



**Economic Regulation Authority**

# Draft decision on revisions to the access arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems

Attachment 1: Access arrangement and services

24 April 2024

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## Note

This attachment forms part of the ERA's draft decision on proposed revisions to the access arrangement for the Mid-West South-West Gas Distribution Systems. It should be read in conjunction with all other parts of the draft decision, which is comprised of the following document and attachments:

Draft decision on revisions to the access arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems – Overview, 24 April 2024

- Attachment 1: Access arrangement and services (this document)
- Attachment 2: Demand
- Attachment 3: Revenue and tariffs
- Attachment 4: Regulatory capital base
- Attachment 5: Operating expenditure
- Attachment 6: Depreciation
- Attachment 7: Return on capital, taxation, incentives
- Attachment 8: Other access arrangement provisions
- Attachment 9: Service terms and conditions

## Attachment 1. Summary

In its access arrangement proposal, ATCO:

- Identified the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates as the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems, with a detailed description of the pipeline available on ATCO's website.
- Specified the access arrangement review submission date and revision commencement date as 1 September 2028 and 1 January 2030, respectively.
- Specified a total of 12 reference services to be offered under the access arrangement (five haulage reference services and seven ancillary reference services), which are consistent with the reference services approved in ATCO's reference service proposal.

The ERA received no submissions from interested parties on the requirements for ATCO to address the above matters in the proposed access arrangement. Given this, and for the reasons set out in this document, the ERA approves these elements of ATCO's access arrangement proposal.

## Regulatory requirements

1. Rule 48 of the National Gas Rules (NGR) specifies the required content for an access arrangement, including the need to:
  - Identify the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates and include a reference to a website where a description of the pipeline is.
  - Describe all the pipeline services that the service provider can reasonably provide and specify the reference services to be offered.<sup>1</sup>
  - If there is to be a review submission date, state the review submission and revision commencement dates for the access arrangement.
2. Rules 49 to 52 set out further specific provisions for the setting of dates relevant to an access arrangement and the submission of an access arrangement revision proposal:
  - In most cases, an access arrangement must contain a review submission date and a revision commencement date (rule 49).
  - The proposed revision commencement date must be at least 12 months after the proposed review submission date (rule 50).
  - The review submission date may be brought forward to an earlier date if the access arrangement provides for, or the regulator requires an access arrangement to contain, one or more trigger events; and a trigger event occurs (rule 51):
    - Trigger events may consist of any significant circumstance or a combination of circumstances, including:
      - A redirection of the flow of natural gas through the pipeline.
      - A competing source of natural gas becomes available to customers served by the pipeline.
      - A significant extension, expansion or interconnection occurs.
3. The service provider must, on or before the review submission date of the access arrangement, submit an access arrangement revision proposal. The proposal must set out the service provider's proposed amendments to the access arrangement for the next access arrangement period and incorporate the proposed amendments in a revised access arrangement (rule 52).

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<sup>1</sup> The NGR requires that this description and specification be consistent with the ERA's reference service proposal decision (made under rule 47A) for the pipeline unless there has been a material change in circumstances. Where the description and/or specification is different to the ERA's decision, an explanation of the material change in circumstances that necessitated the change must be provided.

## ATCO proposal

4. ATCO set out the description of the pipeline and key dates for the access arrangement in Parts 2 and 3 of the proposed access arrangement:<sup>2</sup>
  - The pipeline to which the access arrangement relates is the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems (GDS), with a description of the pipeline available on ATCO's website.<sup>3</sup>
  - The proposed review submission date is 1 September 2028, and the proposed revision commencement date is 1 January 2030.
5. For AA6, ATCO has proposed to identify the gases that can be transported through the GDS and to include its supplier curtailment methodology as part of the access arrangement. These amendments are made in Part 3 of the proposed access arrangement.
6. ATCO's reference services for AA6 are set out in Part 4 of the proposed access arrangement and are summarised in Table 1.1. The reference services are grouped into two categories:
  - **Haulage Reference Services:** For the transportation of gas to residential, commercial, and industrial customers. Haulage reference services are used by all users of the GDS, and all gas delivered through our network is delivered under these services. These services cover the full range of activities involved in receiving, transporting, and delivering gas to our customers.
  - **Ancillary Reference Services:** Non-haulage pipeline services that are predominantly used by retailers in conjunction with providing a haulage service.<sup>4</sup>

