



Notice

22 April 2026

APA's Pilbara network ringfencing rules

Invitation for submissions on amendments proposed by APA

The Economic Regulation Authority is seeking feedback from stakeholders on [proposed amendments](#) to APA's Pilbara network ringfencing rules.

As required under the Pilbara Networks Access Code, APA has reviewed its ringfencing rules prior to commencement of its next pricing period in July 2027. It has identified changes it considers are necessary to strengthen the governance, information protection and functional separation arrangements that apply to APA's Port Hedland network.

The Code sets out a light-handed access regime to facilitate third-party access to covered networks in the Pilbara region, which includes the Horizon Power Pilbara network.

For covered networks, the Code requires network service providers that also generate or retail electricity to submit ringfencing rules to us for approval. The ringfencing rules ensure that vertical integration – that is, owning both distribution and generation or retail assets - does not lead to a reduction in competition.

The ringfencing rules must ensure that:

- Commercially sensitive information received by the network business is not used outside of the network business or for a purpose other than for which the information was acquired or developed.
- Charges paid by users of the network include only network costs.
- The network business does not discriminate against competitors or in favour of its own, or associates', generation or retail businesses.

The Code requirements allow for flexibility, recognising that the structure and nature of network service providers businesses can differ. Under the light-handed regulatory approach of the Code, we can only require amendments to a service provider's proposed rules where the public benefit exceeds the cost of compliance.

Invitation for submissions

The ERA invites interested parties to make submissions on the proposed amendments.

Submissions close 4:00pm (WST) Wednesday, 13 May 2026.

Submissions can be lodged online using the form on our [Current Consultation webpage](#).

Further information

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