

Powerlink 2027-32 Revenue Proposal

Appendix 3.06

Revenue Proposal Reference Group (RPRG) Statement on Engagement



Purpose

This document presents the views of the Revenue Proposal Reference Group (RPRG) on the engagement undertaken by Powerlink as part of its Revenue Proposal.

RPRG comments on engagement for Powerlink's 2027-32 Regulatory proposal

"Powerlink's Regulatory Proposal Reference Group consider that their involvement in development of Powerlink's 2027-32 Regulatory Proposal has been highly collaborative with Powerlink showing a genuine commitment to best practice engagement.

The depth and breadth of engagement with the RPRG have been impressive. Meeting schedules and agendas are prepared well in advance with RPRG having input into the development of the agendas. Powerlink has taken care to ensure that materials prepared for consideration by the RPRG and Customer Panel are clear and are presented in a way that is appropriate for a non-technical audience. Draft slides are generally shared a few days prior with final versions at the meeting to enable participants adequate time for preparation. Powerlink has supported the RPRG meeting independently prior to every Powerlink/RPRG meeting to enable us to come better understand the issues to be discussed. We have regularly noted the attendance of executive managers and Board members at RPRG and Customer Panel meetings and their active contributions to group discussions.

We have sought and been provided with additional information as required and have been comfortable challenging Powerlink's position on many aspects of the proposal. Interactions with the RPRG have been adaptive and flexible, often driven by specific RPRG requests. Powerlink has been sincere in its engagement and has been open to receiving feedback (both positive and negative) from RPRG and responding to that feedback in a considered and informative way.

In some cases Powerlink has explicitly sought the RPRG's views on particular issues in a way that suggests the proposal will reflect our views rather than what Powerlink may prefer eg the calculation methodology for the Capital Expenditure Sharing Scheme (CESS).

An important facet of our role has been to engage with Powerlink's Customer Panel which is representative of Powerlink's broader customer base and stakeholders, to report progress on development of the Proposal, discuss issues and seek additional feedback. This has been key to equipping the Customer Panel to hold Powerlink to account on an ongoing basis for commitments made in the Regulatory Proposal.

Throughout the process of engagement on Powerlink's 2027-32 Regulatory Proposal our objective has been to scrutinise and interrogate the various elements of the Proposal to ensure that customer perspectives are recognised and are adequately reflected in the outcomes. To date, the RPRG is satisfied that the material that has been presented to us meets these objectives.

We look forward to reading the Proposal in detail and will be providing more comprehensive comments on consumer engagement in our submission to the AER."