



Decision

Access arrangement

**Envestra Ltd's Queensland gas distribution  
network**

**1 July 2011 – 30 June 2016**

June 2011

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## Shortened forms

<b>Shortened form</b>	<b>Extended form</b>
access arrangement information	Envestra, <i>Queensland access arrangement information</i> , 1 October 2010
access arrangement information drafted by the AER	AER, <i>Access arrangement information, Envestra's Qld gas distribution network, 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2015</i> , June 2011
access arrangement period	1 July 2011 to 30 June 2016
access arrangement proposal	Envestra, <i>Access arrangement for the Queensland gas distribution system</i> , 1 October 2010
access arrangement drafted by the AER	AER, <i>Access arrangement, Envestra's Qld gas distribution network, 1 July 2010 – 30 June 2015</i> , June 2011
AER	Australian Energy Regulator
draft decision	AER, <i>Draft decision, Envestra Ltd Access arrangement proposal for the Qld gas network, 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2016</i> , 17 February 2011
final decision	AER, <i>Final decision, Envestra Ltd Access arrangement proposal for the Qld gas network, 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2016</i> , 17 June 2011
NGL	National Gas Law
NGR	National Gas Rules
revised access arrangement information	Envestra, <i>Queensland access arrangement information</i> , 23 March 2011
revised access arrangement proposal	Envestra, <i>Access arrangement for the Queensland gas distribution system</i> , 23 March 2011

## **Background**

Envestra's Queensland network comprises 2375 km of pipeline delivering gas to approximately 84 000 customers in the main centres of Brisbane (north of the Brisbane River), Ipswich, Rockhampton and Gladstone. The assets used to service Brisbane constitute the major part (76 per cent) of the network.<sup>1</sup>

Envestra's Queensland gas distribution network is classified as a covered pipeline.<sup>2</sup> The AER is responsible for the economic regulation of covered natural gas distribution pipelines in all states and territories (except WA). The AER's functions and powers are set out in the National Gas Law (NGL) and the National Gas Rules (NGR).

## **Access arrangement proposal**

Envestra submitted its access arrangement proposal and access arrangement information on 1 October 2010. The Australian Energy Regulator (AER) published the access arrangement proposal and access arrangement information on 21 October 2010 and held a public forum on 28 October 2010 in Brisbane.

The access arrangement proposal outlined the proposed terms and conditions of access for Envestra's Qld gas distribution network for the period 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2016. The purpose of the access arrangement information is to set out the background and basis of various elements of the access arrangement proposal.<sup>3</sup>

## **Draft decision on service provider's access arrangement proposal**

The AER issued its draft decision not to approve Envestra's access arrangement proposal for its Qld gas distribution network for the period from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2016 on 17 February 2011 (draft decision). The AER held a public forum on the draft decision in Brisbane on 1 March 2011.

## **Revised access arrangement proposal**

Envestra submitted a revised access arrangement proposal and revised access arrangement information for its Qld gas distribution network to the AER on 24 March 2011. Envestra set out its response to the AER's draft decision through a series of attachments to the revised access arrangement information.

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<sup>1</sup> Envestra, *Qld access arrangement information*, October 2010, pp. 8–9 and 189.

<sup>2</sup> AEMC, *List of natural gas pipelines*, viewed 9 December 2010, <<http://www.aemc.gov.au/Gas/Scheme-Register/Pipeline-list-summary.html>>.

<sup>3</sup> NGR, r. 42.

## **Final decision on service provider's access arrangement proposal**

On 17 June 2011, the AER released its final decision not to approve Envestra's revised access arrangement proposal. The final decision set out the AER's proposed revisions to the revised access arrangement proposal and revised access arrangement information.

The final decision stated that, in accordance with r. 64(4) of the NGR, the AER would make a decision giving effect to its proposed revisions within two months of making its final decision.

## **Further final decision**

In accordance with r. 64(4) of the NGR, the AER approves the access arrangement (including the access arrangement information) drafted by it for Envestra's gas distribution network being the access arrangement published with this decision.

In accordance with r. 64(6) of the NGR, the access arrangement shall take effect on 1 July 2011.