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NOTICE

WESTERN POWER'S REVISED TECHNICAL RULES

The Authority has invited public comment on Western Power's proposed <u>revised Technical</u> <u>Rules</u> that were submitted on 1 October 2008 for approval under the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004.*

The utility also submitted for approval a <u>Schedule of Proposed Changes</u> to its approved Technical Rules and revisions to its access arrangement which is the subject of a separate notice.

Western Power's Technical Rules were approved by the Authority on 26 April 2007 at the same time it approved the utility's first access arrangement. Both came into operation on 1 July 2007.

Technical rules are the standards, procedures and planning criteria governing the construction and operation of an electricity network. They deal with all the matters listed in Appendix 6 of the Access Code, which also states technical rules must:

- (a) be reasonable;
- (b) not impose inappropriate barriers to entry to a market;
- (c) be consistent with good electricity industry practice; and
- (d) be consistent with relevant written laws and statutory instruments.

The Authority has established a procedure for the assessment of the proposed revised Technical Rules which includes a Technical Rules Committee to advise it. The Committee's <u>Terms of Reference</u> set out the procedure and timeline the Authority will follow, which is:

- (a) Western Power to submit proposed revised Technical Rules (1 October 2008).
- (b) The Authority will publish these and seek submissions from interested parties by early November 2008.
- (c) The Authority will refer the proposed revised Technical Rules, and any submissions received, to the Technical Rules Committee for it to deliver a report by the end of January 2009. The Committee may set up working groups to help its deliberations.
- (d) The Authority will consider the Committee's report and submissions in preparing its decision. The approved technical rules are to be published by late April 2009.

Public submissions

Interested parties are invited to make submissions to the Authority on Western Power's proposed revised Technical Rules by 4:00pm (Western Standard Time) on Friday 7 November 2008.

Submissions should be sent in printed form to:

Technical Rules Electricity Access Economic Regulation Authority PO Box 8469 Perth BC WA 6849

Electronic submissions should be sent to: technicalrules@era.wa.gov.au

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as being in the public domain and placed on the Authority's web site. Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should clearly indicate the parts of the submission for 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 web site 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 in part contains information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise for the Authority in these circumstances.

For further information contact:

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LYNDON ROWE CHAIRMAN
10 October 2008