



Media Statement

4 September 2025

ERA finds Alinta in breach of wholesale market rules

Following an investigation, the Economic Regulation Authority has determined that Alinta Sales Pty Ltd breached the rules governing Western Australia's Wholesale Electricity Market between October 2023 and June 2024.

The ERA has applied to the Electricity Review Board to determine whether orders should be made against Alinta if the Board determines that the contraventions occurred.

ERA Chair Steve Edwell said the ERA had conducted a comprehensive investigation, which found that, at a time when it had market power, Alinta had priced its electricity at higher prices than were efficient and permitted by the Wholesale Electricity Market rules.

"In the Wholesale Electricity Market, companies generating electricity are not permitted to offer that electricity at anti-competitive prices, above their reasonable cost of producing it," Mr Edwell said.

"The ERA's role is to protect the interests of Western Australian consumers, and to ensure that energy is delivered safely and reliably – and at the most efficient cost."

Mr Edwell alleged that the cost assumptions Alinta used to make its price offers to generate gas-fired electricity were materially greater than Alinta's actual costs.

"The ERA estimates this had the effect of increasing the wholesale real-time market cost of generation by around \$66 million over the period," he said.

"The ERA strongly encourages all companies participating in the electricity and gas markets to ensure they are acting within the bounds of the market rules, because we are watching and will take action where required."

Mr Edwell noted that Alinta is disputing the ERA's determination.

"The Energy Review Board will now decide the matter," he said.

Background

The ERA monitors the wholesale electricity and gas markets in Western Australia to ensure that the companies generating and selling energy are doing so in accordance with the rules governing those markets.

When the ERA suspects non-compliance by a market participant, it can conduct an investigation. When the ERA finds that a breach has occurred, it can make an application to the Electricity Review Board for orders, which can include civil penalties.

[The Electricity Review Board is a decision-making body](#) established under the *Electricity Industry Act 2004* and *Gas Services Information Act 2012*. The board is appointed by the Attorney General, and will include a presiding legal practitioner, and two energy experts.

About the ERA

The ERA is Western Australia's independent economic regulator. We aim to benefit all Western Australians by promoting strong economic outcomes through effective regulation and decision making. We strive to make sure current and future consumers pay no more than necessary for safe and reliable utility services.

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