

## NOTICE

### RECEIPT OF WESTERN POWER'S PROPOSED COMMUNICATION RULES AND INVITATION FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) advises that Western Power Corporation (Western Power) has submitted proposed communications rules to the Authority for approval, pursuant to the requirements of Part 5 of the *Electricity Industry Customer Transfer Code 2004* (Customer Transfer Code).

Communication rules detail how transactions are to be executed between the networks business of Western Power and retailers of electricity relating to the transfer of contestable customers. These rules govern the format and protocols for exchanging information and data.

The Authority is currently assessing Western Power's proposed communication rules in accordance with the criteria set out in clause 5.1(2) of the Customer Transfer Code. This assessment process is to ensure the communication rules:

- are reasonable; and
- are consistent with the requirements of the Customer Transfer Code.

The Authority is also assessing Western Power's report provided in accordance with clause 5.1(3)(c) regarding Western Power's consultation with retailers during development of the communication rules.

The proposed communication rules and accompanying report are available on the Authority's website <http://www.era.wa.gov.au/electricity/customerTransferCode.cfm>. Printed copies of the documentation are available directly from the Authority for \$10.00 per set.

The Authority invites submissions from interested parties regarding the proposed communication rules and accompanying report. As the communication rules deal with detailed communication protocols between retailers of electricity and the operator of the networks business, the Authority anticipates these issues would be of most relevance to current and prospective electricity retailing businesses.

Submissions should be received by **4:00pm WST, Tuesday 26 July 2005**.

Submissions should be in both printed and electronic form and should be directed to:

Mr Matt Robinson  
Manager Projects – Industry Access  
Economic Regulation Authority  
Level 6, Governor Stirling Tower  
197 St Georges Terrace  
PERTH WA 6000

Telephone: (08) 9213 1930  
Fax: (08) 9213 1999  
Email: [electricity.networks@era.wa.gov.au](mailto:electricity.networks@era.wa.gov.au)

It is noted that several references within the proposed communication rules to XML transaction examples which contain links to potentially sensitive areas of Western Power's information systems have been removed from the public release version of the document to preserve information security. Interested parties who require these sections of the proposed communication rules in order to assist with a submission are advised to contact the Authority (please contact Mr Matt Robinson as per the above details) or Western Power directly (please contact Mr Grant Woollard, Strategy and Regulation, Networks Business Unit on (08) 9326 6479).

A further notice will be issued by the Authority following assessment of the proposed communication rules and submissions received from interested parties.

### **Confidentiality**

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as 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 in respect of which confidentiality is claimed, and specify in reasonable detail the basis upon which the claim is made.

The receipt and publication of any submission lodged for the purposes of the Customer Transfer Code 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 in these circumstances.

LYNDON ROWE  
**CHAIRMAN**

13 July 2005

MEDIA CONTACT: Mr Paul Byrne, Byrne & Byrne Corporate Communications  
Telephone: (08) 9385-9941 or 0417 922 452