**Table 1.1 Reference services for AA6**

Reference service	Summary of service
<b>Haulage reference services</b>	
A1	Service to deliver gas to major industrial customers using 35 TJ or more of gas per year, at high or medium pressures.
A2	Service to deliver gas to large customers using between 10 TJ or more but less than 35 TJ of gas per year, at high or medium pressures.
B1	Service to deliver gas to medium sized customers using less than 10 TJ of gas per year, at high or medium pressures.
B2	Service to deliver gas to small-use customers with a standard meter with capacity from 12m <sup>3</sup> /h to less than 18 m <sup>3</sup> /h, typically commercial or large residential, supplied at medium or low pressures.

<sup>2</sup> ATCO, Access Arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems, 1 September 2023 ([online](#)) (accessed April 2024).

<sup>3</sup> ATCO, 'About the Network' ([online](#)) (accessed April 2024).

<sup>4</sup> ATCO, *2025-29 Plan*, 1 September 2023, p. 76.

Reference service	Summary of service
B3	Service to deliver gas to small-use customers with a standard meter capacity less than 12m <sup>3</sup> /h, typically residential or small business customers, supplied at medium or low pressures.
<b>Ancillary reference services</b>	
<b>Disconnection services for retailer credit control</b>	
Applying a Meter Lock	Service to attach a lock to the valve that comprises part of the standard delivery facilities to prevent gas from being received at the delivery point. Available at delivery points receiving the B2 or B3 haulage service.
Disconnecting a Delivery Point <sup>5</sup>	Service to physically disconnect a delivery point to prevent gas from being delivered to the delivery point. Available at delivery points receiving the B2 or B3 haulage service.
<b>Reconnection services for retailer credit control</b>	
Removing a Meter Lock	Service to remove the lock that was applied to a valve comprising part of the standard delivery facilities to prevent gas from being received at the delivery point. Available at delivery points receiving the B2 or B3 haulage service.
Reconnecting a Delivery Point <sup>6</sup>	Service to reconnect a delivery point to allow gas to be delivered to the delivery point. Available at delivery points receiving the B2 or B3 haulage service.
<b>Disconnection services</b>	
Deregistering a Delivery Point (or "Deregistration")	Service to permanently deregister a delivery point by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) removing the delivery point (as per the Retail Market Procedures);</li> <li>ii) removing the delivery point from the Delivery Point Register; and</li> <li>iii) for delivery points receiving the B2 or B3 haulage service, removing the meter (where considered necessary).</li> </ul> For delivery points receiving the A1, A2 or B1 haulage service, removal of the meter set is a separate non-reference service ("Remove meter set and make safe service").
Permanent Disconnection <sup>7</sup>	Service for end users and property owners (including authorised representatives), to permanently disconnect a property from the gas network, by cutting and capping the service pipe at the main, under standard site conditions. Service only available where there is no meter at the property, or for delivery points that previously received the B2 or B3 haulage service and have also sought the "Deregistering a delivery point" service.

<sup>5</sup> Previously called the "Remove Regulator" service in ATCO's reference service proposal.

<sup>6</sup> Previously called the "Re-install Regulator" service in ATCO's reference service proposal.

<sup>7</sup> Previously called the "Cut and Cap Service Pipe at the Main" service in ATCO's reference service proposal.



Reference service	Summary of service
<b>Meter reading services</b>	
Special Read	Service to request a special read on a basic gas meter. Available at delivery points receiving the B1, B2 or B3 haulage service.

