



Economic Regulation Authority

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INFORMATION

Extension of Time to Publish Model Technical Rules

The Economic Regulation Authority today extended the time to publish model technical rules (standards, procedures and planning criteria governing the construction and operation of an electricity network) for the South West Interconnected System (SWIS) from 1 June 2011 to 1 June 2012.

As Western Power's South West Interconnected Network is a large part of the SWIS, the Authority proposes to base the model technical rules for the SWIS on Western Power's technical rules. The Authority considers that 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.

It is anticipated the formal approval process for Western Power's amended technical rules and the development of model technical rules will take some months to complete. As a result, the Authority considers it appropriate to extend the deadline for the development and publication of model technical rules for the SWIS.

Background

Service providers of non-covered networks that are part of the 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.

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