

NOTICE

Call for Submissions:

Best Practice Utility Licensing

The Economic Regulation Authority, as the regulator responsible for administering the utility licensing schemes, is seeking public comments on a “Best Practice Utility Licensing” paper.

The Authority seeks to adopt the principles of best practice utility licensing and is seeking comments from interested parties on the licensing principles proposed in this paper, as follows:

- **Maintaining service standards** - A licensing regime should include processes that maintain the licensee’s focus on service standards to customers. To achieve this, the Authority seeks to ensure that its processes are consumer focused, consistent across industries and based on consultation with consumer representatives.
- **Minimising regulatory risks** - To minimise regulatory risk, the Authority seeks to ensure that its decisions are predictable, consistent, timely, transparent and based on effective consultation.
- **Minimising compliance costs** - A licensing regime should aim to achieve its policy objectives at least cost to the licensee. To minimise compliance costs, the Authority seeks to ensure that its processes use simple and targeted language, are consistent with other laws and integrated across jurisdictions, are flexible, and are formulated with input from interested parties. Also, licensing requirements should be proportionate to the problems that exist, not unduly prescriptive and the minimum necessary to achieve the objective.

Submissions should be in both printed and electronic form and should be received by **4.00pm WST on Thursday, 23 November 2006**, addressed to:

Mr Adam Phillips
Assistant Director, Monitoring
PO Box 8469
PERTH BC WA 6849
Email: licensing@era.wa.gov.au

Confidentiality

In general, all submissions for 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 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 for the Authority will arise for the Authority in these circumstances.

For further information contact:

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LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN

24 October 2006