



12 May 2016

**SUBMISSION ON AEMC DRAFT RULE DETERMINATION
NATIONAL ELECTRICITY AMENDMENT (METER READ AND
BILLING FREQUENCY) RULE 2016**

BACKGROUND

The Queensland Consumers' Association (the Association) is a non-profit organisation which exists to advance the interests of Queensland consumers. The Association's members work in a voluntary capacity and specialise in particular policy areas, including energy. The Association is a member of the Consumers' Federation of Australia, the peak body for Australian consumer groups and is represented on the Queensland Competition Authority's Consumer Consultative Committee and the Energy and Water Queensland Ombudsman's Advisory Council. The Association is also a member of the Queensland Council of Social Service's Essential Services Consultative Group.

The Association welcomes the opportunity to make this brief submission.

The contact person for this submission is: Ian Jarratt, email ijarratt@australiainmail.com

COMMENTS

QCA considers that the current at least three monthly requirement for the issue of bills should be maintained but that it only be regarded as a breach if the period exceeds 100 days.

This will give retailers some flexibility but also ensure that most bills will continue to be issued regularly at 3 monthly intervals, which QCA considers makes it easier for consumers to budget, compare bills, etc.