Source: ATCO, 2025-29 Plan, 1 September 2023, pp. 76-82.

7. Other pipeline services that ATCO can provide are offered as non-reference services. These services include the following, with detailed descriptions of the services are provided in Part 4.14 of the proposed access arrangement:<sup>8</sup>

- Disconnections for retailer credit control:
  - Applying a Trailer Air Coupling (TAC) Isolation Device
  - Disconnect Service in Street
- Reconnections for retailer credit control:
  - Removing a TAC Isolation Device
  - Remove meter lock same day (business hours only)
  - Remove meter lock same day (after business hours)
  - Reconnect service in street
  - Priority re-install regulator (business hours only)
  - Priority remove TAC Isolation Device (business hours only)
- Meter reading services:
  - Special meter read at appointed time
- Other meter services:
  - Meter retake and test
  - Remove meter set and make safe
  - Additional metering information (install telemetry or pulse head)
- Alter delivery services:
  - Alter meter position and/or gas service pipe
  - Upgrade meter pressure  $\leq 2.75\text{Kpa}$
  - Upgrade meter pressure  $> 2.75\text{Kpa}$
  - Upgrade meter up to M18AL
  - Upgrade to non-standard meter
  - Emergency change over
  - Mains extension (single)
- Other services that ATCO agrees to provide.

<sup>8</sup> ATCO, *Access Arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems*, 1 September 2023, pp. 10-12.

## Submissions

8. The ERA received no submissions from interested parties that addressed ATCO's information to identify the pipeline, proposed access arrangement dates, and/or reference services.

## Draft decision

### Identification of the pipeline and gases

9. ATCO identified the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates as the Mid-West and South-West GDS in Part 3 of the proposed access arrangement. A description of the pipeline, including pipeline schematics, is available on ATCO's website.<sup>9</sup>
10. ATCO proposed amendments to identify the types of gas that the GDS may transport. New Part 3.2 of the proposed access arrangement states that the GDS may transport natural gas and the following gas blends:
  - a blend of Natural Gas and biomethane;
  - a blend of Natural Gas and hydrogen up to a limit of 10% by volume; or
  - a blend of Natural Gas, biomethane and hydrogen up to a limit of 10% by volume.<sup>10</sup>

11. The proposed access arrangement further states:

The types of Other Gas, and Gas Blends, which may be transported in the GDS are expected to expand over time as the laws of Western Australia are amended to permit transportation of other combinations of Gas. Any transportation of other combinations of Gas is subject to ATCO first making a determination that such combinations can be safely transported in the GDS in a manner compliant with applicable Laws and which will not adversely impact the ability of the GDS to provide services to existing Users.<sup>11</sup>

12. ATCO proposed to include its supplier curtailment methodology as part of the access arrangement, for use if and when regulations change to allow the GDS to transport other forms of gas. The supplier curtailment methodology is included in new Part 3.3 and Annexure I of the proposed access arrangement. ATCO gave the following reasoning for the new annexure:

We have included a new annexure [in the access arrangement] that details our supplier curtailment methodology in anticipation that this will be required once the regulatory framework is amended for renewable gases.

Our methodology was already largely detailed in the template service agreement and is based on the principle to mitigate or avoid a situation which may threaten the reliability of gas supply or public safety.

The circumstances where ATCO may curtail the injection of gas are detailed in the template service agreement and are unchanged from AA5. The process for curtailment of the injection of gas is also detailed in the template service agreement and is unchanged from AA5.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>9</sup> ATCO, 'About the network' ([online](#)) (accessed April 2024).

<sup>10</sup> ATCO, *Access Arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems*, 1 September 2023, p. 4.

<sup>11</sup> ATCO, *Access Arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems*, 1 September 2023, p. 4.

<sup>12</sup> ATCO, *2025-29 Plan*, 1 September 2023, p. 256.

