitutes (including persons taking by novation) and permitted assigns;

- (e) a reference to a clause is a reference to a clause of the contract:
- (f) headings are included for convenience and do not affect the interpretation of the contract;
- (g) a reference to a statute, ordinance, code or other law includes regulations and other instruments under it and consolidations, amendments, re-enactments or replacements of any of them from time to time;
- (h) if a word or phrase is defined, other grammatical forms of that word or phrase have a corresponding meaning;
- ii) if the word 'including' or 'includes' is used, the words 'without limitation' are taken to immediately follow;
- a reference to writing includes any means of representing or reproducing words in visible form including by electronic means such as facsimile transmission;
- (k) a reference to a liability includes any obligation to pay money and any other loss, cost or expense of any kind;
- a reference to a month is to a calendar month and a reference to a year is to a calendar year;
- (m) if a period of time is specified and dates from a given day or the day of an act or event, it is to be calculated inclusive of that day;
- (n) if a date stipulated for payment or for doing an act is not a business day, the payment must be made or the act must be done on the next business day; and
- (o) a reference to a monetary amount means that amount in Australian currency and a unit of measurement is to an Australian legal unit of measurement, as defined in the National Measurement Act 1960 (Cth).

## Our commitment to serve you well

We may supply your energy but what we're really here for is to help you get the most out of it. That means giving you the best possible service. If you have any feedback or ways we can help you better, we'd love to hear them.

#### Visit us online at synergy.net.au/contact

#### Give us a call:

- 13 13 53 for residential customers.
   Monday to Friday between 7am and 7pm AWST, excluding public holidays.
- 13 13 54 for business customers.
   Monday to Friday between 8am and 5pm AWST, excluding public holidays.
- (08) 6212 2222 for calls outside Western Australia.
- TTY 13 36 77
   if you have hearing or speech difficulties.
   Monday to Friday between 7am and 7pm AWST,
   excluding public holidays.
- TIS **13 14 50** for telephone interpretation services.

#### Or you can write to us:

Customer Services
 Synergy
 GPO Box K851
 Perth WA 6842