





4 March 2014

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

## **RETURN ON DEBT CONSULTATION - DISCUSSION PAPER RELEASED**

As part of its work program for the fourth access arrangement review for the Mid-West and South-West Gas Distribution Systems (GDS), the Economic Regulation Authority's Secretariat is undertaking consultation with stakeholders regarding the return on debt.

The purpose is to consult on potential alternatives to the Authority's approach for estimating the return on debt.

A <u>Discussion Paper</u> on approaches to estimating the return on debt has now been published on the Economic Regulation Authority website, providing background and context for the consultation.

A workshop on the return on debt will be held on Thursday 12 March 2015 from 9:30am to 12:30pm at:

Economic Regulation Authority

Level 4, Albert Facey House

469-489 Wellington Street

PERTH WA 6000

Please RSVP your attendance at the workshop via email to <u>publicsubmissions@erawa.com.au</u> by **Thursday, 5 March 2015**.

Stakeholders are also invited to make written submissions in response to matters and material raised in the Discussion Paper, provided that these are received by **4:00 pm WST**, **Wednesday 25 March 2015**.

Submissions should be marked to the attention of Principal Regulatory Advisor, Access

Email address:	publicsubmissions@erawa.com.au
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Postal address: PO Box 8469, PERTH BC WA 6849

Office address: Level 4, Albert Facey House, 469 Wellington Street, Perth WA 6000

The Authority's current approach to estimating the return on debt is set out in its <u>Draft Decision</u> on ATCO Gas Australia's (ATCO) proposed revised Access Arrangement for the GDS. ATCO did not accept the approach outlined in the Draft Decision and proposed a hybrid trailing average approach for estimating the return on debt. <u>ATCO's response</u> to the Draft Decision may also be found on the Authority's website.

## CONFIDENTIALITY

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as being in the public domain and placed on the Authority's website. Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should clearly indicate the parts of the submission for which confidentiality is claimed, and specify in reasonable detail the basis for the claim.

The publication of a submission on the Authority's website shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has knowledge either actual or constructive of the contents of a particular submission and, in particular, whether the submission in whole or part contains information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise for the Authority.

For further information contact:

**General Enquiries** Richard Begley Economic Regulation Authority Phone: 08 6557 7900 Email: <u>records@erawa.com.au</u>