



## Better Regulation Update – August 2013

### Recap

#### July & August

- **Consumer engagement:** released draft guideline on 1 July.
- **Consumer challenge panel:** announced panel members on 1 July.
- **Power of choice:** submissions on draft RIT-D and application guidelines closed on 18 July.
- **Shared assets:** released draft guideline on 30 July.
- **Expenditure assessment:** released draft guideline 9 August.
- **Expenditure incentives:** released draft guideline 9 August.
- **Confidentiality:** released draft guideline 9 August.

### Upcoming

#### August & September

- **Consumer engagement:** submissions on draft guideline close 16 August.
- **Expenditure assessments:** submissions on economic benchmarking templates close 16 August. Submissions on draft guideline close 20 September. Holding stakeholder workshop on 2 September, and further meetings with stakeholders in September.
- **Consumer reference group:** holding second face to face meeting on 22 August.
- **Rate of return:** releasing draft guideline and holding teleconference information session on 30 August.
- **Shared assets:** submissions on draft guideline close 13 September. Meeting with stakeholders in August and September.
- **Expenditure incentives:** submissions on draft guideline close 20 September. Meeting with stakeholders in August and September.
- **Confidentiality:** submissions on draft guideline close 20 September. Meeting with stakeholders in August and September.
- **Power of choice:** releasing final RIT-D by end August.

We have now published five draft guidelines as part of our Better Regulation program. By the end of the month we'll also have published the final Regulatory Investment Test for Distribution and our draft rate of return guideline.

Formal consultation on our draft consumer engagement guideline closes on 16 August. The team has been busy travelling around the country meeting with stakeholders. While the formal consultation period may be closing, we are still available to meet with stakeholders to discuss issues in the lead up to our final guideline.

#### Our new factsheets

Accompanying each of our draft guidelines are explanatory statements and factsheets. The factsheets are a new style of document for the AER and are aimed at quickly communicating the key points of our decisions to stakeholders. We welcome [feedback](#) on all our factsheets which you can find on our Better Regulation webpage <http://www.aer.gov.au/Better-regulation-reform-program>

Submissions on our economic benchmarking templates also close on 16 August. Submissions on our shared assets guideline are due on 13 September. The following week on 20 September submissions close for the guidelines covering forecast assessments, expenditure incentives and confidentiality. All our workstreams will hold further meetings with stakeholders prior to submissions closing. For more information contact the relevant workstream or check their webpage.

### Spotlight: rate of return information session

On 30 August we will release our draft rate of return guideline for consultation. This guideline will set out the approach we intend to take to determine the allowed rate of return for both electricity and gas service providers.

We are offering stakeholders the opportunity to dial in to a one-hour information session presented by AER Chairman, Andrew Reeves outlining and explaining our positions in the draft rate of return guideline.

This information session is part of the evolution of our engagement strategy as part of the Better Regulation program. We are seeking to be innovative in how we engage stakeholders and will allow time at the end of the session to address questions stakeholders pose via Twitter or e-mail. We will provide further information on our website on how to register for the session in the coming weeks.