

7 January 2005

Manager - Energy Market Reform Team
National Energy Market Branch
Department of Industry, Tourism and Resources
GPO Box 9839
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Email: MCEMarketReform@industry.gov.au

Final Submission on Draft National Electricity Law

Attached is Origin's final submission on the draft National Electricity Law (NEL). This final submission provides further detail to the comments made in our initial submission provided to the MCE's SCO on December 24th.

Full consideration of the draft NEL also requires consideration of the amended regulations to which the draft NEL makes many references. Without perusal of the revised regulations and the regulatory framework, Origin would like to caveat the completeness of these comments in this submission due to insufficient information.

Origin's view of the draft NEL is that it implements the institutional reforms envisaged by the MCE and effectively incorporates the streamlined rule change process. However, Origin has several concerns with the details of the drafting which are explained in the attached submission. Our three main concerns are that:

- AER's proposed functions of distribution and retail regulation are excluded;
- the provisions on confidentiality and sharing of information are too wide; and
- the objectives clause requires guidance for interpretation.

Origin would be happy to expand on the issues contained in this submission. Please contact Patricia Cameron on (03) 9652 5878 in the first instance.

Yours sincerely

Julian Turecek
National Manager Regulation and Government Affairs
Origin Energy
julian.turecek@originenergy.com.au