

NOTICE

APPROVAL OF WESTERN POWER CORPORATION NETWORKS BUSINESS UNIT CUSTOMER TRANSFER CODE COMMUNICATION RULES

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) today approved the revised amended proposed communication rules submitted to the Authority by Western Power Corporation Networks Business Unit (Western Power) pursuant to Part 5 of the *Electricity Industry Customer Transfer Code 2004* (Customer Transfer Code).

Communication rules detail how transactions relating to the transfer of contestable customers are to be executed between the networks business of Western Power and retailers of electricity. These rules govern the format and protocols for exchanging information and data.

Western Power submitted amended proposed communication rules to the Authority for approval on 30 September 2005. The Authority published and invited comment on Western Power's amended proposed communications rules, with an accompanying report, on 10 October 2005.

The Authority received four submissions from interested stakeholders in response to this invitation for submissions. These submissions are available from the Authority's website <http://www.era.wa.gov.au/electricity/CustomerTransferCode.cfm>.

The Authority provided the four submissions from interested stakeholders to Western Power. Following consideration of the issues raised by interested parties, Western Power voluntarily submitted revised communication rules incorporating a number of amendments intended to satisfy concerns raised in submissions.

Following consideration of these revised amended proposed communication rules, along with an issues log constructed by Western Power detailing the revisions made in response to concerns raised in submissions, the Authority considers the revised amended proposed communication rules satisfy the criteria set out in clause 5.1 of the Customer Transfer Code, in that communication rules are reasonable and are consistent with the requirements of the Customer Transfer Code.

The Authority has therefore determined to approve the revised amended proposed communication rules. The approved communication rules are also available from the Authority's website.

It is noted that the subsidiary Build Pack continues to be developed by Western Power in consultation with retailers. The approved communication rules indicate an agreed Build Pack is to be published within 60 business days of approval of the communication rules, along with the dispute resolution procedures to apply in the event of an impasse.

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LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN

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