

NOTICE

Gas Issues in Western Australia

Discussion Paper

The Authority today issued a discussion paper which presents a summary of the findings from its recently-completed consultation with a number of significant gas users, shippers, producers, pipeline owners and relevant government agencies in Western Australia.

The findings raise issues which the Authority believes are relevant to the State's energy market and important in the Authority's administration of the national third party gas access regime.

The findings indicate that stakeholders have significant concerns about upstream (gas supply) and gas transport issues which can, potentially, adversely affect the downstream (gas retailing and trading) markets. As the Authority's functions only relate to gas transportation, it is keen to understand, appreciate and separate the gas supply and transport issues in relation to their impact on downstream markets.

The consultation process began in late 2006, when the Authority decided to discuss with key stakeholders their views on the effectiveness of the gas access regime in view of the time since the national third party gas access legislation had been introduced. The consultation was to help the Authority make future decisions by providing a better understanding of whether the gas regulatory regime in Western Australian was meeting its primary objectives.

Thirty of the 41 organisations that the Authority asked to participate in the consultation program agreed and the Authority appreciates their effort and their frankness. The discussion paper seeks to respect the confidentiality of the discussions while also conveying the concerns expressed.

Lyndon Rowe, the Authority's Chairman, today presented the findings of the discussion paper to a lunchtime seminar in Perth organised by the Australian Institute of Energy.

Documentation Available

The [discussion paper](#) and a copy of Mr Rowe's [speech](#) can be downloaded from the Authority's web site at www.era.wa.gov.au.

Printed copies of the discussion paper and speech are available directly from the Authority.

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