**AUSTRALIAN ENERGY REGULATOR**

**DRAFT Key Issues and Action Items**

DATE: 28 February 2018

TO: AER’s Consumer Reference Group on Rate of Return

CC: Warwick Anderson

**SUBJECT: CRG 28 February teleconference**

**Introduction**

The AER organised for the CRG to engage in recurring teleconferences to discuss issues for the CRG moving forward. It is largely up to the CRG to decide on which topics will be discussed at the meeting. The agenda included:

* Timeline – 20th April or extended.
* Website data
* CRG/ENA feedback (note highlighted section on averaging – for endorsement)
* Proposed stream leaders and teams
* Discussion – funding of stream activities, estimated time required
* CRG – expert session involvement
* CCP involvement going forward
* Teleconference schedule
* Other

**Key issues**

**Website update**

The AER stated that the papers shared by the AER, CRG meeting summaries and notes will go up on the website. The documents produced by the ENA in preparation of meetings will also be published on the website.

**CRG/ENA recap**

The CRG stated that there are a few low-hanging fruit areas that have been agreed on between the ENA and CRG. The CRG stated they will share supporting documentation and notes to ensure that all members can endorse these agreements. The CRG also stated they will need an additional member to attend the meetings with the ENA planned for the 5 and 19 March.

**Proposed stream leaders and teams**

The AER is considering the level of funding they can provide for the CRG deep dive stream leaders and teams. The CRG outlined who would be the stream leaders and team members for each of the deep dive topics. The CRG stated they will provide approximate times quotes for their sub groups by the end of the week. The CRG stated that stream leaders will be responsible for producing a preliminary CRG position on behalf of the whole CRG, for their approval. The CRG stated there is scope for the CRG approved preliminary positions to be used in CRG/ENA meetings.

**Concurrent evidence sessions**

The CRG stated they would like the concurrent evidence sessions (CES) to be a webinar so that the stream leaders can watch the dialog in real time. The AER stated that there will be a transcript available shortly after the CES. The AER stated that discussion papers will be published on our website throughout the week.

**CCP involvement with the CRG**

The CRG stated that the CCP should be involved with the CRG process moving forward. The CRG supports the AER perspective that the CCP is an expert resource that can benefit the CRG. The CRG stated that it would be appropriate to get the CCP involved in the next CRG teleconference and asked the AER to invite the CCP

**Teleconference**

The CRG stated that they will not need to have another teleconference until the 14 March to provide a progressive update on the working sub groups.

**Action items**

**CRG:**

* *Circulate notes regarding issues that have been tentatively agreed between the CRG and ENA.*
* *Consider the amount of time it will take for each stream to pull together a preliminary position on the different issues and provide a position by 2 March.*
* *Consider which members would be appropriate to attend the concurrent evidence sessions.*

***AER:***

* *Arrange the next teleconference for 14 March.*