



14 May 2009

Geoff Houen
Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism
GPO Box 1564
Canberra City ACT 2601

Dear Geoff,

Re: ESG Discussion Paper

In regards to The Effectiveness of Current Gas & Electricity Emergency Arrangements discussion paper, please note the following comments.

In relation to current approach to the use of Emergency Powers, we believe that these principles are appropriate & sufficient. We feel that an education program/campaign would be advantageous in relation to the importance of the assets & their function, e.g CFA using the easements as front line firefighting & the potential danger that this type of action may have.

We also feel that an education program/campaign would be advantageous in regards to a process that is in place in Victoria, that pertains to when we have person's climbing on the assets (Towers etc). In terms of communication, we feel that for events such as storms & Bushfires, we normally get advance warning, however it is the events such as persons climbing on towers, explosions, etc that we feel more work can be done in terms of improving the real time response

We also agree for the above comments to be made public on the MCE website.

Yours Sincerely

Phil Walters
Manager Network Operations
SP AusNet