

16 February 2009

Mike Buckley
General Manager
Network Regulation North Branch
Australian Energy Regulator
c/o aerinquiry@aer.gov.au

Dear Mr Buckley,

**Re: Lane Cove Council Submission on AER's NSW Draft Distribution Determination
2009-2014 & EnergyAustralia's Revised Regulatory Proposal**

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

Council is extremely concerned about EnergyAustralia's proposed price increases of approximately 78% in street lighting network charges over the coming regulatory period and the lack of transparency in EnergyAustralia's pricing submissions. Council endorses the submission made by SSROC's SLI Program on behalf of Councils served by EnergyAustralia 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.

Lane Cove is extremely concerned about the impacts of EnergyAustralia's proposed increased charges on Council's ability to provide the range of quality services that it currently does for the local community.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 9911-3560.

Yours sincerely,

WAYNE RYLANDS
EXECUTIVE MANAGER
OPEN SPACE & URBAN SERVICES

CC: *Anthony Roberts, Member for Lane Cove*