

NOTICE

EXTENSION OF TIME TO ASSESS THE PROPOSED MODEL SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT UNDER THE ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY METERING CODE 2005

On 9 January 2006, the Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) issued a notice advising that on 4 January 2006 Western Power Corporation (Western Power) had submitted a proposed model service level agreement and communications rules to the Authority for approval, pursuant to the requirements of Part 6 of the *Electricity Industry Metering Code 2005* (Metering Code).

The model service level agreement specifies the metering services Western Power provides to Metering Code participants on request and provides a detailed description of these services. The Authority, which is required to approve or not approve the proposed agreement by 16 February 2006, has facilitated ongoing discussions between Western Power and affected Metering Code participants with the objective of all parties reaching agreement on a suitable document.

On 10 February 2006, Western Power requested that the Authority extend the time by 30 business days for a decision on whether to approve or not approve the model service level agreement. Western Power's request is supported by several interested parties. Clause 6.13(2) of the Metering Code allows the Authority to extend the time period by up to 30 business days where the Authority first determines a longer period of time is essential for due consideration to be given to all the relevant matters under consideration and that the Authority has taken all reasonable steps to utilise the processes in Part 6 of the Metering Code.

On 16 February 2006, the Authority determined that the additional time requested by Western Power is essential for due consideration of all matters under consideration. The Authority is also satisfied that it has taken all reasonable steps to fully utilise the time afforded under the original notice. As such, pursuant to clause 6.13(2) of the Metering Code, the Authority has exercised its discretion to extend the time to approve the model service level agreement by 30 business days.

Therefore, interested parties are advised that the Authority must determine whether to approve or not approve the proposed model service level agreement by 31 March 2006.

For further information contact:

General Inquiries

Mr Alistair Butcher
Acting Director, Electricity Access
Ph: (08) 9213 1916
Fax: (08) 9213 1999

Media Inquiries

Mr Paul Byrne
Byrne & Byrne Corporate Communications
Ph: (08) 9385 9941
Mb: 0417 922 452

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN
23 February 2006