

Ministerial Council on Energy

Energy Market Reform Bulletin No. 92

Release of Composite Consultation Paper by Retail Policy Working Group

This Bulletin announces the release by the Retail Policy Working Group (RPWG) of a [Composite Consultation Paper](#), which consolidates each element of the retail and distribution (non-economic) national regulatory framework as discussed in the previous five Working Papers. It contains a revised consideration of options and revised recommendations where Allens Arthur Robinson has considered changes to the Working Paper positions appropriate, taking account of comments received from the Stakeholder Reference Group (SRG) and other interested parties.

While the various Working Papers have been discussed with the RPWG, and those discussions have been taken into account in preparing this paper, the conclusions and recommendations in the paper do not represent agreed outcomes by the RPWG. The paper has been prepared by Allens Arthur Robinson for consultation. It has not been endorsed by the RPWG, the SCO or the MCE.

The Ministerial Council on Energy (MCE) decision on the final recommendations for the national distribution and retail regulatory functions will be included in the legislative package and associated Rules to complete the transfer of the national distribution and retailing regulation to the Australian Energy Market Commission (AEMC) and the Australian Energy Regulator (AER).

Public Forum

A public forum on the Composite Consultation Paper will be held on Tuesday 26 June 2007 at the Sydney Airport Stamford Hotel in the Mascot C room from 10:00am to 2:00pm. **If you would like to attend this forum, please register by email to MCETMarketReform@industry.gov.au by cob 22 June 2007, to ensure that the venue can accommodate prospective attendees.**

Submissions

In order to inform the development of recommendations for the SCO and the MCE on the national distribution and retail functions, submissions on the Composite Consultation Paper are invited from interested stakeholders on any aspects of the paper. To facilitate the RPWG's consideration of submissions, the Consultation Paper is accompanied by a [table](#) in Word format setting out the recommendations. The RPWG requests that submissions be made by completing the 'Comments' column in the table adjacent to each of the recommendations. This of course does not preclude general or higher level comments being made in a separate document.

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

Submissions on the Composite Consultation Paper can be lodged by **COB 18 July 2007**. The RPWG will consider the recommendations in the paper after the receipt of submissions from the SRG and other interested parties. The RPWG will then develop recommendations for the SCO and the MCE.

Electronic submissions are intended to be published 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
19 June 2007

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MCETMarketReform@industry.gov.au.