



Economic Regulation Authority

Final decision on revisions to the access arrangement for the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (2026 to 2030)

Attachment 1: Access arrangement and services

18 December 2025

Acknowledgement of Country

At the ERA we value our cultural diversity and respect the traditional custodians of the land and waters on which we live and work.

We acknowledge their continuing connection to culture and community, their traditions and stories. We commit to listening, continuously improving our performance and building a brighter future together.

Economic Regulation Authority

Level 4, Albert Facey House

469 Wellington Street, Perth WA 6000

Telephone 08 6557 7900

Email info@erawa.com.au

Website www.erawa.com.au

This document can also be made available in alternative formats on request.

National Relay Service TTY: 13 36 77

© 2025 Economic Regulation Authority. All rights reserved. This material may be reproduced in whole or in part provided the source is acknowledged.

Contents

| | |
|---|----------|
| Attachment 1. Summary | 1 |
| Regulatory requirements | 2 |
| ERA draft decision | 3 |
| Pipeline specification and dates | 3 |
| Reference services | 3 |
| Rebateable services | 3 |
| DBP response to draft decision | 5 |
| Submissions to the ERA | 6 |
| Final decision | 7 |

Note

This attachment forms part of the ERA's final decision on the proposed revisions to the access arrangement for the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline. It should be read in conjunction with all other parts of the final decision, which is comprised of the following document and attachments:

- Final decision on revisions to the access arrangement for the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline - Overview, 18 December 2025
 - Attachment 1: Access arrangement and services (this document)
 - Attachment 2: Demand
 - Attachment 3: Revenue and tariffs
 - Attachment 4: Regulatory capital base
 - Attachment 5: Operating expenditure
 - Attachment 6: Depreciation
 - Attachment 7: Return on capital, taxation, incentives
 - Attachment 8: Other access arrangement provisions
 - Attachment 9: Service terms and conditions

Numerical amounts in tables throughout this document are generally shown to 1 decimal place. Total numerical amounts that are shown may not add exactly due to rounding. The tariff (revenue) model that was used for this decision should be used for accurate unrounded numerical amounts.

Attachment 1. Summary

In its access arrangement proposal, DBP:

- Identified the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates as the Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline (DBNGP), with a detailed description of the pipeline provided in Attachment 1 to the access arrangement. This and additional information about the pipeline are provided on DBP's website.
- Specified the access arrangement review submission date and revision commencement date as 1 January 2030 and 1 January 2031, respectively.
- Specified a total of three haulage reference services to be offered under the access arrangement (full haul T1 Service, part haul P1 Service, and back haul B1 Service), which are consistent with the reference services approved in DBP's reference service proposal.

The ERA approved these elements of DBP's access arrangement proposal in the draft decision subject to DBP amending the specification of the Pilbara Service to be a non-reference service only (rather than a non-reference rebateable service).

DBP's revised proposal has accepted the ERA's required amendment to specify the Pilbara Service as a non-reference service only. DBP has also made several consequential administrative amendments to cross-reference this amendment.

Noting the above, the ERA approves DBP's pipeline description, access arrangement dates and reference services for inclusion in the access arrangement for the sixth access arrangement period (AA6).

Regulatory requirements

1. The *National Gas Access (WA) Act 2009* implements a modified version of the National Gas Law (NGL) and National Gas Rules (NGR) in Western Australia. The rules referenced in this decision are those that apply in Western Australia.¹
2. Rule 48 specifies the required content for an access arrangement, including the need to:
 - Identify the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates and include a reference to a website where there is a description of the pipeline.
 - Describe all the pipeline services that the service provider can reasonably provide and specify the reference services to be offered.²
 - If there is to be a review submission date, state the review submission and revision commencement dates for the access arrangement.
3. Rules 49 to 52 set out further specific provisions for the setting of dates relevant to an access arrangement and the submission of an access arrangement revision proposal:
 - In most cases, an access arrangement must contain a review submission date and a revision commencement date (rule 49).
 - The proposed revision commencement date must be at least 12 months after the proposed review submission date (rule 50).
 - The review submission date may be brought forward to an earlier date if the access arrangement provides for, or the regulator requires an access arrangement to contain, one or more trigger events; and a trigger event occurs (rule 51):
 - Trigger events may consist of any significant circumstance or a combination of circumstances, including:
 - A redirection of the flow of natural gas through the pipeline.
 - A competing source of natural gas becomes available to customers served by the pipeline.
 - A significant extension, expansion or interconnection occurs.
4. The service provider must, on or before the review submission date of the access arrangement, submit an access arrangement revision proposal. The proposal must set out the service provider's proposed amendments to the access arrangement for the next access arrangement period and incorporate the proposed amendments in a revised access arrangement (rule 52).

