

## NOTICE

### **Extension of time to make submissions on the proposed audit guidelines for electricity, gas and water licensees**

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) has extended the time to make submissions on the proposed audit guidelines for electricity, gas and water licensees, by 5 business days.

The Authority is extending the time as a number of interested parties have requested more time to comment on the audit guidelines. The Authority has determined that the additional time will allow interested parties to consider the audit guidelines in a more detailed manner.

The Authority is seeking public comments on audit guidelines which are presented in the following two publications:

- 1) 'Audit Guidelines: Electricity, Gas and Water Licences' which guide service providers (licensees) and their independent auditors on the type of information required to demonstrate to the Authority that the licensees have in place effective systems and controls to ensure compliance with licence obligations and asset management 'best practice'; and
- 2) 'Audit Guidelines: Electricity, Gas and Water Licensing: Audit Template for Smaller Organisations' which recognise that smaller service providers have a different risk profile to larger organisations, depending on factors such as the types of services provided, numbers of customers and maturity of systems.

The audit guidelines set minimum requirements for selecting auditors and for scoping, conducting and reporting audits to ensure they are done in a consistent, rigorous and independent manner.

The audit guidelines are available on the Authority's website at: [www.era.wa.gov.au](http://www.era.wa.gov.au). Printed copies are also available directly from the Authority for \$10.00 per set.

Interested parties are invited to comment on the detail of the proposed audit guidelines, including:

- the appropriateness of the audit reporting arrangements; and
- the appropriateness of the audit scopes concerning the operational/performance audits and asset management reviews in terms of licence requirements.

## **Confidentiality**

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

The receipt and publication of any submission on the Authority's website shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has knowledge, either actual or constructive, of the contents of a particular submission and, in particular, whether the submission in whole or part contains information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence for the Authority will arise for the Authority in these circumstances.

Interested parties are advised that the Authority should receive submissions in both printed and electronic form by 4:00pm WST on **12-May-06**, addressed to:

### **General Enquiries**

Mr Adam Phillips  
Assistant Director, Monitoring  
PO Box 8469  
PERTH BC WA 6849  
Ph: +61 8 9213 1960  
Fax: +61 8 9213 1999  
Email: [audit.scope@era.wa.gov.au](mailto:audit.scope@era.wa.gov.au)

### **Media Enquiries**

Mr Paul Byrne  
Byrne & Byrne Corporate Communications  
Ph: +61 8 9385 9941  
Mb: 0417 922 452

LYNDON ROWE  
**CHAIRMAN**

9 May 2006