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## NOTICE

## **Extension of Time to Publish Model Technical Rules**

The Economic Regulation Authority today extended the time to publish model technical rules for the South West Interconnected System from 1 December 2009 to 1 June 2010.

Technical rules are the standards, procedures and planning criteria governing the construction and operation of an electricity network. Section 12.61 of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* requires the Authority to draft, approve, publish and advertise model technical rules for the South West Interconnected System (SWIS). It is anticipated that these model technical rules will be used by those service providers of non-covered networks that are part of the SWIS and are required to have technical rules under section 12.6 of the Access Code.

Section 12.63 of the Access Code permits the Authority to extend the deadline for the publication of model technical rules, subject to section 12.64 which requires the Authority to issue a notice with reasons for its decision to extend the deadline.

As the model technical rules to be developed are for the SWIS, which comprises in large part Western Power's South West Interconnected Network, the Authority proposes to base these rules on Western Power's Technical Rules. The Authority considers that the commencement of the development of model technical rules should await the finalisation and approval of amended Technical Rules for Western Power's network, which are currently being reviewed by the Authority. The Authority therefore considers it appropriate to extend the deadline for the development and publication of model technical rules for the SWIS.

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