13. The NGR require ATCO to identify the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates, and to reference a website where a description of the pipeline can be inspected. ATCO has satisfied these requirements in Part 3 of the proposed access arrangement.
14. ATCO's proposal to identify the types of gas that may be transported through the GDS serves to clarify how the GDS may operate in a changing energy environment, subject to applicable legislation. The ERA considers that, given the national legislative reforms to the framework for gas regulation, such clarification is beneficial. The proposed wording is such that the access arrangement remains relevant whether, or not, legislative changes become effective (that is, are enacted) in Western Australia. Furthermore, ATCO's ability to transport gases (other than natural gas) would be subject to ATCO determining whether such gases can be safely transported through the GDS in a manner that is consistent with all applicable laws that are in effect.
15. ATCO's proposal to specifically reference its supplier curtailment methodology is also beneficial for the reasons stated by ATCO. As ATCO has noted, details of the methodology are already set out in the terms and conditions for haulage reference services (Template Service Agreement), which forms part of the access arrangement. Referencing the methodology in the access arrangement ensures that prospective users are aware of it (prospective users would otherwise need to examine the Template Service Agreement and locate the relevant clauses themselves).
16. The ERA received no submissions from stakeholders on ATCO's proposal to include new Parts 3.2 and 3.3 in the proposed access arrangement for AA6. Given this, and for the reasons set out above, the ERA approves these amendments.

## Access arrangement review and commencement dates

17. ATCO has proposed the following dates for the review and commencement of the next (AA7) access arrangement:
  - Review submission date: 1 September 2028.
  - Revision commencement date: 1 January 2030.
18. Based on the above dates, the access arrangement for AA6 will be applicable for five years from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2029.
19. The NGR require that ATCO state the review submission and revision commencement dates for the access arrangement. ATCO has satisfied these requirements in Part 2 of the proposed access arrangement.
20. Noting that there were no submissions that disagreed with ATCO's proposed dates, the ERA approves the review submission and revision commencement dates as set out in the proposed access arrangement.

## Reference services

### *Reference service proposal*

21. The NGR requires the service provider to submit a reference service proposal to the ERA 12 months before submitting an access arrangement proposal.<sup>13</sup> The reference service proposal is focused on identifying the full range of pipeline services that can be offered by means of the pipeline and determining which of these services should be specified as a reference service under the access arrangement. A “reference service” is a pipeline service that has a reference tariff that is set (approved) by the regulator under the access arrangement framework, with the reference tariff being the price that a pipeline operator can charge its customers.
22. ATCO submitted its reference service proposal to the ERA on 1 September 2022.<sup>14</sup> On 14 November 2022, following a period of public consultation, the ERA approved ATCO’s proposed reference services.<sup>15</sup>

### *Access arrangement proposal*

23. The reference services set out in Part 4 of ATCO’s proposed access arrangement for AA6 are materially consistent with ATCO’s approved reference service proposal.<sup>16</sup> ATCO has further specified the other pipeline services that can be offered (as non-reference services) in Part 4.14 of the access arrangement. There has been no material change in circumstances since the ERA’s approval of ATCO’s reference service proposal in November 2022, and the ERA received no submissions on the reference services set out in ATCO’s access arrangement proposal. For these reasons, the ERA approves the reference services as set out in the proposed access arrangement.
24. The ERA notes that:
  - All key terms and conditions for the reference services are set out in the proposed access arrangement (Part 4), with other terms and conditions set out in the Template Service Agreement (Annexure F of the access arrangement). The exception is the other terms and conditions for the permanent disconnection ancillary reference service, which are set out in the Permanent Disconnection Agreement (Annexure G of the access arrangement).
  - The tariffs associated with the haulage reference services are set out in Annexure A of the proposed access arrangement, while the tariffs associated with the ancillary reference services are set out in Annexure C.
25. The ERA has considered ATCO’s proposed terms and conditions for reference services, and the associated reference tariffs, in separate documents (see Draft Decision Attachment 9 and Attachment 3, respectively).

