

Minor Variation to the *National Electricity Code* Authorisation – Publication date of the Statement of Opportunities

Request for Submissions

On 17 December 2004, the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) received an application for minor variation to the authorisation of the National Electricity Code (code) (Nos A40074, A40075 and A40076). The application was submitted by the National Electricity Code Administrator (NECA).

The minor variation sought is a derogation providing for:

1. A change of the date that the National Electricity Market Management Company (NEMMCO) is required to publish a Statement of Opportunities under clause 3.13.3(o) of the code from 31 July to 31 October for 2005
2. A removal of NEMMCO's obligation under clause 3.13.3(o1) of the code to prepare an updated Statement of Opportunities by 31 January for 2005.

On the basis of the application received from NECA, the ACCC has satisfied itself that the variation sought is a minor variation, in that it does not involve a material change in the effect of the authorisation. However, the ACCC seeks the views of interested parties on this issue and may revisit this finding if there are grounds to do so.

To assist in the ACCC's consideration of the application, interested parties are invited to comment on the potential anti-competitive detriment and public benefit associated with the proposed minor variation, and any comment relating to the acceptance of the code change, should it be authorised.

All submissions will be placed on public register unless confidentiality for the submission (or any part of the submission) is requested. Submissions can be sent electronically to: electricity.group@acc.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
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The closing date for submissions is 7 January 2005.

If you require further information, please contact Helen McPhee on (02) 6243 1245.