

NOTICE

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS ARE INVITED ON DRAFT PUBLIC CONSULTATION GUIDELINES FOR ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SERVICE LICENCES; STANDARD FORM CONTRACTS AND CUSTOMER SERVICE CHARTERS

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) is seeking public comment on draft public consultation guidelines for electricity, gas and water service licences; standard form contracts and customer service charters (draft public consultation guidelines) for service providers throughout Western Australia.

Under the *Economic Regulation Authority Act 2003*, the Authority is responsible for administering the licensing schemes referred to in the relevant industry Acts.

The electricity, gas and water industries are regulated by the requirements of the *Electricity Industry Act 2004*, *Energy Coordination Act 1994* and the *Water Services Licensing Act 1995*.

A person or organisation intending to supply or sell electricity, gas and water in Western Australia must be licensed by the Authority unless exempted under the relevant Act.

The compilation of the draft public consultation guidelines:

- seeks to assist electricity, gas and water licence applicants improve the standard and quality of their licence applications, standard form contracts and customer service charters; and
- seeks input from the public and interested parties on the proposed guidelines.

For these reasons it is opportune to seek comment from stakeholders and the public on this issue.

Public submissions

Submissions on the draft public consultation guidelines are invited from all interested parties. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Economic Regulation Authority
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PERTH WA 6000
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Submissions may be provided in hard-copy or electronic form and must be received by the Authority by the close of business on Friday, 3 March 2006.

Should you require further information, please contact Mark Dominkovich on 9213 1900.

Confidentiality

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as in the public domain and placed on the Authority's website. The receipt and publication of any submission lodged for the purposes of this public consultation shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has formed an opinion as to whether or not any particular submission contains any information of a confidential nature.

Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should clearly indicate the parts of the submission for which it is claiming confidentiality, and specify in reasonable detail the basis upon which the claim is made. The treatment of information provided in submissions, including confidential information, will be considered in accordance with the provisions of the Economic Regulation Authority Act 2003.

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN