



Minutes

Meeting Title: ERA Consumer Consultative Committee
Meeting Number: 1/2024
Date & Time: Wednesday, 20 March 2024 10am (AWST)
Location: Ken Michael Room, Level 4, 469 Wellington Street, Perth
MS Teams
DMS: D274523

Attendees:

Members

Noelli Bariacto	CCI WA	
Jasmine Kaur	Chamber of Minerals and Energy	
Rowan Kelly	Consumer Credit Legal Service	Apology
Suresh Rajan	<i>Independent advocate</i>	
	Ethnic Communities Council	Apology
Leanne Berard	Financial Counsellors' Association	
Sheldon Mumby	Pastoralists & Graziers Association	Apology
Lindsay Duncan	Property Council of Australia (WA)	
Kitty Prodonovich	RCCI WA	Apology
Owen Whittle	UnionsWA	Apology
Graham Hansen	WA Council of Social Service	
John Hassell	WA Farmers Federation	Apology
Daniel Thomson	WA Local Government Association	Apology

ERA

Steve Edwell (Chair), Jenness Gardner (CEO), Danielle Asarpota (Manager Strategic Communications), Emily Robinson (Senior Project Officer), Sara O'Connor (Executive Director Regulation), Elizabeth Walters (Director Electricity), Tyson Self (Assistant Director Gas Access), Lachlan Bunyan (Project Support Officer)

Observers

Penny Lipscombe	Consumer Protection (DMIRS)	Apology
Marcus Claridge	Energy and Water Ombudsman	
Brent Savage	Energy Policy WA	

1. Acknowledgement of Country

The meeting opened at 10:05am.

Jenness Gardner acknowledged Country.

2. Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first ERACCC meeting for 2024 and discussed that it had been a very busy start to the year for the ERA, noting work related to the

energy transition and new roles for the ERA including the introduction of light regulation for behind the metre systems.

3. Minutes of meeting 03/2023

The members approved the minutes of Meeting 03/2023 as a formal record of those events.

4. Western Power’s progress implementing its fifth access arrangement (AA5)

Presented by Elizabeth Walters (Director Electricity)

Elizabeth Walters provided an overview of Western Power’s progress implementing AA5 requirements relating to streetlights, connection times and regional reliability. Members noted that progress had been seen against most actions.

Members discussed timelines for the completion of actions and whether accessibility considerations had been included in Western Power’s work to update sections of their website. The ERA agreed to raise this with Western Power.

The Chair explained that connection delays are a worldwide issue as part of the energy transition process, and that the approval of new connections can be delayed due to insufficient transmission capacity.

Members noted the first annual AA5 progress report will be published in the second half of 2024.

5. Annual retailer and distributors performance data reports

Presented by Sara O’Connor (Executive Director Regulation)

Sara O’Connor sought members’ feedback on which elements of the annual data reports they find most useful, noting the lead times involved in making any changes to the indicators regulated entities are required to report on.

Graham Hansen stated that WACOSS was pleased to see that pre-payment meter data was now being included in the annual performance data reports.

6. ATCO’s access arrangement for the mid-west and south-west distribution systems

Presented by Tyson Self (Assistant Director Gas Access)

Tyson Self provided an overview of the access arrangement process and highlighted tariff changes, accelerated depreciation and ATCO renewable expenditure forecasts as areas of interest. Tyson explained the customer research process the ERA has undertaken to inform the access arrangement draft decision.

Members discussed customer engagement and Tyson confirmed that the findings of customer consultation undertaken will be published as part of the access arrangement process.

7. Updated Terms of Appointment

Presented by Danielle Asarpota (Manager Strategic Communications)

Members endorsed the revised Terms of Appointment.

8. Member updates

Leanne Beard advised that the Financial Counsellors Association (FCA) would be holding a regional forum in Kalgoorlie which would include an energy focus, and noted that the ERA is sending two representatives.

Graham Hansen advised that he is leaving WACOSS and this would be his last ERACCC meeting as WACOSS representative. Jenness Gardner thanked Graham for his contributions to ERACCC.

Brent Savage advised that the expert consumer panel would be advertising for new members soon and invited interested members to apply.

Noelli Bariacto noted that the topic of regional reliability was of particular interest to CCIWA member businesses in regional areas. She also advised that she was leaving CCIWA and there will be a new representative at future ERACCC meetings.

9. ERA consultations

Members noted the ERA's recent and upcoming consultations.

10. ERA decisions

Members noted the ERA's recent and upcoming decisions.

11. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 11 June 2024.

Invites will be sent to Members to hold the date in their calendars.

12. Meeting closed at 11:40AM