



Western Australia

Economic Regulation Authority

NOTICE

APPLICATION TO EXTEND TIME FOR WESTERN POWER CORPORATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSED ACCESS ARRANGEMENT FOR ITS NETWORK IN THE SOUTH WEST INTERCONNECTED SYSTEM

The Economic Regulation Authority (Authority) has received from Western Power Corporation (Western Power) an application to extend by 60 business days the submission deadline for lodgement of the proposed Access Arrangement, access arrangement information and technical rules for its network in the South West Interconnected System.

Western Power has advised that an extension is required to further develop the proposed Access Arrangement to a standard that meets the requirements of the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004* (Access Code). The Authority is aware that Western Power has made substantial progress in the preparation of its proposed Access Arrangement and recognises that additional time is warranted in order for the Access Arrangement to be developed to meet the requirements of the Access Code.

Accordingly, this notice advises interested parties of the decision of the Authority to grant Western Power a 40 business day extension to the submission deadline.

Furthermore, it is the intention of the Authority to grant the further 20 business day extension sought by Western Power, subject to the consideration of any submissions received from interested parties regarding the detriment that could be caused by granting such an additional extension. The Authority will issue a further notice advising of its decision regarding the further 20 business day extension, subsequent to the consideration of views expressed during the public consultation process.

Extension of time

Western Power's application for an extension of time is made pursuant to section 4.64 of the Access Code. Western Power requests that the deadline for submission of 31 May 2005 be extended by 60 business days under section 4.66(a)(i), which allows the Authority to extend the submission deadline by up to 60 business days.

The Authority is satisfied that Western Power:

- requires an extension to provide a proposed Access Arrangement that meets the requirements of the Access Code;
- has taken all reasonable steps to fully utilise the period allowed by the Access Code to prepare and submit a proposed Access Arrangement; and
- has made substantial progress in the preparation of its proposed Access Arrangement.

The Authority has therefore granted Western Power an extension of 40 business days, which means that the revised submission deadline is Wednesday 27 July 2005.

Further extension of time

At the expiration of the 40 business day extension period, the Authority proposes to grant the additional 20 business day extension sought by Western Power. This further extension of 20 business days is subject to the consideration of any submissions received from interested parties regarding the potential detriment that could be caused by the granting of this further extension.

The further 20 business day extension would mean that Western Power's revised submission deadline would be Wednesday 24 August 2005.

Invitation to make a submission

The Authority invites interested parties to provide comment on the additional 20 business day extension from 27 July 2005 to 24 August 2005 for Western Power to submit its proposed Access Arrangement, access arrangement information and technical rules for its network in the South West Interconnected System.

Submissions on the additional 20 business day extension must be received by **5pm WST, Tuesday 10 May 2005.**

The Authority will issue a notice advising of its decision regarding the further 20 business day extension, subsequent to the consideration of the views expressed by interested parties during this public consultation process.

Submissions or questions in relation to this notice should be directed to:

Mr Alistair Butcher
A/Director – Electricity Access
Telephone: (08) 9213 1900
Fax: (08) 9213 1999
Email: electricity.networks@era.wa.gov.au

Confidentiality

In general, all submissions from interested parties will be treated as in the public domain and placed on the Authority's website. The receipt and publication of any submission lodged for the purposes of the Access Code shall not be taken as indicating that the Authority has formed an opinion as to whether or not any particular submission contains any information of a confidential nature and no duty of confidence will arise from the Authority in these circumstances.

Where an interested party wishes to make a submission in confidence, it should 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. Any claim of confidentiality will be considered in accordance with the provisions of section 14.14 of the Access Code.

LYNDON ROWE
CHAIRMAN

26 April 2005

MEDIA CONTACT: Mr Tony Dawe, WardHolt Telephone: (08) 9221-8722