

# SAFRRA Inc

South Australia Federation of Residents and Ratepayers Associations Inc

P.O. Box 520 Torrensville Plaza SA 5031

President: Kevin Kaeding Phone: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

13<sup>th</sup> February 2026  
Australian Energy Regulator (AER)  
**Attention:** Secretary  
SARG Review Panel Draft for the period 1 July 2026 – 30 June 2031  
Level 11, 1 King William Street  
Adelaide 5000  
Contact Téléphone 1300 585 165 and email : aerinquiry@aer.gov.au  
Dear Secretary

## **SAFRRA Inc., Submission**

### **Australian Gas Infrastructure Group, SARG Review Panel Draft for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2031**

**SAFRRA wishes to thank AGIG for the opportunity to comment regarding the Australian Gas Infrastructure Group, SARG Review Panel Draft Plan for the period 1 July 2026 to 30 June 2031.**

## **SAFRRA Inc., Submission**

**Additional Depreciation** - SAFRRA Inc. believes Australian Gas Networks must have AER to revise their 30m additional depreciation amount to the realistic figure of 70m.

**Why** – South Australia is not treated in a way the as the Victorian Network for 2023 – 28 or Jemena NSA for 2025 – 30. They have no funding issues.

SAFRRA Inc., strongly supports AGN's Acceleration Depreciation: - As Guardrail annual real price path goal over 5 years Vic 2023 -28 1.5%, Jemena NSW 2025 – 30 Guardrail annual real price path goal over 5 years 0.5%, Evoenergy ACT 2026 – 31 DD 1.5% <sup>6</sup>. AGN has received nothing, definitely AGN must not be treated no different than the other states & ACT, they need a figure as well. We can rely on State Government funding projects, AER please rectify.

**Safety risks** – SAFRRA Inc., believes AGN must be treated in the same way as the ACT, Vic, NSW Networks. As SAFRRA Inc., is a State Body, South Australia must be treated the same as the other states & ACT which is unfair at the moment.

SAFRRA Inc., strongly supports renewal gas, mixtures of new gas products that can be safely used in the current SA pipeline infrastructure to keep gas prices as low as possible, keeping bills affordable to all South Australians.

**Cyber security funding:** - SAFRRA Inc., believes there is a very urgent need for cyber security funding due to the ongoing threats from overseas which Australia has no control.

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We believe in Accountability Transparency & Consultation for all

**Abolishment Charges:-** SAFRRA Inc., believes we need to see from the AER what it wants the fee to be for a customer who is renovating / rebuilding with all-electric building either \$250.00 or \$1,000.00.

What we see from the table on regarding permanent disconnection to the property for fully electrified future No renovation / rebuild fee \$250.00, the Renovation / rebuild fee \$1,000.00. Who would the property owner list re either paying \$250.00 or \$1,000.00? Then temporary disconnection with a view of reconnection no renovation / rebuild Nil amount paid or the temporary disconnection with a view to reconnection renovation / rebuild \$1,000.00. We believe property owners would mislead information and AGN would no know whether the customer is renovating or rebuilding, as the customer is saving money within the rules. A nightmare for the AGN contractor whether the owner has followed the rules. AER must clarify this situation which will be exploited by owners to save money.

#### **SAFRRA Inc., Submission Summary**

SAFRRA Inc. expects Gas prices, new products / innovations within the Gas Industry such as Hydrogen / Hydrogen Infrastructure Facilities HyP Adelaide could be achieving to be green carbon free. Affordable gas / infrastructure which can be blended into AGIG's distribution network, and returning an expected we hope reduction of AGIG's gas prices for all South Australian gas customers. Hydrogen carbon free blends in SA.

The current State Government has reduced funding for Hydrogen infrastructure regarding HyP Adelaide and regional areas. AGN is in a very difficult business, the SA Government may decide to go all electricity with new infrastructure. SA State election is another deciding factor that can change daily or weekly, the unknown before the March 21, 2026 election.

Business re glass manufacture which relies on gas infrastructure to operate and cannot be replaced by electricity. We expect electricity prices with renewables and green hydrogen if government funds are available for prices to go down in price. Reducing AGIG's costs that must be passed onto residents and ratepayers in South Australia. SAFRRA Inc., believes future material costs and labour cost will continue increase and AGIG's executive team will find it difficult to keep these costs down.

Finding skilled labour for AGN's works more scarce skilled workers and costly. What it may mean is increases in consumer gas pricing which we hope AGIG will not be forced to pass on these increases to the gas customers. Again, all businesses in South Australia and Australia will be experiencing increases in material and labour costs of running their business.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely

SAFRRA Inc.

Kevin Kaeding,

President

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