



Western Australia

Economic Regulation Authority

NOTICE

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS

DISCUSSION PAPER ON THE WEIGHTED AVERAGE COST OF CAPITAL METHODOLOGY TO APPLY TO WESTERN POWER CORPORATION'S NETWORK IN THE SOUTH WEST INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM

Invitation to comment

The Economic Regulation Authority (**Authority**) seeks public comment on the weighted average cost of capital methodology (**WACC methodology**) to which it must have regard when assessing Western Power Corporation's proposed access arrangement for the network in the South West Interconnected System (**SWIS**).

To facilitate public comment, the Authority engaged the Allen Consulting Group to prepare a discussion paper on the WACC methodology to apply to regulated electricity networks in Western Australia.

The Discussion Paper may be downloaded from the ERA website: www.era.wa.gov.au/electricity.

Access Code

Section 6.65 of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (**Access Code**) allows the Authority to make and publish a determination of the preferred WACC methodology to apply to regulated networks.

Before making a determination, the Authority must undertake public consultation in accordance with Appendix 7 of the Access Code. Following consideration of all submissions received by the closing date the Authority will issue a determination, which is required to be published by 28 February 2005.

Public submissions

Submissions on the Discussion Paper are invited from all interested parties.

Submissions must be received by **4:00pm Wednesday 2 February 2005 Western Standard Time**. The Authority regrets that, due to the constrained time period for the making of a determination under section 6.65, it will not be possible to consider any submissions made after that time.

Submissions should be in both written and electronic format 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 \$10.00 per set. Requests for the document can be made to Mr Alistair Butcher at the address above.

Confidentiality

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as in the public domain and placed on the ERA 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.

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

MEDIA CONTACT: Mr Tony Dawe, WardHolt Telephone: (08) 9221-8722