

NOTICE

Extension of Time to Assess the Proposed Metering Service Provider Registration Scheme

The Economic Regulation Authority has extended the time to assess a proposed Metering Service Provider Registration Scheme (Contractor Connect Scheme), submitted by Western Power on 10 March 2006, by 30 business days.

The Metering Service Provider Registration Scheme is essentially a continuation of the existing Contract Connect Scheme, which was approved by the Director of Energy Safety in October 2003, and which allows the certification and registration of electrical contractors to perform certain types of metering installation work.

Part 6 of the *Electricity Industry Metering Code 2005* (Metering Code) specifies the approval procedure for proposed documents. Clause 6.13 sets out the requirements for the Authority to approve documents within specified time periods. Clause 6.13(1) states that the Authority has 30 business days to approve or not approve a document once submitted by the network operator (by 26 April 2006). The Authority has been notified that technical advice it has requested will not be provided in time to meet that date.

The Authority may extend the time period to approve or not approve the proposed Contractor Connect Scheme by no more than an aggregate of 30 business days if the Authority first determines that more time is essential for due consideration of all matters.

The Authority has determined that the additional time is essential and it is satisfied it has taken all reasonable steps to utilise the time afforded under the original notice.

Interested parties are advised that the Authority must now determine whether to approve the proposed scheme by **8 June 2006**.

For further information contact:

General Enquiries

Mr Alistair Butcher
Director, Electricity Access
Ph: +61 8 9213 1916
Fax: +61 8 9213 1999

Media Enquiries

Mr Paul Byrne
Byrne & Byrne Corporate Communications
Ph: +61 8 9385 9941
Mb: 0417 922 452

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN

26 April 2006