

Ministerial Council on Energy

Energy Market Reform Bulletin No. 67

Release of the Draft Criteria for Assessing the Effectiveness of Competition

On 7 June 2006 the Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE) announced a number of amendments to the Council of Australian Governments' *Australian Energy Market Agreement* (AEMA), including a process for providing advice to jurisdictions on the effectiveness of competition in retail energy markets.

The Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) has been nominated as the body to undertake the assessments into the effectiveness of competition in all States and Territories other than Western Australia (WA), where the Economic Regulation Authority (ERA) will undertake such assessments.

The AEMA specifies that these assessments are to be conducted against criteria to be developed by the MCE in consultation with the AEMC/ERA and other interested parties. Once agreed by the MCE, the criteria will form the basis of future AEMC/ERA assessments into the effectiveness of competition in jurisdictional retail energy markets.

The MCE Standing Committee of Officials (SCO) has released [draft effective competition criteria](#), which are now posted on the MCE website.

Submissions

In order to inform its finalisation of the criteria, the MCE SCO would now like to invite submissions from all stakeholders on any aspects of the draft criteria. Those who wish to make written submissions may do so by submitting their documents electronically to:

Manager, MCE Secretariat,
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources,
GPO Box 9839
Canberra ACT 2601
MCETMarketReform@industry.gov.au

by close of business on **1 September 2006**.

It is intended to make electronic submissions publicly available on the Ministerial Council on Energy website. If you do not want all or part of your submission made publicly available, or you consider any part of your submission to be confidential or commercial-in-confidence, you should make this clear in your submission.

MCE Standing Committee of Officials
July 2006

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MCETMarketReform@industry.gov.au.