

# **Appendix 10.3: Table of changes to Evoenergy's 2026–31 access arrangement**

Access arrangement information

ACT and Queanbeyan-Palerang gas network  
access arrangement 2026–31

Submission to the Australian Energy Regulator

**June 2025**

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# 1. Proposed revisions to the 2021–26 access arrangement proposal

Evoenergy is proposing changes to our current (2021–26) access arrangement in our access arrangement proposal for the 2026–31 period. The key changes are outlined in Table 1. The changes proposed include:

- changes required to reflect the separation of Evoenergy's reference services
- changes to reflect Evoenergy's unique circumstances arising from the electrification of the ACT
- other changes to reflect the regulatory environment and Evoenergy's operating context, and
- changes to simplify and clarify the drafting.

Mechanical drafting changes are not addressed in Table 1.

An overview of the proposed changes is provided in Attachment 10: Network access. Where relevant, more information on the proposed changes can be found in the relevant subject-matter attachments.

**Table 0 Proposed revisions to Evoenergy's 2021–26 access arrangement**

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
<b>Introduction</b>			
Evoenergy's Network	1.3	1.3	Updates schedule references
	1.4	1.4	Provides website at which a description of the website can be inspected as required under NGR48(1)(a)
Type of Gas	-	1.5	Includes Type of Gas as required under NGR101B(2)(g)
Structure of this Access Arrangement	1.5	1.6-1.7	Updates section and schedule references
Commencement of this Access Arrangement	1.8	1.9	Amends commencement date to reflect 2026-31 access arrangement (access arrangement) period
Revisions to this Access Arrangement	1.9	1.10	Correction to rule reference.
	1.9(a)	1.9(a)	Amends review submission date to reflect 2031-36 access arrangement period and align with rule 50(1) of the NGR, as per request from AER.
	1.9(b)	1.9(b)	Amends revision commencement date to reflect 2031–36 access arrangement period.
<b>Services Policy</b>			
Pipeline services	2.1(a)	2.1(a)(i-ii)	Reflects separation of single transportation reference service in Evoenergy's 2021–26 access arrangement to two reference services for the 2026–31 access arrangement: Transportation (including metering) Reference Service and Ancillary Activities Reference Service. Evoenergy's Reference Service Proposal was approved by the AER in November 2024.
Reference Services	2.3	2.3	Defines the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service
	-	2.4	Defines the Ancillary Activities Reference Service with reference to the Ancillary Activities Reference Tariffs at Schedule 3, clause 5.1.
	2.4(a)	2.5(a)	Clarifies eligibility for Reference Services applies to existing Delivery Points to which Evoenergy provided a reference service under the 2021-26 access arrangement.
	2.4(b)(i)	2.5(b)(ii)	Clause separated for simplicity.

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
Terms and Conditions of the Reference Service	2.5	2.6	Clarifies that the terms and conditions set out in the Reference Service Agreement (RSA) apply to both the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service and the Ancillary Activities Reference Service
Interconnection Service	2.7	2.8	Amendments to clause to reflect Part 6 of the NGR requirements.
<b>Operating Expenditure Efficiency Carryover Mechanism</b>			
Operational of incentive mechanism	3.1	3.1	Amendments to reflect 2026–31 access arrangement period.
Incremental efficiency gains or losses	3.2-3.4	3.2-3.4	Amendments to operating expenditure efficiency carryover mechanism formulae to reflect financial years in the 2026–31 access arrangement period and clarifies that efficiency gains (or losses) will carry forward to the 2031–36 access arrangement. Removes the non-recurrent efficiency gains from formulae to align formula with AER's formulae in RIN (workbook 3).
Application of efficiency gains or losses	3.5	3.5	Amendments to reflect 2026–31 access arrangement period and 2031–36 access arrangement period.
Application of formula	3.7-3.8	3.7-3.8	Amendments to reflect 2031–36 access arrangement period, financial years in the 2026–31 access arrangement period and the efficiency gains or losses resulting from the operating expenditure efficiency carryover mechanism calculation.
<b>Capital Expenditure Incentive Mechanism</b>			
Operation of the incentive mechanism	4.1-4.10	4.1	Removes the Capital Expenditure Sharing Scheme (CESS) incentive mechanism from 2026–31 access arrangement. For more information see access arrangement information, Attachment 3: Capital expenditure.
	-	4.2	Clarifies that any CESS reward (penalty) accruing through the 2021–26 access arrangement period will be applied to the 2026–31 access arrangement revenue calculation.
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>			
Review of Capital Base after expiry of an Access Arrangement	5.1	5.1	Retains clause to provide certainty over calculation of 2026–31 access arrangement capital asset base.
	-	5.2	Clarifies approach to calculating the 2031–36 access arrangement capital asset base.

