



Notice

24 October 2023

Proposed revisions to the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems access arrangement

Publication of issues paper

The ERA has published an [issues paper](#) to assist interested parties in preparing their submissions on ATCO's proposal for the sixth access arrangement period (AA6). The paper identifies nine areas of interest, with comments being sought on some specific matters. Submissions are an integral input into the decision making process and will assist the ERA with its draft decision, which is expected to be made by May 2024.

The ERA's decision on ATCO's proposal will affect all gas users on the distribution network. ATCO has proposed a 42.3 per cent tariff increase on 1 January 2025, with tariffs increasing by inflation for the remaining four years. While the Western Australian Government sets a maximum gas retail tariff for residential customers and some small businesses, many of these customers have switched to competitive tariffs offering discounts and ATCO's proposed network tariffs may affect the level of these discounts in the future. All other small and large commercial and industrial customers will be directly affected by the proposed tariff increases.

ATCO's proposal, including access arrangement information and other supporting documentation is published on the [ERA website](#).

Background

On 1 September 2023, ATCO Gas Australia submitted proposed revisions to Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems (GDS) access arrangement for the sixth access arrangement period, which is due to commence on 1 January 2025. ATCO is the owner and operator of the GDS.

The GDS consists of gas networks servicing Geraldton, Bunbury, Busselton, Harvey, Pinjarra, Brunswick Junction, Capel and the Perth greater metropolitan area (including Mandurah). These combined networks supply approximately 785,000 customers through more than 14,500 kilometres of gas distribution pipelines.

The GDS is a regulated gas distribution network and is required to have an approved access arrangement, which sets out the terms and conditions under which ATCO will provide third party users access to the GDS to transport and/or receive gas.

The ERA encourages interested parties to review the ERA's [Gas Access Arrangement Guideline](#) to further their understanding of the access arrangement framework and the procedures involved in undertaking this assessment of ATCO's proposal.

Closing date for submissions

Interested parties have until 4:00 pm (WST) Monday, 27 November 2023 to make their submissions.

Submissions can be lodged online at: www.erawa.com.au/consultation

Further information

General enquiries

Tyson Self
Ph: 08 6557 7900
info@erawa.com.au

Media enquiries

Danielle Asarpota
Ph: +61 428 859 826
media@erawa.com.au