



## NOTICE

# An Inquiry into Microeconomic Reform in Western Australia

## Improving the Efficiency and Performance of the State's Economy

The Economic Regulation Authority (**ERA**) has been asked by the Treasurer to undertake an independent inquiry to develop a package of reforms that will lead the State's economy to greater future prosperity, and has released a Discussion Paper calling for public submissions.

ERA Chair, Lyndon Rowe, has called on individuals and sectors of the economy to provide input into the process.

*"This is a great opportunity for Western Australians to have their say by contributing their ideas to improve the future of the State."*

The ERA previously released an Issues Paper on 9 August 2013, seeking comments from the public on reforms that the Western Australian Government could deliver to increase the efficiency and performance of the State's economy. The ERA was pleased to receive 57 submissions in response to the Issues Paper, representing the views of a broad cross-section of the Western Australian community.

Having considered all submissions received, the ERA has identified five main areas to be considered by the current Inquiry, and intends to focus on:

- reviewing Government ownership of assets and businesses;
- improving the efficiency of State infrastructure spending, planning, and utilisation;
- reviewing the efficiency of current State Government taxes and charges;
- reducing the cost of complying with red tape; and
- examining current restrictions on product markets in Western Australia (in particular, liquor licensing, licensing and registration of tradespeople, taxi regulation, retail trading hours, potato marketing regulation, and domestic gas policy).

While it has been necessary for the ERA to limit the number of issues to be considered in the present Inquiry, the ERA also recognises that many other significant points were raised in the submissions received in response to the Issues Paper. The submissions have been made available on [the ERA's website](#), and address a broad range of issues of relevance to the State.

The Discussion Paper, which provides an overview of the matters on which the ERA is seeking responses, has been released today on the ERA's website. The Discussion Paper provides practical information on the Inquiry and the submissions process, as well as useful background material on the areas to be considered by the current Inquiry.

After reviewing all submissions received in response to this Discussion Paper, the ERA will publish a Draft Report early next year, and will invite further public feedback. All feedback received will be considered in the preparation of the ERA's Final Report, which will be presented to the Treasurer by 30 June 2014.

Detailed information on making a submission is contained the [Discussion Paper](#).

**The responses above can be attributed to the Economic Regulation Authority.**

For further information contact:

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