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
<b>Fixed Principles</b>			
	6(a)	-	Removes fixed principle status from clause 5.1 in relation to the calculation of the capital asset base in the 2026–31 access arrangement period.
	6(b)	6(a)	Updates for current access arrangement period the application of fixed principle to clause 8.18 in relation to allows costs associated with Cost Pass Through events to continue to be passed through to subsequent access arrangement periods.
	-	6(b)	Applies fixed principle to principle in clause 8.7 that costs associated with government taxes and levies, licence fees, Unaccounted for gas, Relevant Taxes and carbon costs will be passed through in Transportation (including metering) Tariffs in accordance with the variation mechanism in Schedule 4 is fixed for the 2026–31 access arrangement and 2031–36 access arrangement periods. For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.
	-	6(c)	Applies fixed principle to the principle in Schedule 4 that the Unders and Overs Mechanism balancing adjustment to reach a zero closing balance in an Access Arrangement Period which are not passed through in that Access Arrangement Period may be passed through in the subsequent Access Arrangement Period, is fixed for the 2026–31 access arrangement and 2031–36 access arrangement periods. For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.
<b>Return on debt</b>			
Return on debt formula	7.1	7.1	Amendments to formula applying to the return on debt calculation to reflect 2026–31 access arrangement period.
<b>Initial Reference Tariffs and Reference Tariff Variation Mechanism</b>			
Initial Reference Tariffs	8.1-8.2	8.1-8.2	Amendments to reflect the establishment of two Reference Services in the 2026–31 access arrangement period: Transportation (including metering) Reference Service and Ancillary Activities Reference Service and include references to the tariff variation mechanisms for each in Schedules 4 and 5 respectively.
Annual Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariff variation mechanism	8.3-8.4	8.3-8.4	Establishes Transportation (including metering) Reference Service Tariff Variation Mechanism as set out in Schedule 4 (previously in clause 8.4) and establishes the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service may be varied subject to compliance with Schedule 4. For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
Annual Ancillary Activities Reference Tariff variation mechanism	-	8.5-8.6	Establishes tariff variation mechanism for Ancillary Activities Reference Service as set out in Schedule 5 and establishes the Ancillary Activities Reference may be varied subject to compliance with Schedule 5. For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.
Application process for seeking a Cost Pass Through	8.10	8.12	Establishes that Cost Pass Through Events apply to both Transportation (including metering) Reference Service and Ancillary Activities Reference Service.
	8.11	8.13(f)	Removes refers to automatic adjustment factor and replaces with the Unders and Overs Mechanism of the Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariff Variation Mechanism (Schedule 4). For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.
Inter-period treatment of Cost Pass Through Events and Automatic Adjustment Factor costs and Unders and Overs Mechanism Closing Balance	8.15	8.17	Establishes that costs associated with Cost Pass Through Events from the 2021 Period and not applied in that period, may (in the case of increases) or must (in the cast of decreases) be applied in the 2026 Period through a Variation Notice.
	8.16	8.18	Establishes that costs associated with Cost Pass Through Events from the 2026 Period and not applied in that period, or cost recovery is not provided for in the Unders and Overs Mechanism will apply in the 2031 Period (i.e. replaces automatic adjustment factor with the Unders and Overs Mechanism). For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.
	8.17	8.19	Establishes that costs incurred in the prior access arrangement Period and not passed through in that period may, in accordance with Schedule 4 and Schedule 5, be included in the calculation of the reference service tariffs and the Overs and Unders Mechanism in the subsequent access arrangement Period. For more information on the proposed operation of the Tariff Variation Mechanism, see access arrangement information, Attachment 9.
Annual Variation Notice	8.18	8.20	Establishes that if Evoenergy submits an initial Variation Notice for the 2026-27 Financial Year it must be within 15 business days of the AER publishing its final determination for the access arrangement Period.
	8.18	8.21	Establishes that if Evoenergy proposes to vary one or more of its Reference Tariffs to apply from the start of the 2027-28 or subsequent financial years, it will submit a Variation Notice to the AER on or before 15 March, or next closest business day prior to the commencement of the relevant financial year.



Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
	8.18	8.22	Clarifies the requirements of the Variation Notice to be submitted to the AER with regards to Schedules 4 and 5.
Variation Notice Assessment	8.19	8.23-28	Clarifies and simplifies clauses relating to the AER's assessment of variation notices submitted under clauses 8.20 and 8.21
	8.20	8.29	Clarifies that the AER will determine the Reference Tariffs are compliant with the Tariff Variation Mechanisms set out in Schedules 4 and 5.
Revised Reference Tariff Schedule	8.21	8.30	Updates Tariff Variation Mechanism cross references to refer to Schedules 4 and 5.
Other relevant matters	-	8.32	Establishes rounding conventions for Reference Tariff components, elements and variables.
	8.24(b)	-	Removes subclause (b) relating to the over or under recovery of revenue as it is captured in the Overs and Unders Mechanism provided for in Schedule 4.
<b>Tariff Categories for Transportation (including metering) Reference Services</b>			
Application	9.1-9.2	9.1-9.2	Establishes Tariff Categories apply to the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service.
<b>Extensions and Expansions Policy</b>			
Effect on Reference Tariffs	10.4	10.4	Clarifies that the Extensions and Expansions Policy applies to both the Transportation (including metering) and Ancillary Activities Reference Services and Tariffs.
<b>Changing Receipt and Delivery Points</b>			
	12.1	12.1	Clarifies that changes to Receipt and Delivery Points may be requested for the delivery the Transportation (including metering) Reference Services
<b>Queuing</b>			
	13	13	Updates NGR rule reference to Rule 68D.
<b>Schedule 1: Definitions</b>			Definitions reflect the following changes:

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2026–31 access arrangement period</li> <li>• Separation of Transportation (including metering) Reference Service and Ancillary Activities Reference Service</li> <li>• Clarifies the Administrative Cost Impact applies to 1 per cent of forecast revenue</li> <li>• Include reference to the the <i>Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Act 2010</i> (ACT) under the definition of Applicable Law</li> <li>• Defines B2B as business protocols, systems or other arrangement</li> <li>• Removes the definitions applying to the Contingent Payment Factor, as the CESS has been removed for the 2026–31 access arrangement period.</li> <li>• Remove references to Coverage Determination and Covered Pipeline as they are not used in the access arrangement.</li> <li>• Removes Contingent Payment Factor and Contingent Payment Index in line with proposal to remove CESS from 2026 Access Arrangement Period</li> <li>• Removes the definition of Relevant Regulator as it is replaced through the document with AER.</li> <li>• Updates the Rate of Return Instrument publication date.</li> <li>• Amends the Relevant Tax definition to including any Tax or Levy set out in the Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariff Variation Mechanism at Schedule 4.</li> <li>• Defines the Unders and Overs Mechanism with reference to Schedule 4.</li> <li>• Defines wasted visit with reference to Schedule 3.</li> </ul>
<b>Schedule 2: Request for Service Procedures</b>			
Request for the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service	1	1	Establishes request for service procedures for the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service.
	1.2(c)	1.2(c)	Updates NGR rule references
Request for an Ancillary Activities Reference Service	-	2	Establishes request for service procedures for the Ancillary Activities Reference Service.
Legal status and creditworthiness requirements	3	4	Updates creditworthiness assessment with reference to S&P Global (replaces Standard and Poors)

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
Request for Service Form	4	5	Includes option to request “add a new Delivery Point to the Reference Service Agreement” under Transportation Information
<b>Schedule 3: Initial Reference Tariff Schedule</b>			
Introduction	1(a)-(c)	1(a)-(c)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishes the Initial Reference Tariff Schedule applies to both Transportation (including metering) Reference Service and Ancillary Activities Reference Service.</li> <li>Establishes that Initial Reference Tariffs for the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service will be those determined in accordance with Clause 8.20 and 8.22 to 8.28 of the Access Arrangement Period.</li> <li>Establishes that Initial Reference Tariffs are expressed in real 2026-27 dollars and are exclusive of GST.</li> </ul>
Transportation (including metering) Reference Service Tariff Assignment Criteria	2	2	Establishes Tariff Assignment Criteria for the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service. For more information on the Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariffs see access arrangement information, Attachment 7.
Initial Tariff Categories and Tariff charge components for the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service	3	3	Establishes Tariff Categories and Tariff Charge Components for the Transportation (including metering) Reference Service. For more information on the Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariffs, see access arrangement information, Attachment 7.
Initial Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariffs	4	4	Establishes Initial Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariffs. For more information on the Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariffs, see access arrangement information, Attachment 7.
Initial Ancillary Activities Reference Tariffs	4.2	5	<p>Defines activities available under the Ancillary Activities Reference Service and sets out Initial Ancillary Activities Reference Tariffs for the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hourly charge – non-standard User-initiated requests and queries</li> <li>Temporary disconnection (volume customer delivery points)</li> <li>Reconnection (volume customer delivery points)</li> <li>Temporary disconnection and reconnection (demand customer delivery points)</li> <li>Basic permanent disconnection (volume customer delivery points)</li> <li>Basic (urgent) permanent disconnection (volume customer delivery points)</li> </ul>

