

NOTICE

Notice of Suspension of Deadline for Code Amendment

The *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (Code) allows for the Office of Energy to issue a notice that provides the Authority an ability to suspend the deadline for a Final Decision on an Access Arrangement where an amendment to the Code is proposed.

On 4 September 2006, the Authority was issued with a formal notice by the Office of Energy advising that it intends to progress an amendment to the Code. As the Code amendment is not considered minor, the Office of Energy will conduct a 30-day public consultation process, as required by section 108 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2004*, prior to making a recommendation to the Minister for Energy.

The effect of the Office of Energy's notice is that it enables the Authority to consider whether the proposed Code amendment would materially affect the Authority's determination of its Final Decision on Western Power's revised proposed Access Arrangement.

As the Code amendment being proposed directly impacts on Western Power's regulatory capital base, the Authority considers that this will materially affect its determination of the Final Decision. The Authority has, therefore, decided to suspend the operation of the deadline for issuing its decision on Western Power's revised proposed Access Arrangement.

Accordingly, the Authority will recommence its Final Decision process after the Office of Energy's Code amendment has been gazetted or is otherwise finalised.

The Authority issued a section 51 request to Western Power on 22 August 2006 for additional information and, in accordance with section 4.68 of the Code, suspended the operation of the deadline for issuing the Final Decision. The Authority has hereby ended the suspension of time under the section 51 notice issued on the 22 August 2006 (in accordance with section 4.68(b)) and commenced the suspension of time under section 4.71 of the Code associated with the notice issued by the Office of Energy.

A further notice will be published when the Authority restarts the relevant deadline.

For further information contact:

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