

12 May 2016



EnergyAustralia

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Reference: RRC0006

Lodged electronically: www.aemc.gov.au

Dear Commissioners

Draft Rule Determination: National Electricity Amendment (Meter Read and Billing Frequency) Rule 2016

EnergyAustralia supports the Australian Energy Market Commission's Draft Rule Determination on "National Energy Retail Amendment (Meter Read and Billing Frequency) Rule 2016".

We are one of Australia's largest energy companies, with over 2.5 million household and business customer accounts in New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and the Australian Capital Territory. We also own and operate a multi-billion dollar portfolio of energy generation across Australia, including coal, gas and wind assets with control of over 4,500MW of generation in the National Electricity Market.

The draft rule reflects a sensible and balanced position based on the issues presented by respondents to the consultation paper. There is no doubt bills based on actual reads are better for consumers as they provide more accurate information regarding energy use. In the absence of altering network service provider obligations (which is outside the scope of this rule change), allowing retailers to issue bills at least every 100 days (versus 3 months as per the current rule) for customers on Standard Retail Contracts, appears to be a

reasonable compromise. This rule change would allow us to wait a little longer for an actual read therefore would slightly increase the amount of actual bills we can issue.

However, as mentioned in our previous submission, we do prefer no change is made as we believe that any extension to the billing period is not in the best interests for consumers and the energy industry as it would drive increased delayed bills, 'bill shock' queries and complaints.

If you have any questions regarding submission, please contact Karly Train on (03) 8628 1716 or Karly.Train@energyaustralia.com.au.

Regards



Karly Train
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