<sup>13</sup> NGR, rule 47A(3).

<sup>14</sup> ATCO, Reference Service Proposal, 1 September 2022 ([online](#)) (accessed April 2024).

<sup>15</sup> ERA, *Reference service proposal decision – Proposed reference services for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems submitted by ATCO Gas Australia*, 14 November 2022 ([online](#)) (accessed April 2024).

<sup>16</sup> ATCO has renamed some of the services. For example, the ‘permanent disconnection service’ was called the ‘cut and cap at the main service’ in ATCO’s reference service proposal.

## Appendix 1 List of Tables

Table 1.1 Reference services for AA6 ..... 2

## Appendix 2 National Gas Rules

The National Gas Law (NGL) and National Gas Rules (NGR), as enacted by the *National Gas (South Australia) Act 2008*, establish the legislative framework for the independent regulation of certain gas pipelines in Australia. The *National Gas Access (WA) Act 2009* implements a modified version of the NGL and NGR in Western Australia.

The legislative framework for the regulation of gas pipelines includes a central objective, being the national gas objective, which is:

... to promote efficient investment in, and efficient operation and use of, natural gas services for the long term interests of consumers of natural gas with respect to—

- (a) price, quality, safety, reliability and security of supply of natural gas; and
- (b) the achievement of targets set by a participating jurisdiction—
  - (i) for reducing Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions; or
  - (ii) that are likely to contribute to reducing Australia’s greenhouse gas emissions.

**Note—**

The AEMC must publish targets in a targets statement: see section 72A.<sup>17</sup>

The following extracts of the NGR, as they apply in Western Australia, are provided for information to assist readers.

**47A Reference services**

- (1) A service provider in respect of a full regulation pipeline must, whenever required to do so under subrule (3), submit to the [ERA] a reference service proposal in respect of a forthcoming full access arrangement proposal that:
  - (a) identifies the pipeline and includes a reference to a website at which a description of the pipeline can be inspected;
  - (b) sets out a list of all the pipeline services that the service provider can reasonably provide on the pipeline and a description of those pipeline services having regard to the characteristics in subrule (2);
  - (c) from the list referred to in subrule (1)(b), identifies at least one of those pipeline services that the service provider proposes to specify as reference services having regard to the reference service factors including any supporting information required by the [ERA]; and
  - (d) if the service provider has engaged with pipeline users and end users in developing its reference service proposal, describes any feedback received from those users about which pipeline services should be specified as reference services.
- (2) A pipeline service is to be treated as distinct from another pipeline service having regard to the characteristics of different pipeline services, including:
  - (a) the service type (for example, forward haul, backhaul, connection, park and loan);

<sup>17</sup> NGL, section 23.

The national gas objective has changed since the last review of ATCO’s access arrangement. The amended objective came into effect in Western Australia on 25 January 2024. See: *Western Australian Government Gazette 24 January 2024 No.8* ([online](#)) (accessed April 2024).