¹ The current rules that apply in Western Australia are available from the Australian Energy Market Commission: AEMC, 'National Gas Rules (Western Australia)' ([online](#)) (accessed December 2025). At the time of this decision, National Gas Rules – Western Australia version 12 (1 February 2024) was in effect.

² The NGR requires that this description and specification be consistent with the ERA's reference service proposal decision (made under rule 47A) for the pipeline unless there has been a material change in circumstances. Where the description and/or specification is different to the ERA's decision, an explanation of the material change in circumstances that necessitated the change must be provided.

ERA draft decision

Pipeline specification and dates

5. DBP identified the pipeline to which the access arrangement relates as the DBNGP, with a detailed description of the pipeline provided in Attachment 1 to the access arrangement. This and additional information about the pipeline is available on DBP's website.³
6. DBP also specified:
 - The access arrangement review submission date and revision commencement date as 1 January 2030 and 1 January 2031, respectively.
 - Three haulage reference services to be offered under the access arrangement (full haul T1 Service, part haul P1 Service, and back haul B1 Service), which were consistent with the reference services approved in DBP's reference service proposal.
7. The ERA received no submissions from interested parties on the requirements for pipeline specification and access arrangement dates, and the ERA had no reason to require any changes to DBP's proposal for these elements. DBP's proposal for these elements met the regulatory requirements, and on that basis the ERA approved these elements of DBP's access arrangement proposal.

Reference services

8. A "reference service" is a pipeline service that has a reference tariff that is set (approved) by the regulator under the access arrangement framework.
9. The ERA received one submission that stated there was a need to reassess the reference services to be offered under the access arrangement due to a material change in circumstances since the ERA's July 2024 reference service proposal decision.⁴ As requested in this submission, the ERA reconsidered the classification of the Ullage and Peaker Services in our draft decision. After reconsidering these services against the reference service factors, the ERA decided to maintain its reference service proposal decision for the Ullage and Peaker Services to be offered as non-reference services because, on balance, these services did not meet the criteria to be reference services.

Rebateable services

10. DBP's access arrangement proposal for reference and non-reference services is consistent with the services in its approved reference service proposal, except for the Pilbara Service. For AA6, DBP proposed to reclassify this service as a *rebateable* non-reference service.

³ AGIG, 'Dampier Bunbury Pipeline' ([online](#)) (accessed December 2025).

⁴ Submission from Wesfarmers Chemicals, Energy & Fertilisers.

11. To be a rebateable service, the service must not be a reference service and there must be substantial uncertainty concerning the extent of the demand for the service or the revenue to be generated from the service. As a rebateable service, a portion of the revenue from the sale of the service is rebated (refunded) back to users of reference services.
12. DBP stated that there was substantial demand variability for the Pilbara Service and on this basis should be reclassified as a rebateable non-reference service for the next access arrangement period. However, the information DBP provided did not adequately substantiate its position that expected demand for the service is substantially different to current demand. On this basis, the ERA decided that the Pilbara Service should continue to be classified as a non-reference (non-rebateable) service.
13. The ERA set out the following draft decision required amendment:

Draft Decision Required Amendment 1.1

DBP must amend the specification of the Pilbara Service to be a non-reference service only (rather than a non-reference rebateable service).

DBP response to draft decision

14. DBP accepted the ERA's required amendment to leave the classification of the Pilbara Service unchanged from AA5. For AA6, the Pilbara Service will continue to be offered as a non-rebateable non-reference service. DBP submitted:

[DBP accepts] the ERA's conclusion that the Pilbara Service should not be rebateable. To give this effect, we have made the following changes to the Access Arrangement document:

- In clause 3.1(b)(i)(G), we have reversed our proposed insertion of the reference to "Rebateable";
- In clause 3.6(e), we have reversed our proposed deletion of the description of the Pilbara Service;
- In clause 3.7(e), we have reversed our proposed insertion of the description of the Pilbara Service; and
- In clause 18.19, we have reversed our proposed insertion of the "Pilbara Service" (and a comma).⁵

⁵ DBP, *Revised Final Plan 2026-2030, Attachment 7.2: Response on Pipeline Services*, August 2025, p. 3.

Submissions to the ERA

15. The ERA received four submissions in response to DBP's initial proposal and the ERA's issues paper addressing issues related to pipeline services. In summary:
 - Wesfarmers Chemicals, Energy and Fertilisers (WesCEF) considered that there had been a material change in circumstances since the ERA's July 2024 reference service proposal decision; and that there was now a strong case for making both the Ullage Service and Peaking (Peaker) Service reference services for AA6.⁶
 - Alinta Energy, Horizon Power and NewGen Power all commented on DBP's proposal to make the Pilbara Service a rebateable non-reference service.⁷ Alinta and Horizon Power both supported DBP's proposal, however NewGen considered DBP's proposal was not sufficiently supported by evidence.
16. The ERA addressed the above matters as part of its draft decision considerations.⁸
17. In response to the draft decision and DBP's revised proposal, NewGen submitted that it agreed with the Pilbara Service being classified as a non-rebateable non-reference service.⁹ Alinta and Horizon Power did not provide a further submission in response to the draft decision.
18. WesCEF responded to the draft decision, noting that in the absence of categorising Peaking and Ullage Services as reference services, the ERA's proposed increased rebateable portion of 90 per cent rebate of non-reference services is reasonable.¹⁰ The ERA has reconsidered the rebateable portion for rebateable services revenue in Final Decision Attachment 3.

