



PUBLICATION

Western Power's Proposed Mid-Period Variation to Access Arrangement – Applications and Queuing Policy

FINAL DECISION

The Economic Regulation Authority has released its [final decision](#) on Western Power's proposed mid-period revisions to Appendix 1, the applications and queuing policy, of its approved access arrangement for the second access arrangement period. This proposal was submitted under section 4.41A of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (**Access Code**).

The Authority's final decision is to not approve Western Power's proposal, as the Authority is not persuaded, at this time, that the advantages of doing so, in light of the serious concerns regarding the revisions raised by interested parties, outweigh the disadvantages of varying the access arrangement prior to the next access arrangement review. The Authority considers that the concerns raised by interested parties should be addressed by Western Power and taken into account when it submits its proposed revised access arrangement later this year.

Background

Under the Access Code, the Authority may, by notice to a service provider, vary its access arrangement in accordance with proposed revisions if a service provider proposes revisions during an access arrangement period.

In considering revisions, the Authority is not obliged to undertake a complete review of the proposed revised access arrangement. Before giving a notice, the Authority must determine whether the advantages of varying the access arrangement outweigh the disadvantages, in particular the disadvantages associated with decreased regulatory certainty and increased regulatory cost and delay.

On 23 December 2010, the Authority received a [proposal](#) from Western Power to vary Appendix 1 of its access arrangement, the application and queuing policy, under section 4.41A of the Access Code. Western Power advised that it was seeking the variations to address a range of issues that had been identified by applicants, other stakeholders and regulatory bodies.

In response, the Authority published an [issues paper](#) and invited comments from interested parties. The public consultation ran from 31 January 2011 to 28 February 2011. Six public submissions were received and published on the Authority's [website](#) on 4 March 2010.

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1 April 2011