



NOTICE

Proposed Revised Access Arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution System

CALCULATION OF TIME FOR PUBLICATION OF A FINAL DECISION

The Economic Regulation Authority (**Authority**) has decided to disregard certain periods of time, under rule 11 of the National Gas Rules (**NGR**), for the purpose of calculating the time by which a final decision on WA Gas Networks' (**WAGN**) proposed revised access arrangement for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution System (**GDS**) must be published.

The periods of time to be disregarded include:

- The public submission period on WAGN's proposed revised access arrangement from 15 February to 12 April 2010.
- The public submission period on the Authority's [draft decision](#) to not approve WAGN's proposed revised access arrangement from 17 August to 5 November 2010.
- The public submission period on the Authority's discussion paper, "[Measuring the Debt Risk Premium: A Bond-Yield Approach](#)", from 1 December 2010 to 7 January 2011. Submissions on this discussion paper will inform the Authority in making its final decision on WAGN's further revised access arrangement proposal for the GDS, submitted in response to the Authority's draft decision.

Having regard to the above disregarded periods, the Authority has determined that a final decision to approve or not approve WAGN's access arrangement proposal must be published by 24 January 2011 (subject to any further disregarded periods).

Background

WAGN lodged proposed revisions to the access arrangement for the GDS on 29 January 2010. Rule 62(7) of the NGR states that "an access arrangement final decision must be made within six months of the date of receipt of the access arrangement proposal". Hence, a final decision on WAGN's proposal was due by 30 July 2010.

Where a time limit has been prescribed in the National Gas Law (**NGL**) or the NGR, the Authority as the decision-maker, under rule 11 of the NGR, has the discretion to disregard certain periods for the purpose of calculating elapsed time. Such periods include:

- any period allowed to the service provider for correction or revision of its proposal (rule 11(1)(a));
- any period taken by the service provider, or any other person, to provide information that is relevant to the Authority's decision (draft or final) on the proposal, in response to a request that is made under the Law (rule 11(1)(b));
- any period allowed for public submissions on the proposal or the Authority's draft decision (rule 11(1)(c));

- any period allowed for submissions on a proposal by the Authority to disclose confidential information and any period of time then taken to consider the submissions and decide whether or not to disclose the information (rule 11(1)(d)); and
- the period between the commencement and conclusion of court proceedings (rule 11(1)(e)).

For further information contact:

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