- (b) the priority of the service relative to other pipeline services of the same type; and
  - (c) the receipt and delivery points.
- (3) A service provider in respect of a full regulation pipeline must submit a reference service proposal to the [ERA]:
  - (a) no later than 12 months prior to the review submission date for the access arrangement; or
  - (b) if no access arrangement applies, in accordance with rule 46.
- (4) If the [ERA] considers that the reference service proposal does not comply, in any respect, with a requirement of the Rules, the [ERA] may notify the service provider that it requires resubmission of the reference service proposal, and in doing so, must:
  - (a) state why, and in what respects, the [ERA] considers the reference service proposal to be non-compliant; and
  - (b) state a date by which the service provider is required to resubmit the amended reference service proposal.
- (5) If a service provider fails to submit a reference service proposal where required to do so under these Rules by the date that is 11 months prior to the review submission date, the [ERA] must itself propose a reference service proposal for the relevant pipeline.
- (6) As soon as practicable after:
  - (a) receiving a reference service proposal from the service provider under subrule (3) that the [ERA] does not consider needs resubmission under subrule (4);
  - (b) receiving the resubmitted reference service proposal under subrule (4); or
  - (c) proposing a reference service proposal under subrule (5), the [ERA] must publish:
    - (d) the reference service proposal; and
    - (e) an invitation for written submissions on the reference service proposal (which must be for a period of at least 15 business days after the publication of the reference service proposal).
- (7) Any person may make written submissions to the [ERA] on the reference service proposal, or the issues within the proposal including, without limitation, whether the reference service proposal should specify other services as reference services.
- (8) Following receipt of submissions under subrule (7), the [ERA] may, at its discretion, undertake further consultation on the reference service proposal.
- (9) No later than 6 months prior to the review submission date for the access arrangement, the [ERA] must make a reference service proposal decision and give a copy of the decision to the service provider and publish its decision, together with its reasons for the decision, on its website.
- (10) A reference service proposal decision is a decision to approve, or to refuse to approve, a reference service proposal.
- (11) If, in a reference service proposal decision, the [ERA] refuses to approve a reference service proposal the [ERA] must revise the reference service proposal having regard to:
  - (a) the matters that these rules require a reference service proposal to include; and



- (b) the service provider's reference service proposal; and
  - (c) the [ERA's] reasons for refusing to approve that proposal, and give a copy of the revised reference service proposal to the service provider and publish the revised reference service proposal on its website.
- (12) If the [ERA] publishes a revised reference service proposal under subrule (11) it must as soon as practicable after publishing the revised proposal make a reference service proposal decision to give effect to the revised reference service proposal.
- (13) In making its reference service proposal decision, the [ERA] must have regard to:
- (a) the reference service factors;
  - (b) submissions made in response to its invitation under subrule (7) (within the time allowed in the invitation);
  - (c) where applicable, any feedback the service provider has received from pipeline users and end users, as described in accordance with subrule (1)(d); and
  - (d) any other matters the [ERA] considers relevant.
- (14) In deciding whether or not a pipeline service should be specified as a reference service, the [ERA] must have regard to the reference service factors.
- (15) The reference service factors are:
- (a) actual and forecast demand for the pipeline service and the number of prospective users of the service;
  - (b) the extent to which the pipeline service is substitutable with another pipeline service to be specified as a reference service;
  - (c) the feasibility of allocating costs to the pipeline service;
  - (d) the usefulness of specifying the pipeline service as a reference service in supporting access negotiations and dispute resolution for other pipeline services, such that:
    - (i) reference services serve as a point of reference from which pipeline services that are not reference services can be assessed by a user or prospective user for the purpose of negotiating access to those other pipeline services;
    - (ii) a reference tariff serves as a benchmark for the price of pipeline services that are not reference services; and
    - (iii) reference service terms and conditions serve as a benchmark for the terms and conditions of pipeline services that are not reference services;
  - (e) the likely regulatory cost for all parties (including the [ERA], users, prospective users and the service provider) in specifying the pipeline service as a reference service.

**48 Requirements for full access arrangement (and full access arrangement proposal).**

- (1) A full access arrangement must:
- (a) identify the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates and include a reference to a website at which a description of the pipeline can be inspected; and

- (b) describe all of the pipeline services that the service provider can reasonably provide on the pipeline, which must be consistent with the [ERA's] reference service proposal decision under rule 47A, unless there has been a material change in circumstances; and
- (c) specify the reference services, which must be consistent with the [ERA's] reference service proposal decision under rule 47A, unless there has been a material change in circumstances; and
- (c1) if the information provided under subrules (1)(b) or (1)(c) is different to the [ERA's] reference service proposal decision under rule 47A, describe the material change in circumstances that necessitated the change having regard to the reference service factors; and
- (d) specify for each reference service:
  - (i) the reference tariff; and
  - (ii) the other terms and conditions on which each reference service will be provided; and
- (e) if the access arrangement is to contain queuing requirements – set out the queuing requirements; and

Note:

Queuing requirements are necessary if the access arrangement is for a transmission pipeline but, if the pipeline is a distribution pipeline, queuing requirements are not necessary unless the [ERA] has given prior notification of the need to include queuing requirements (See rule 103).

