



Australian Capital Territory Government

Manager, MCE Secretariat
Dept of Industry, Tourism and Resources
GPO Box 9839
Canberra ACT 2601

Dear Manager

RPWG Working Paper 1

I refer to Working Paper 1 prepared by Allens Arthur Robinson and issued under the authority of the MCE Retail Policy Working Group.

The Council notes that Working Paper 1, and in particular the comparative material in Attachment A, fails to include the ACT fully in its consideration of the regulation of standing offers and market contract terms. Given that the ACT is an integral part of the NEM, the Council can see no justification for exclusion of ACT arrangements from the basic comparative material which is used in forming policy development for the NEM.

The Council requests the Retail Policy Working Group to withdraw Working Paper 1 from circulation and reissue it only when Attachment 1 includes all relevant comparisons.

The Council also requests that you require all Consultants which you engage to include the ACT in relevant comparative material.

Attached is a list of the omissions in Attachment A.

Yours sincerely

Peter Sutherland
Chairperson

12 December 2006

Essential Services Consumer Council (established under Part 11 of the *Utilities Act 2000*)

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ATTACHMENT A – OMISSIONS OF ACT COMPARATIVE INFORMATION

Meter reads
Estimations
Customer terminations
Interest
Frequency of bills
Content of bills
Overcharging
Payment methods
Reconnection
Liability and warranties
Possible additional terms and requirements