

Ministerial Council on Energy

Standing Committee of Officials Bulletin No. 196

Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement – Separation of Generation and Transmission

The Ministerial Council on Energy's (MCE) Standing Committee of Officials (SCO) today released a consultation regulation impact statement (C-RIS) in relation to possible anti-competitive behaviours associated with the co-ownership of transmission and generation businesses within the National Energy Market (NEM).

The purpose of the C-RIS is to facilitate discussion regarding any potential risks associated with future co-ownership arrangements in the NEM. The C-RIS examines the adequacy of current legislative protection against possible market failure and reduced generator competition, and also outlines several options to limit the ability for future co-ownership.

In developing a policy position with regard to co-ownership of transmission and generation businesses, the MCE is mindful to balance preventing anti-competitive behaviour and allowing businesses to achieve economies of scale and scope. The intent of the C-RIS is to therefore obtain feedback from stakeholders to assist the MCE to ensure this balance moving forward.

The C-RIS is for consultation purposes only, and does not represent the final views of the MCE, or the governments of the participating jurisdictions (these being the Australian Capital Territory, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania and Victoria).

Submissions on the C-RIS should be submitted to the MCE Secretariat by close of business on **Thursday 22 September 2011**. Submissions will be published on the MCE website unless stakeholders specifically state that their submission is to be treated as confidential.

Electronic submissions are preferred and can be sent to:

MCEMarketReform@ret.gov.au

Those who wish to provide hard copies by post may do so by addressing their submissions to:

Manager, MCE Secretariat
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism
GPO Box 1564
Canberra ACT 2601

MCE Standing Committee of Officials
11 August 2011

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