

Decision to amend the *Licence  
Application Guidelines and Form -  
Electricity, Gas and Water Licences*

15 April 2014

Economic Regulation Authority

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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## Decision

1. The Economic Regulation Authority has approved amendments to the *Licence Application Guidelines and Form – Electricity, Gas and Water Licences*.

## Reasons

2. The new *Water Services Act 2012* (the **Water Act**) and subsidiary legislation came into operation on 18 November 2013. The Water Act repealed and replaced the *Water Services Licensing Act 1995*.
3. The introduction of the Water Act necessitated amendments to the Authority's *Electricity, Gas and Water Licences: Application Guideline and Form (Guidelines)* to amend references to the *Water Services Licensing Act 1995* and to bring the Guidelines in line with the new provisions of the Water Act.
4. The Guidelines provide guidance to persons seeking to apply for a new water, electricity or gas licence, or for an amendment, transfer, renewal or surrender of an existing licence. The Authority first published the Guidelines in April 2006 and revised them in 2008 and 2011.
5. The Authority has amended the Guidelines to ensure consistency with the Water Act. The amendments primarily consist of updating section references and including new water licence application requirements, such as the requirement that applicants for a water licence include with their application the standard terms and conditions for the provision of the service.
6. The Authority also made amendments to clarify what information applicants should include with their licence application. These amendments mainly consist of changes to the document's layout and formatting, minor clarifications to wording and the inclusion of a new checklist to summarise the required information and assist applicants in providing this information in their application.
7. The Authority has not undertaken formal public consultation on the amendments as the main changes made to the document relate to layout, formatting and clarifying existing information requirements. Further, the newly added information requirements and background information reflect current regulatory requirements, with respect to which the Authority has little or no discretion.