

NOTICE

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

ACCESS ARRANGEMENT PROPOSED BY WESTERN POWER CORPORATION FOR THE SOUTH WEST INTERCONNECTED NETWORK

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) invites submissions from interested parties on the proposed Access Arrangement and access arrangement information submitted by Western Power Corporation (Western Power) for its South West Interconnected Network (SWIN) in the South West Interconnected System.

Western Power's application is available from the Authority's website:
<http://www.era.wa.gov.au/electricity/WPCSWIN.cfm>.

Western Power's proposed Access Arrangement

Access Arrangements detail the terms and conditions, including prices, which apply to third parties seeking the use of regulated electricity networks in Western Australia. Western Power's SWIN is regulated under the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (Access Code) and therefore Western Power has submitted an application under section 4.1 for the Authority's approval.

Section 4.9 of the Access Code requires the Authority to invite submissions from interested parties on the Access Arrangement and access arrangement information proposed by Western Power.

Public comment on Western Power's application is the first stage of the approval process; parties wishing further information as to the process that the Authority will follow should consult the website, and the Authority's issues paper (once released).

Public submissions

Interested parties are invited to provide submissions on the proposed Access Arrangement and access arrangement information. As required by section 4.11 of the Access Code, the submission period closes 30 business days from the publication of this notice. Consequently, submissions must be received by **4:00pm WST, Thursday 13 October 2005**.

The Authority will shortly publish an issues paper on the proposed Access Arrangement to assist interested parties in making submissions.

Parties wishing to make submissions should be aware that the Access Code imposes a demanding timeframe for the assessment of a proposed access arrangement, and limits the Authority's ability to grant extensions to stages in the assessment process.

Submissions should be in both printed and electronic form and should be directed to:

Mr Alistair Butcher
A/Director, Electricity Access
Economic Regulation Authority
Level 6, Governor Stirling Tower
197 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 9213 1900
Fax: (08) 9213 1999
Email: electricity.networks@era.wa.gov.au

Printed copies of the documentation are available directly from the Authority for \$25.00 per set. Requests for the document can be made at the address above.

Technical Rules

The "technical rules" proposed by Western Power are also available from the Authority's website. The technical rules are currently being assessed and commented upon by the Technical Rules Committee. Public submissions on the technical rules will be invited following the publication of draft technical rules, in accordance with the Access Code.

Regulatory Test

Western Power's proposed Access Arrangement does not identify any "major augmentations" during the forthcoming regulatory period. The Authority is therefore unable to invite, as required by section 9.12 of the Access Code, submissions on any proposals and whether each such proposal maximises the net benefit after considering reasonable alternative options to meet the energy demand.

Confidentiality

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as in the public domain and placed on the Authority's website. The receipt and publication of any submission lodged for the purposes of the Access Code shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has formed an opinion as to whether or not any particular submission contains any information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise from the Authority in these circumstances.

Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should clearly indicate the parts of the submission in respect of which confidentiality is claimed, and specify in reasonable detail the basis upon which the claim is made. Any claim of confidentiality will be considered in accordance with the provisions of section 14.14 of the Access Code.

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN

31 August 2005

MEDIA CONTACT: Mr Paul Byrne, Byrne & Byrne Corporate Communications
Telephone: (08) 9385-9941 or 0417 922 452