- (f) set out the capacity trading requirements; and
- (g) set out the extension and expansion requirements; and
- (h) state the terms and conditions for changing receipt and delivery points; and
- (i) if there is to be a review submission date – state the review submission date and the revision commencement date; and

Note:

A full access arrangement must contain a review submission date and a revision commencement date unless it is a voluntary access arrangement – See rule 49.

- (j) if there is to be an expiry date – state the expiry date.

Note:

A full access arrangement may contain an expiry date if it is a voluntary access arrangement (but not otherwise) – See rule 49.

- (2) This rule extends to an access arrangement proposal consisting of a proposed full access arrangement.

#### **49 Review submission, revision commencement and expiry dates**

- (1) A full access arrangement (other than a voluntary access arrangement):
  - (a) must contain a review submission date and a revision commencement date; and
  - (b) must not contain an expiry date.
- (2) An access arrangement to which this subrule applies:

- (a) may contain a review submission date or both a review submission date and an expiry date; and
  - (b) must, if it contains a review submission date, contain a revision commencement date; and
  - (c) must, if it contains no review submission date, contain an expiry date.
- (3) Subrule (2) applies to:
- (a) a full access arrangement that is a voluntary access arrangement; and
  - (b) a limited access arrangement for a light regulation pipeline.

## **50 Review of access arrangements**

- (1) A service provider, as part of an access arrangement proposal for a full access arrangement (other than a voluntary access arrangement), must propose a review submission date and a revision commencement date. The proposed revision commencement date must be not less than 12 months after the proposed review submission date.
- (2) The [ERA] must approve the dates proposed by the service provider under subrule (1) if it is satisfied that those dates are consistent with the national gas objective and the revenue and pricing principles and if the proposed revision commencement date is not less than 12 months after the proposed review submission date.
- (3) If the [ERA] does not approve the dates proposed by the service provider for the review submission date or the revision commencement date (as the case may be), because it considers those dates are not consistent with the national gas objective and the revenue and pricing principles, the [ERA] must fix an alternative review submission date or revision commencement date (as the case may be).

## **51 Acceleration of review submission date**

- (1) The review submission date fixed in an access arrangement advances to an earlier date if:
- (a) the access arrangement provides for acceleration of the review submission date on the occurrence of a trigger event; and
  - (b) the trigger event occurs; and
  - (c) the review submission date determined, in accordance with the access arrangement, by reference to the trigger event, is earlier than the fixed date.
- (2) A trigger event may consist of any significant circumstance or conjunction of circumstances.
- Examples:
- 1 A re-direction of the flow of natural gas through the pipeline.
  - 2 A competing source of natural gas becomes available to customers served by the pipeline.
  - 3 A significant extension, expansion or interconnection occurs.
- (3) The [ERA] may require the inclusion in an access arrangement of trigger events and may specify the nature of the trigger events to be included.

**52 Access arrangement revision proposal**

- (1) A service provider must, on or before the review submission date of an applicable access arrangement, submit an access arrangement revision proposal to the [ERA].

Note:

This subrule is classified as a civil penalty provision under the National Gas (South Australian) Regulations. See clause 6 and Schedule 3 of the National Gas (South Australian) Regulations.

- (2) The access arrangement revision proposal must:
- (a) set out the amendments to the access arrangement that the service provider proposes for the ensuing access arrangement period; and
  - (b) incorporate the text of the access arrangement in the revised form.
- (3) The [ERA] may extend the period for submitting an access arrangement revision proposal under this rule, but the period (or aggregate period) of extension cannot exceed 2 months.