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5 February 2008

Mr Chris Pattas General Manager Network Regulation South Branch Australian Energy Regulator GPO Box 520 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Mr Pattas

ActewAGL Response to Issues Paper – Guidelines, Models and Schemes for Electricity Distribution Network Service Providers

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above Australian Energy Regulator (AER) *Issues Paper* which considers the development of the guidelines, schemes and models that underpin the national regulatory framework for electricity distribution networks. As you will be aware, due to the imminence of ActewAGL's next price reset, we will operate under transitional arrangements for 2009-14 before converting to the guidelines, schemes and models developed under Chapter 6 of the National Electricity Rules (NER) for subsequent regulatory periods.

In the context of the development of the transitional arrangements, ActewAGL has already raised some concerns about the proposed guidelines, models and schemes, and been involved in ongoing consultation with the AER. At this stage we have no further comments on the proposed general guidelines, models and schemes. However, we note that the release of the *Issues Paper* is a preliminary step in the AER's consultation process, and that further consultation will occur on the guidelines, models and schemes required by Chapter 6 of the NER over the coming months. ActewAGL will take the opportunity to raise any additional concerns, beyond those already raised in relation to the transitional arrangements, during this further consultation process.

Please contact David Graham, Director Regulatory Affairs and Pricing, on (02) 6248 3605 if you would like to discuss our response further.

Yours sincerely

J. A. Mackay

Chief Executive Officer

AGL Gas Company (ACT) Pty Ltd has been renamed Alinta GCA Pty Ltd.