

Decision to Amend Electricity Integrated Regional Licence 2 – Horizon Power

06 January 2010

Economic Regulation Authority



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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DECISION

Pursuant to sections 9 and 21 of the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* (Act), the Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) approves the amendment of Horizon Power's Electricity Integrated Regional Licence 2 (EIRL2). The amendment includes the following Indigenous communities in Horizon Power's integrated regional licence:

- Darlungunaya (Fitzroy Crossing);
- Bungardi (Fitzroy Crossing);
- Burawa (Fitzroy Crossing);
- Junjuwa (Fitzroy Crossing);
- Goodabinya / Murtunkurra (Marble Bar); and
- Irrungadji (Nullagine).

BACKGROUND

Horizon Power is upgrading electricity infrastructure in Aboriginal town reserves, including the installation of pre-payment meters, as part of its Town Reserves Regularisation Project. This infrastructure is currently owned by the Aboriginal Lands Trust (ALT). On completion of the works, the assets will be transferred to Horizon Power. As such, Horizon Power needs to extend its operating area to include these communities.

On 4 November 2009, Horizon Power submitted an application to the Authority to amend its EIRL2. The amendment proposes to extend its operating area to include six Indigenous communities in its integrated regional licence, as part of Horizon Power's Town Reserve Regularisation Project.

On 9 November 2009, the Authority published a notice on its web site seeking public submissions on the proposal. The period for submissions closed on 30 November 2009.

Section 9 of the Act states that the Authority must not exercise a power conferred by Division 3 of the Act (general licensing provisions) unless the Authority is satisfied that it would not be 'not contrary to the public interest' to do so.

REASONS

1. Pursuant to section 21 of the Act, the Authority may amend a licence if it is satisfied that the Applicant: has made the application in a form approved by the Authority; has paid the prescribed application fee; and, where a requirement has been made for additional information, the relevant information has been provided to the Authority. No application fee is required for electricity licence amendments and Horizon Power has satisfied all other requirements.
2. A notice regarding receipt of the Application was published on the Authority's web site on 9 November 2009. The Authority received no objections in relation to the amendment of the licence.

3. In its consideration of the Application, the Authority considered the public interest, including the matters set out in section 8(5) of the Act as required by section 9(2). Accordingly, the Authority is satisfied that approval of the amendment to Electricity Integrated Regional Licence 2 would not be contrary to the public interest.
4. As required by section 23(1) of the Act, the Authority will publish a notice of its approval of the amendment in the *Government Gazette* as soon as is practicable.

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN