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NOTICE

End of Suspension of Time for Assessment of Western Power's Revised Proposed Access Arrangement

The Economic Regulation Authority expects to issue its Final Decision on Western Power's revised proposed access arrangement for the South West Interconnected Network by mid January 2007.

The Authority will also extend the deadline for issuing an interim access arrangement until 1 June 2007, as provided for in the *Electricity Networks Access Code 2004*.

The Authority suspended the deadline for issuing a Final Decision on 7 September and suspended the deadline for issuing an interim access arrangement on 24 November 2006 - as allowed under the Code when an amendment is proposed.

Code amendments by the Office of Energy were gazetted on 8 December 2006. Consequently, in accordance with section 4.71(b)(i) of the Code, the suspension of time for the issue of a Final Decision is ended from 22 December 2006. The suspension of time for the drafting and approving of an Interim Access Arrangement is also ended from 22 December 2006.

While the new deadline to issue the Final Decision is 18 January 2007, the Authority may need to extend this, under section 4.74 of the Code, should additional time be required.

Also, the date to issue an interim access arrangement under the Code's normal provisions would be 2 January 2007. However, the Code allows the Authority to extend the time if it believes the service provider's access arrangement will be approved within the additional allowed time. The Authority considers that an access arrangement will be approved by the end of March 2007 which is well within the time extension being provided to approve an interim access arrangement.

Therefore, the deadline for approving an interim access arrangement has been extended to 1 June 2007.

For further information contact:

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22 December 2006