

# Ministerial Council on Energy

## Energy Market Reform - Bulletin No. 145

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### **Release of discussion paper on the harmonisation of energy supply industry technical and safety regulation**

In November 2007, the Commonwealth Government committed to work with State and Territory Governments and the energy sector to improve the consistency of state-based regulations – such as occupational health and safety requirements – that apply to the energy sector.

At its 13 June 2008 meeting, the Ministerial Council on Energy agreed to establish the Energy Technical and Safety Leaders Group (refer 'the Leaders Group') to develop the Energy Technical and Safety Regulation Harmonisation Enhancement Plan (Harmonisation Plan). This discussion paper and the corresponding stakeholder feedback are an important first step in the development of the Harmonisation Plan.

The [Discussion Paper on Harmonisation of Energy Supply Industry Technical and Safety Regulation](#) has been developed consistent with the principles set out by the MCE Terms of Reference (See **Appendix 1** of the **Discussion Paper**). Taking these principles into account, the options presented in this discussion paper are aimed, to the greatest possible extent at:

- putting in place best-practice regulation to ensure public and workers safety;
- facilitating greater labour mobility and swifter emergency response, especially in the context of skilled labour shortages;
- lowering the compliance burden for multi-jurisdictional operators; and
- providing regulatory certainty and consistency across jurisdictions.

The Leaders Group is seeking **written submissions** on the discussion paper, which are to be submitted to the MCE Secretariat by **close of business on Friday 3 April 2009**.

Electronic submissions are preferred to the following address:

Email: [MCEMarketReform@ret.gov.au](mailto:MCEMarketReform@ret.gov.au)

Those who wish to make a written submission may do so by submitting their document to the MCE Secretariat:

Manager, MCE Secretariat,  
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources,  
GPO Box 9839  
Canberra ACT 2601  
This document is also available at [www.mce.gov.au](http://www.mce.gov.au)

MCE Standing Committee of Officials  
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