

Notice of public forum on ETSA Utilities' regulatory proposal and distribution determination process

Receipt of ETSA Utilities' 2010-2015 regulatory proposals

On 1 July 2009, ETSA Utilities, the South Australian electricity distributor, submitted a regulatory proposal together with supporting information to the Australian Energy Regulator (AER). The regulatory proposal covers the period 1 July 2010 to 30 June 2015. This notice is intended to inform interested parties about the process for considering and approving this proposal.

Preliminary examination of regulatory proposal

The AER is currently conducting a preliminary examination of the regulatory proposal submitted by ETSA Utilities under the National Electricity Rules (NER) and the National Electricity Law. Once this examination is complete the proposal will be published on the AER website and a request for submissions will be made. The AER is planning to host a public forum on the regulatory proposal submitted by ETSA Utilities on 6 August 2009 in Adelaide.

Determination timetable and indicative timetable

The AER is required under Chapter 6 of the NER to make a distribution determination for ETSA Utilities in relation to its electricity distribution services. This process will determine the revenue ETSA Utilities can recover from the provision of these services.

The AER is required to follow a prescribed process under the NER when making its distribution determination. An indicative timetable for the AER's review process is set out below. Interested parties are encouraged to note the key dates, in particular, the dates for public forums and submissions. Further information regarding each of these events will be available on the AER's website (www.aer.gov.au) in due course.

Milestone	Date
Regulatory proposal published	Mid July 2009
Public forum on regulatory proposal to be held in Adelaide	6 August 2009
Submissions on regulatory proposal close	End August 2009
AER publishes draft distribution determination	27 November 2009
Pre-determination conference to be held in Adelaide	9 December 2009
ETSA Utilities submits its revised regulatory proposal	14 January 2010
Submissions on draft distribution determination close	16 February 2010
AER publishes distribution determination	30 April 2010
ETSA Utilities submits its 2010–11 pricing proposal	21 May 2010
AER approves 2010–11 pricing proposal	Early June 2010

Note: The AER has engaged consultants to assist it in its review of different aspects of the regulatory proposal including demand forecasts, operating expenditure and capital expenditure.

ETSA Utilities' regulatory proposal; the AER's draft determinations and consultants' reports; and submissions from interested parties will be published on the AER's website at various stages throughout the process. Further information about the AER, including documents published in preparation for the South Australian distribution determination, can be found at www.aer.gov.au.

Public forum on regulatory proposals

The AER is holding a public forum on the regulatory proposal submitted by the ETSA Utilities. The forum details are:

Date: 6 August 2009

Time: 8.30am to 11.00am

Venue: Stamford Plaza Adelaide Hotel, 150 North Terrace, Adelaide

The public forum will provide an opportunity for ETSA Utilities to explain its regulatory proposal. Interested parties will also have an opportunity to ask questions on the regulatory proposal.

Attached to this notice is a registration form. If you would like to attend the forum, please send completed registration form to the AER via email aer inquiry@ aer.gov.au or alternatively fax it to (02) 6245 1205. The closing date for registration is Friday 24 July 2009.

The agenda for the public forum will be emailed to registered participants prior to the public forum.

Further enquiries

For any enquiries about the South Australian distribution determination process, please contact the AER on (02) 6243 1233. Alternatively, enquiries can be sent electronically to AERinquiry@ aer.gov.au. Stakeholders who do not wish to receive future AER communications should send an email to AERinquiry@ aer.gov.au.