National Electricity Code Changes Request for submissions

Extension of Victorian Full Retail Competition Derogations

On 6 April 2004, the ACCC received applications for derogation (Nos A90915, A90916, and A90917 to the National Electricity Code (code). These applications were lodged by the National Electricity Code Administrator (NECA) on behalf of the Victorian Minister for Energy Industries and Resources.

The stated purpose of the applications for authorisation is to extend the existing Victorian derogations contained in chapter 9 of the code. The existing derogations relate to Chapter 7 of the code, and grant exclusivity for the provision of metering services by distribution businesses in Victoria.

Copies of the proposed amendments are available from the ACCC's web site. To assist in the ACCC's consideration of these applications, interested parties are invited to comment on the potential anti-competitive detriment and public benefit associated with the proposed derogations, and any comment relating to the authorisation of the derogations.

All submissions will be placed on the public register unless confidentiality for the submission (or any part of the submission) is requested. Submissions can be sent electronically to: electricity.group@accc.gov.au. Alternatively, written submissions or submissions on disk, in Word 7.0 compatible format, can be sent to:

Mr Sebastian Roberts General Manager Regulatory Affairs – Electricity Australian Competition and Consumer Commission PO Box 1199 DICKSON ACT 2602

The closing date for submissions is **Friday 7 May 2004.**

If you require further information, please contact Eloise Campbell on (03) 9290 1968.