

## NOTICE

### RELEASE OF PRINCIPLES PAPER FOR THE REVIEW OF THE GAS MARKETING CODE OF CONDUCT 2004

The Economic Regulation Authority (**Authority**) today endorsed the release of the Gas Marketing Code Consultative Committee's (**GMCCC**) Principles Paper for the Review of the Gas Marketing Code of Conduct 2004 (**Code**).

The Code came into operation on 31 May 2004 as part of the implementation of Gas Full Retail Contestability in Western Australia. The Code is designed to regulate and guide the conduct of gas trading licensees and gas marketers that are employed by the licensees, to avoid undesirable marketing conduct by defining standards of conduct in the marketing of gas to customers.

The Authority is responsible for administering Part 2C of the *Energy Coordination Act 1994* (Code of Conduct for the Marketing of Gas to Small Use Customers). The Act provides for the Authority to establish a committee to advise it on matters relating to the Code. Consistent with this requirement the Authority reconvened the GMCCC which was originally established by the Minister for Energy.

Its membership comprises:

Chairman	Russell Dumas (Authority)
Executive Officer	Michael Styles (Authority)
Members	Gary Newcombe (Department of Consumer & Employment Protection)
	Ray Wills (Chamber of Commerce & Industry of WA)
	Lisa Baker (WA Council of Social Services)
	Ray Myles (Alinta Sales Pty Ltd)
	Brendan McColl (Wesfarmers Kleenheat Gas Pty Ltd)
	Lawrence Teo (BRW Power Generation (Esperance) Pty Ltd)

Apart from advising the Authority on matters relating to the Code, one of the principal functions of the GMCCC is to review the Code at the intervals set out in the Act. The first review is required as soon as practicable after the first anniversary of the Code's commencement. As the Code came into force in mid 2004 the first review is now required.

The Principles Paper details the basis upon which the GMCCC proposes to carry out the review of the Code including the proposed principles upon which the review will be based and the proposed review process. A copy of the GMCCC's Principles Paper is available from the Authority's web site ([www.era.wa.gov.au](http://www.era.wa.gov.au)).

A copy of the Code is available from the State Law Publisher's website ([www.slp.wa.gov.au](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au)).

The GMCCC is required to invite submissions from interested persons.

The organisations identified as interested persons by the Authority and the GMCCC for the purpose of the review of the Code are:

- Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
- Australian Direct Marketing Association
- Consumers' Association of Western Australia
- Consumer Credit Legal Service Western Australia
- Consumers' Federation of Australia
- Chamber of Minerals and Energy of Western Australia
- DBNGP (WA) Transmission Pty Ltd
- Energy Ombudsman
- Energy Retailer's Association of Australia
- Perth Energy
- Standards Australia
- Western Australian Sustainable Energy Association
- Western Power Corporation

The Chairman of the GMCCC, Mr Russell Dumas, has written to each of the above organisations inviting comment on matters covered in the Principles Paper or any other matters considered relevant to the Code review. A submission period of eight weeks has been provided for such comment. The closing date for submissions is Tuesday 28 February 2006.

In general, all submissions from interested persons will be treated as in the public domain and placed on the Authority's website. Where an interested person makes a submission in confidence, they have been requested to clearly indicate the parts of the submission in respect of which confidentiality is claimed and specify in reasonable detail the basis upon which the claim is made.

The receipt and publication of any submission lodged for the purposes of the review of the Code shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has knowledge, either actual or constructive, of the contents of a particular submission and, in particular, whether the submission in whole or part contains information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise for the Authority in these circumstances.

For information contact:

**General Enquiries**

Mr Russell Dumas  
Chairman GMCCC  
Tel: (08) 9213 1953  
Fax: (08) 9213 1999  
Email: [russell.dumas@era.wa.gov.au](mailto:russell.dumas@era.wa.gov.au)

**Media Inquiries**

Mr Paul Byrne  
Byrne & Byrne Corporate  
Communications  
Tel: (08) 9385 9941  
Mb: 0417 922 452

LYNDON ROWE  
**CHAIRMAN**

3 January 2006