



Economic Regulation Authority

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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 June 2010 to 1 June 2011.

Technical rules are the standards, procedures and planning criteria governing the construction and operation of an electricity network. Service providers of non-covered networks that are part of the South West Interconnected System (SWIS) are required to have technical rules under section 12.6 of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (Access Code). As an alternative to developing their own technical rules, these non-covered network service providers can adopt model technical rules which the Authority is required to draft, approve, publish and advertise under section 12.61 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 the model technical 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.

Following publication of the Authority's review, Western Power will submit its proposed amendments of the technical rules to the Authority for formal approval under sections 12.50 to 12.54 of the Access Code. It is anticipated this formal approval process will take some months and the development of model technical rules will only commence after this process has been completed. The Authority, therefore, considers it appropriate to extend the deadline for the development and publication of model technical rules for the SWIS.

For further information contact:

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