Economic Regulation Authority

Level 6, Governor Stirling Tower 197 St Georges Terrace Perth Western Australia 6000
 Telephone
 61 8 9213 1900

 Facsimile
 61 8 9213 1999

 Website
 www.era.wa.gov.au

GPO Box 8469 Perth Business Centre Western Australia 6849

Promoting fair prices, quality services and choice.

NOTICE

Authority Guidelines -Gas Access Arrangement Revision Process

The Economic Regulation Authority has released <u>guidelines</u> setting out the process it will follow in revising the access arrangements for the three principal covered gas pipelines in Western Australia.

The guidelines are based on the Authority's current knowledge of the proposed new national gas legislation – the National Gas Law (NGL) and National Gas Rules (NGR)) – which is expected to become law in Western Australia by September 2008.

One of the changes in the proposed legislation (compared with the existing national gas law) will be the tight timeframes for revising access arrangements. The new legislation will require the Authority to manage the revision process within clear time limits.

The guidelines provide an indicative nine-month timetable for revisions based on the requirements under the proposed NGL and NGR. The first two pipelines with access arrangements scheduled for review are:

- Mid West and South West Gas Distribution Systems revised proposed access arrangement due by 31 March 2009.
- Goldfields Gas Pipeline revised proposed access arrangement due by 1 April 2009.

The guidelines also outline matters which the Authority intends to discuss with service providers before the revised proposed access arrangements are lodged. This is to ensure that the revision process is timely and efficient and in accordance with the legislative requirements as well as consistent with good regulatory practice.

Interested parties may provide comment on these guidelines. Such comments will be taken into account by the Authority in any future revision of these guidelines.

For further information contact:

General Enquiries

Mr Peter Rixson A/Director Gas and Rail Access Ph: 61 8 9213 1900 Fax: 61 8 9213 1999

Media Enquiries

Mr Paul Byrne Byrne & Byrne Corporate Communications Ph: 61 8 9336 2081 Mb: 0417 922 452

CHAIRMAN

LYNDON ROWE

16 May 2008