



Mike Buckley
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Network Regulation North Branch
Australian Energy Regulator
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Contact: Mr C. Eddy
NAR No:
Your Ref: Traffic ID 4300

Dear Mr Buckley

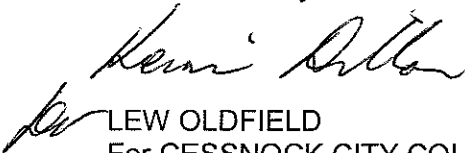
**CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL SUBMISSION ON AER'S NSW DRAFT DISTRIBUTION DETERMINATION 2009-2014 & ENERGY AUSTRALIA'S REVISED REGULATORY PROPOSAL
(TRAFFIC ID 08/09/:4300)**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the AER's NSW Draft Distribution Determination 2009-14 and Energy Australia's Revised Regulatory Proposal of 16 January 2009.

Council is extremely concerned about Energy Australia's proposed price increases of approximately 78% in street lighting network charges over the coming regulatory period and the lack of transparency in Energy Australia's pricing submissions. Council endorses the submission made by SSROC's SLI Program on behalf Councils served by Energy Australia and urges the AER to give its fullest possible attention to the issues raised. In doing so, Council re-iterates its concerns about longstanding issues with the pricing and governance regime for public lighting in NSW.

If you require further information, please contact the Infrastructure Services Manager (Mr Kevin Dillon) on (02) 49934281 or the Engineering Officer - Traffic Assets (Mr. C Eddy) on (02) 49934246.

Yours Sincerely



LEW OLDFIELD
For CESSNOCK CITY COUNCIL

16 FEBRUARY 2009