⁶ Wesfarmers Chemicals, Energy & Fertilisers, *Submission in response to DBP proposal and/or ERA issues paper*, 31 March 2025.

⁷ Alinta Energy, *Submission in response to DBP proposal and/or ERA issues paper*, 1 April 2025.
Horizon Power, *Submission in response to DBP proposal and/or ERA issues paper*, 26 March 2025.
NewGen Power, *Submission in response to DBP proposal and/or ERA issues paper*, 31 March 2025.

⁸ Consideration of the submissions related to additional reference services and making the Pilbara Service a rebateable non-reference service was set out in Draft Decision Attachment 1, while consideration of the submissions made on the rebateable portion was considered in Draft Decision Attachment 3.

⁹ NewGen Power, *Submission in response to ERA draft decision and/or DBP revised proposal*, 22 September 2025.

¹⁰ Wesfarmers Chemicals, Energy & Fertilisers, *Submission in response to ERA draft decision and/or DBP revised proposal*, 18 September 2025

Final decision

19. DBP accepted draft decision required amendment 1.1 and has updated the specification of the Pilbara Service to be a non-reference service only (rather than a non-reference rebateable service). This is consistent with the treatment of the Pilbara Service in the current (AA5) access arrangement.
20. The ERA notes that in addressing draft decision required amendment 1.1, DBP made other minor consequential amendments to the revised access arrangement, such as corrections to cross-referencing. The ERA considers that these amendments are consequential required amendments.
21. Noting the above considerations, the ERA's final decision is to approve the elements of DBP's revised access arrangement proposal as shown Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: AA6 approved access arrangement elements (pipeline identification, dates and reference services)

| Pipeline to which access arrangement relates | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dampier to Bunbury Natural Gas Pipeline. • A description of the pipeline is included as Attachment 1 to the access arrangement and is available from the AGIG (DBP) website.¹¹ | |
| Access arrangement review submission date and revision commencement date | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review submission date: 1 January 2030. • Revision commencement date: 1 January 2031. | |
| Reference services to be offered under the access arrangement | |
| T1 Service | T1 Service is a forward full haul service (subject to available capacity) with the outlet point downstream of CS9, regardless of the location of inlet point upstream of MLV31. |
| P1 Service | P1 Service is a forward part haul service (subject to available capacity) with the inlet point upstream of the outlet point, regardless of the location of the outlet point, and is not a full haul service. |
| B1 Service | B1 Service is a back haul service (subject to available capacity) where the inlet point is downstream of the outlet point. |
| Non-reference services to be offered under the access arrangement | |
| Rebateable non-reference services | |
| Other Reserved Service | A suite of interruptible services offered on a bespoke basis to shippers with new projects and/or uncertain demand, often ahead of a firm service. |
| Peaker/Peaking Service | A service where a shipper can obtain additional peaking limits to those set in standard terms (subject to available capacity). |

¹¹ AGIG, 'Dampier Bunbury Pipeline' ([online](#)) (accessed December 2025).

Non-reference services to be offered under the access arrangement

| | |
|---|---|
| Spot Capacity Service | A service to allow access to gas transmission capacity on a day ahead, interruptible basis where available via auction (subject to available capacity). |
| Ullage Service | A bespoke service for ullage to the Karratha Gas Plant from the Perth Basin (subject to available capacity). |
| Non-reference services | |
| Pilbara Service | An interruptible transportation service on the DBNGP where deliveries are within the Pilbara Zone (subject to available capacity). |
| Data Service | A service to assist gas marketers providing gas allocations on the behalf of shippers on the DBNGP (subject to operational availability). |
| Inlet Sales Service | A service that facilitates the trading of gas between shippers at a single inlet point on the DBNGP (subject to operational availability). |
| Park and Loan Service (Storage Service) | A service permitting limited gas storage in the DBNGP and/or the taking of additional gas from the DBNGP when required (subject to operational availability). |
| Pipeline Impact Agreement Service | Encompasses any service DBP may agree to provide to facilitate the receipt of gas into the DBNGP resulting from the application of the <i>Gas Supply (Gas Quality Specifications) Act 2009 (WA)</i> . |