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complex permanent disconnection (volume customer and demand customer delivery points)</li> <li>Special meter reads</li> </ul> <p>Notes to table</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Includes provision for Wasted Visit charges and the circumstances under which the wasted visit charge will (or will not) apply.</li> </ul> <p>For more information on Ancillary Activities Reference Services and Tariffs, see access arrangement information, Attachment 8.</p>
Initial Chargeable Demand	5.1	6.1	Changes to dates to reflect 2026–31 access arrangement period. For more information on the Transportation (including metering) Reference Tariffs, see access arrangement information, Attachment 7.
Grandfathering of Provision of Basic Metering Equipment Charges for more than 15 Delivery Stations installed at a Delivery Point	6	7	Changes to dates to reflect prior 2021–26 access arrangement period.
<b>Schedule 4: Tariff Variation Mechanism for Transportation (including metering) Reference Service</b>			
	Clause 8.4 and Schedule 4: Reference Tariff Adjustment Factors	Schedule 4	Establishes Revenue Cap Tariff Variation Mechanism for Transportation (including metering) Reference Service as described in access arrangement information, Attachment 9: Tariff Variation Mechanism.
<b>Schedule 5: Tariff Variation Mechanism for Ancillary Activities Reference Service</b>			
	-	Schedule 5	Establishes Price Cap Tariff Variation Mechanism for Ancillary Activities Reference Service as described in access arrangement information, Attachment 9: Tariff Variation Mechanism.

Clause	2021–26 access arrangement reference	2026–31 access arrangement reference	Summary of proposed change
<b>Schedule 6: Reference Service Agreement</b>	Schedule 5	Schedule 6	See access arrangement information, Attachment 10: Network access and Appendix 10.4: Table of reasons for changes to the RSA
<b>Schedule 7: Interconnection Service</b>	Schedule 6	Schedule 7	
	1(a)	1(a)	Includes reference to Evoenergy's interconnection policy and terms and conditions, as published on Evoenergy's website
<b>Schedule 8: Operational Schedule</b>	Schedule 7	Schedule 8	
Replacement Gas	-	5(1)-(3)	Inserts new clauses relating to Replacement Gas to specify responsibility for Gas and the process for procuring and recovering the costs of procuring Replacement Gas. This change aligns with industry practice and is also reflected in the RSA.
Curtailement methodology	-	6	Includes new clauses relating to Curtailement Methodology as required under Part 10 of the NGR (101B(2)(f)).
<b>Schedule 9: Receipt Point Pressures</b>	Schedule 8	Schedule 9	
			Update to Receipt Point pressures at Moomba Sydney Pipeline to reflect current maximum Receipt Pressure.
<b>Schedule 10: CESS Contingent Payment Index</b>	Schedule 9	-	
		-	Removed on the basis that CESS is proposed to be removed for the 2026-31 access arrangement period (see access arrangement information, Attachment 3: Capital Expenditure).
<b>Schedule 11: network map</b>			
			Updated map. Also available on <a href="http://www.evoenergy.com.au">www.evoenergy.com.au</a>

## Glossary of terms and acronyms

Term or acronym	Definition
access arrangement	Evoenergy's access arrangement
access arrangement information	Evoenergy's access arrangement information
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AER	Australian Energy Regulator
B2B	Business to business protocols, systems or other arrangements in place
Capex	Capital expenditure
CESS	Capital Expenditure Sharing Scheme
JGN	Jemena Gas Networks
NGR or Rules	National Gas Rules
RSA	Reference service agreement
TJ	Terajoule – unit of measurement of energy consumption
TVM	Tariff Variation Mechanism